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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Thornhill 'synagogue' is called a front for Christian proselytizing. *Page 3*

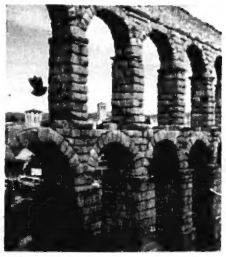
Congress calls for hate-crimes charges against skinheads. *Page 5*

Tuition fees for most day schools are up – yet again. *Page 6*

Health

Trying to find some space for Jewish healing. *Guest voice.* *Page 43*

Travel



Hispania: During the occupation of Spain, the Romans made public works a top priority. *Page 46*

Sports

Student in California juggles classes with competitive horse-back riding. *Page 54*

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
Just Between Us 16
What's New 24
On Campus 32
International 35
Health 43
Travel, Arts & Business 44
CJ Kids 48
Classified 50
Sports 54
Ask Lisa 55
Crossword 55

Shabbat: Shoftim
Candlelighting: 7:27
Elul 3, 5757
Havdalah: 8:32

Mixed results in Far East trip

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's jet age effort to open up "a golden window" for Israeli trade with the Far East was most successful in the Republic of Korea, less so in Japan and too brief to judge in China.

Analysis

The Koreans have an affinity for him personally and for Israel in general. One senior diplomat said the public here has been following his career with admiration since the days when as ambassador to the United Nations he stood up against all the Arab states except Egypt.

And Koreans see themselves as being in a situation similar to Israel's – constantly threatened by war and terrorism, dependent on foreign (in their case, American) troops to keep the peace and forced to use their ingenuity to make up for a lack of natural resources.

Netanyahu's theme, restated in all his speeches here, was that Israel's innovative talent combined with Korea's manufacturing and marketing ability was a natural marriage.

He used it in Japan, too, but with less dramatic results, as Japan is an economic superpower whose industrial inventiveness and technological know-how have generated a trillion-dollar economy. Their need for

Continued on page 36

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu burns incense at South Korea's National Cemetery in Seoul recently. Netanyahu was in South Korea to promote trade and investment. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Ottawa moves on suspect

TORONTO — The federal cabinet has stripped an alleged Nazi war criminal of his citizenship, paving the way for his deportation from Canada.

The minister-in-council last week removed the citizenship of Ladislaus Csizsik-Csatary, a former officer in the Royal Hungarian Police, who allegedly had a position of authority in a ghetto and in a brickyard camp in Kassa, Hungary, now Kosice, Slovakia. Jews were transferred from the ghetto to the brickyard, where they lived in inhumane conditions. Those attempting to escape were shot. Csizsik-Csatary, 82, also allegedly transferred Jews to the Nazis for deportation to Auschwitz.

At first Csizsik-Csatary contested his loss of citizenship, but later withdrew his opposition. He can remain in Canada until federal authorities obtain a deportation order from the Federal Court of Canada.

Colon cancer gene found

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — The discovery that a genetic mutation relatively common among Ashkenazi Jews makes them predisposed to colon cancer has prompted alarm – and the search for more information.

"We've been flooded with calls," said Jill Brensinger, a genetic counsellor at John Hopkins University's Hereditary Colorectal Cancer Registry in Baltimore.

Researchers at Hopkins found that a genetic defect which doubles a person's risk of colon cancer is present in about 360,000 American Jews, or six percent of the population, making it the most common cancer-causing mutation ever identified in an ethnic population.

Jews of Ashkenazi or Eastern European heritage comprise 95 percent of the more than five million Jews in the United States.

Colon cancer is the third most common type of cancer in the United States and will likely kill about 55,000 men and women this year.

The new finding raises questions about why so many genetic mutations are being found in the Ashkenazi Jewish population. It also raises questions about the value and risks of genetic testing, especially for a disease that is often preventable.

The discovery was made by a team of researchers at the Howard

Continued on page 22

INSIDE

Look for our annual Fall Fashion supplement.
Please see section B.

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IDF soldiers killed in Lebanon — please see page 35

The News in Brief

CANADA

JIAS Poster Contest

TORONTO — JIAS Canada will launch a national poster contest this month in honor of the organization's 75th anniversary. The theme of the contest is Life as a Jewish Immigrant in Canada and is open to childen in three age categories: 5-7; 8-11; and 12-15. The deadline for entries is Nov. 15.

For more information call Susan Helfenbaum at 416-630-9051, ext. 4; fax: 416-630-1376 or e-mail [briks@jon.cfny.org].

New CMA President

VICTORIA — Dr. Victor Dirnfeld, an internist from Richmond, B.C., has been chosen to be president of the Canadian Medical Association. A native of Winnipeg, Dr. Dirnfeld studied medicine at the University of Manitoba and obtained his medical degree in 1961.

ISRAEL

Bus Decision Opposed

JERUSALEM – An umbrella group representing Israeli women's organizations has petitioned the High Court of Justice to rescind a decision by the transportation minister to separate men and women on buses that serve Orthodox neighborhoods in Jerusalem and Bnei Brak.

The Israeli Women's Network said in its petition that the decision by Minister Yitzhak Levy of the National Religious Party was discriminatory and violates the right to freedom of movement.

Croatian Ties

JERUSALEM — Israel and Croatia have decided to open diplomatic ties. The Balkan president plans to visit Israel and apologize for his nation's persecution of Jews during World War II.

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Haim Koren said President Franjo Tudjman's visit to the Jewish state was crucial to the agreement.

Golan Dam Planned

JERUSALEM — Israel has decided to build a dam on territory claimed by Syria, a move that could further heighten tensions between the two countries.

The new dam site is one mile further upstream on the Yarmuk River than a site selected by the previous Labor government, according to Israeli officials.

In addition to threatening a further deterioration on the Israeli-Syrian track – the two sides have not held negotiations for more than a year – the decision to build the dam at the new site could embarrass Jordan.

The new site at El Hama, located at the foot of the Golan Heights, lies on land that is within Israel's recognized international boundaries. But it is inside the border that separated Israel and Syria before the 1967 Six Day War, and Syria has demanded a return to that border as a condition for signing a peace treaty with Israel.

WORLD

New Centre

MOSCOW — A new synagogue and community centre has opened for business in Central Asia.

Located in Almaty, the capital of the former Soviet republic of Kazakhstan, the new building was dedicated this week, one year after ground-breaking.

It includes classrooms, a library, community offices, a mikvah and a soup kitchen to feed elderly and needy Jews.

Combatting Crime

MOSCOW — Israel and Russia have signed an agreement to broaden law enforcement cooperation.

The accord was recently signed during Israeli Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani's visit here.

Kahalani called the accord "historic."

JTS Appointment

NEW YORK — Prof. Alice Shalvi has been appointed to the position of rector of Jewish Theological Seminary's Jerusalem campus.

As rector of Beit Midrash, the formal name of the Jerusalem campus, Shalvi will oversee more than 300 graduate students enrolled in master's and doctoral programs in Jewish studies, rabbinics and Jewish education.

CJN Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Rosh Hashanah photo contest. We are asking readers to submit photographs which relate to the theme Celebrating 100 Years of Zionism. They must be original photos "shot" by the reader.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

How to enter: A maximum of three photos per entrant may be submitted. Please write your name, address and phone number on the back of each photo. We can only return photos if you provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your photos to: CJN Rosh Hashanah Contest, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 1500 Don Mills Road, Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose three photographs which, in their opinion, are the most expressive and evocative. The "winning" submissions will be published in *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah issue. In addition, each of the "winners" will receive a cheque for $100.

How the winners will be notified: Winning entrants will be notified by telephone before Shabbat on Sept. 19, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning photos will be published in *The CJN* of Oct. 2, 1997. Cheques will be sent shortly thereafter.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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Thornhill messianic group called 'deceptive'

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN— A new messianic "synagogue" in the heart of Jewish Thornhill is a deceptive attempt to lure Jews to Christianity, warn Jews for Judaism and Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region.

They charge that the City of David Messianic Synagogue is really a church out to target vulnerable Jews.

The congregation, which teaches that Jews should accept Jesus as their messiah, recently erected a large sign at its new premises, in a shopping plaza on the northwest corner of Bathurst Street and Steeles Avenue. It shares a parking lot with several Jewish shops, a small Sephardi congregation and an office of the National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY).

There are several synagogues, day schools and Jewish institutions within a square-kilometre radius.

CJC says it's received a "rash" of complaints about the congregation, and has written the plaza's landlord.

In its letter to Mount-Batten Properties Ltd., Congress calls City of David "a Christian proselytizing group" whose establishment "in an area heavily populated by members of our community, many of whom are Holocaust survivors who have already suffered the indignity of being 'targeted,' is an affront to all Jews."

The messianic congregation has signed a six-year lease and has been operating in the space for about a month. Only recently did it put up the highly-visible signs, says its leader, Jeff Forman.

It's the first such congregation in York Region, said to be home to the fastest-growing Jewish community in Canada. It had been renting space at the Barbara Frum Library for nearly two years before coming to Thornhill, says Forman, 41, who describes himself as a "messianic rabbi."

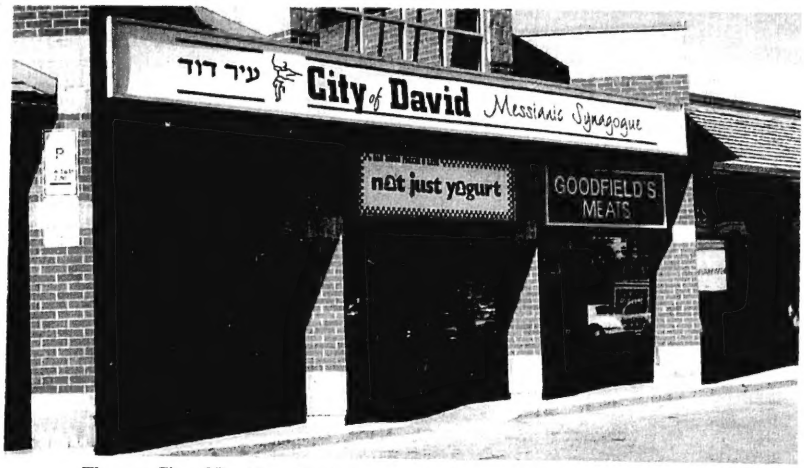
Forman, who came to Canada from Philadelphia several years ago to head the congregation, told *The CJN* the basement space just underwent a $40,000 renovation, and can accommodate over 200 people.

At its recent opening, 175 people turned out. So far, there are Friday night services and Tuesday evening prayer sessions, which average about 60 people, Forman adds. There's no paid membership yet.

Forman says both Jews and non-Jews are welcome.

There's a main sanctuary, decked out in blue and white, and with an Israeli flag. A framed

[Cont'd. on page 17]



The new City of David messianic "synagogue" in Thornhill is creating controversy.

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Today Sharon Brooker can see her son, Todd, whenever she wants. It's a luxury they didn't always enjoy. For nearly 20 years, Todd, who has profound developmental disabilities, had been living in an Ottawa group home where Sharon could only visit him once or twice a month. But when the home was about to close because of government cutbacks, she didn't know where to turn. Thanks to Reena, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, Todd lives in Toronto in a caring group home that Sharon could only dream of.

QUALITY OF LIFE

"I knew about Reena because of their excellent reputation. What I didn't know was the extent of their capabilities and the wonderful facilities they provide for such severely disabled people," says Sharon.

Born three months premature and diagnosed with meningitis, Todd developed cerebral palsy and loss of sight. Now, with Todd living only a short drive away, Sharon is involved in every aspect of his life. "The best part is that I am able to do things with Todd - like giving him a hug. These are things that other people take for granted," notes Sharon.

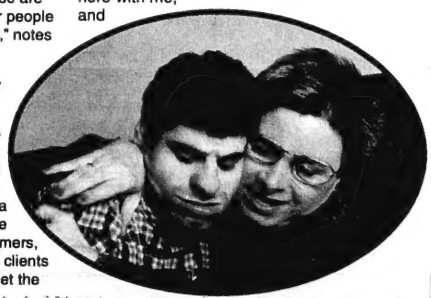
QUALITY OF CARE

Sharon believes the caregivers set Reena apart from other organizations. With a staff of 3 full-time and a few part timers, it's easy for all 6 clients of the home to get the special and individual attention they require. "The staff are so compassionate and anxious to help in any way they can," says Sharon. "They expect a lot from Todd to get him to make the most of his life and to live up to his full potential. Today he is doing things that I never thought were possible."

A MOTHER'S JOY

"I'm just so grateful to have my son back here with me, and I thank Reena for bringing our family together," beams Sharon.

UJA Federation funds Jewish programming at Reena, which over the past 20 years, has created and maintained an environment that respects and promotes dignity, individuality and independence for the developmentally disabled. It's just another example of UJA Federation Funding in Action.



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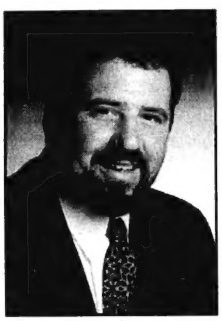

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Carnage in Algeria ignored by the west

Periodically, the reports would appear in the newspapers. But they would be small articles, usually "briefs" in an international news roundup, almost inconspicuous by their length and their placement.

But their content is always grisly and ghastly.

The most recent of the reports appeared last week in the *Globe and Mail*.

"An armed group killed about 60 people in the mountain village of Beni Ali south of Algiers... 30 of them women. They cut off the heads of the people and put them in front of their doors..."

Two weeks earlier the *Globe and Mail* carried a similar though more comprehensive report.

"In a series of savage raids, Muslim rebels killed between 75 and 110 civilians in Algeria, cutting the throats of children and dragging off screaming girls, Algerian newspapers said yesterday.

"Nineteen members of the Zemim family, including a 3-month-old baby, were decapitated by axes," the newspaper said.

"One baby, aged two months, was pulled from the arms of its mother, who begged the terrorists to kill her before killing her child. The baby was decapitated, then burnt before the eyes of its parents.

"The latest killings bring to at least 250 the toll among civilians in the past 10 days and to more than 1,000 the number of people killed since June 5. Officials blame Muslim rebels for the killings."

When we read such ghoulish accounts, we recoil. In self-defence, our minds almost shut down their cognitive capability so as to be both unwilling and unable to imagine the details.

Beyond the political-ideological questions that beg to be asked about the butchery and slaughter, there remains a far simpler question: How could one human being commit such acts against other human beings?

Alas, it is a question that humanity, and in particular, the Jewish people, asks itself every few years, and for which there is only a terse but hardly satisfying answer.

There is evil in the world. It must be confronted, without compromise, in all its manifestations at all stages.

But the political-ideological questions must also be asked. The situation in Algeria has implications far beyond its borders.

What happens in Algeria is likely to have an impact on the Arab world, especially on the countries of the North African coast, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco.

In addition, the impact of political upheaval in Algeria could also be felt in the southern European countries that share historical, economic and cultural ties with it such as France, Italy and Spain.

To attempt briefly to answer these "larger" questions I turned to certain typically informative material from the Canada-Israel Committee which recently came across my desk.

France colonized Algeria in the 1840s. At one time, more than one million French lived there. It gained its independence from France in 1962. At that time, more than two million of the descendants of the French who had lived in Algeria fled to France along with more than 700,000 Algerians.

Radical, extremist Islam

With an area of almost one million square miles, Algeria is the second largest country in Africa and the 10th largest in the world. It has a population of approximately 28 million people, of whom more than 40 percent are under the age of 15.

This latter figure is significant given the fact that more than 30 percent of Algerians are unemployed. Oil is its main industry and source of foreign revenue. Poverty abounds.

It is in this seething mix of poverty and youth that the proponents of radical, extremist Islam find followers.

The country has been embroiled in civil war since 1991. Islamic fundamentalists are fighting the military governing regime of Liamine Zeroual. Estimates of the number of people who have been killed in this war range as high as 60,000. As we know from the occasional snippets of news that find their way to the west, it has been a war of the most sordid and brutal nature.

The tripwire event of the current insurrection was the elections of 1991. The extremists began their war, although rioting and protesting occurred throughout the 1980's, after the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) swept the initial round of the country's first free elections, in December 1991.

Fearful that a fundamentalist Islamic regime was about to rise, the military ousted president Chadi Benjedid, banned the second round of elections and then banned the FIS from standing as a political party.

According to Dr. Bruce Maddy-Weitzman of the Dayan Centre of Tel Aviv University, the armed struggle against the regime of Zeroual has been conducted by two loosely organized bodies. The larger is the l'Arme Islamique du Salut (AIS), known until May 1994 as the Movement Islamique Arme (MIA) which functions as the FIS's unofficial armed wing.

The other, smaller armed Islamic coalition of different armed networks is the Group Islamique Arme (GIA).

After the AIS stated last January that it wished to abandon armed struggle in favor of "democracy, elections and ballots," the GIA declared war on the AIS, claiming it had weakened the Islamic struggle.

As Maddy-Weitzman has described the GIA, "(it) is 'purist' in its advocacy of unbridled violence and rejects any suggestions of dialogue with the regime.

"Their approach may be said to constitute an Islamic version of Frantz Fanon's teachings on the cleansing, purifying properties of violence, alternatively, of the Khmer Rouge's version of how to build a new society. The disagreements and even open warfare between the GIA and the FIS led to sharp disagreements and even open warfare between them."

Thus, the war in Algeria – and the ensuing slaughter – is not only between a brutish military government and extremist Islamic insurrectionists; it is also between the extremist Islamic insurrectionists themselves.

But very little of the war's dirty, repulsive details ever make it to the west.

In next week's column I shall explore some of the reasons why.

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Greater Toronto Area

Police urged to lay hate charges in skinhead march

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress is calling on police to lay hate charges against neo-Nazi skinheads who picketed the motel that is home to Gypsy refugee claimants.

About two dozen skinheads, some carrying swastika flags, others carrying the Maple Leaf, marched in front of a Scarborough motel chanting "Gypsies out." While some gave the Nazi salute others carried placards that stated "Honk if you hate Gypsies" and "Canada is not a trash can."

Metro police from 42 Division monitored the group, positioning themselves between the demonstrators and the Gypsy families.

The demonstrators were "advocating hate against Gypsies," said Bernie Farber, director of community relations for Congress. Pointing out they used the word "hate" in their placard, he said "if the law was written for anything, this is the scenario it was written for."

"It is unfortunate the situation has reached a point where neo-Nazis believe they can take advantage of the current atmosphere by organizing a hatefest targeting these refugee claimants," said Moshe Ronen, chair of Congress' Ontario region.

Sgt. Dino Doria of the Metro police hate crimes unit said "we are concerned about what happened... There is an ongoing investigation."

Members of the police street crime unit were on hand during the demonstration as well as officers of the Metro Police security section. "We are on it. Our people were on it. We certainly consider it serious," he said.

CJC's Moshe Ronen
..."hatefest..."

Meanwhile, Farber criticized the silence of religious and political leaders in the face of the racist demonstration.

"Why is it always up to the Jewish community to be outspoken?... Where are the church leaders, the moral leaders of this country?" The issue cries out for their condemnation, he said.

Congress' call for hate charges received the support of the Urban Alliance on Race Relations (UARR). Antony Shelton, the organization's executive director, said "the police should be telling us how many are charged, not if they should be charged."

The Urban Alliance had received several phone calls from Gypsies, who prefer to be called Roma. "They're scared even to go out at night to a convenience store," he said.

B'nai Brith Canada called on the "federal and provincial governments to ensure that new immigrants and refugee claimants are fully protected by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms... We fear a new wave of rising xenophobia and racism," said Rochelle Wilner, national chair of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights.

When contacted by *The CJN*, Kim McKellar, a spokesperson for the Toronto conference of the United Church, said "we need to stand with people who are being persecuted and if it falls within the hate crimes legislation, we should follow through."

Suzanne Scorsone, a spokesperson for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto, said she would not comment "on particular situations that may go before the courts." She said the archdiocese supports the anti-hate law but "it's up to the appropriate authorities to deal with it."

In an unexpected development, a man who claimed to be Walter John Froebrich, the march organizer, called *The CJN*. He said the idea for the demonstration arose informally among the participants. An acknowledged supporter of the Heritage Front, a defunct white supremacist group, Froebrich said the protesters wanted to show their opposition to Gypsy immigrants. He called the recent arrivals "pickpockets and thieves" but denied demonstrators violated the law.

"It's not hatred," he said. "It's freedom of speech, number 1. Let the good hate the evil."

The recent migration to Canada of hundreds of Gypsies has grabbed the public's attention and prompted a sometimes heated debate. They came in the wake of a Czech television documentary on Aug. 6, which portrayed Canada as a land of opportunity that welcomed refugees. Gypsies from the Czech Republic have complained they were the victims of racist attacks by Czech skinheads.

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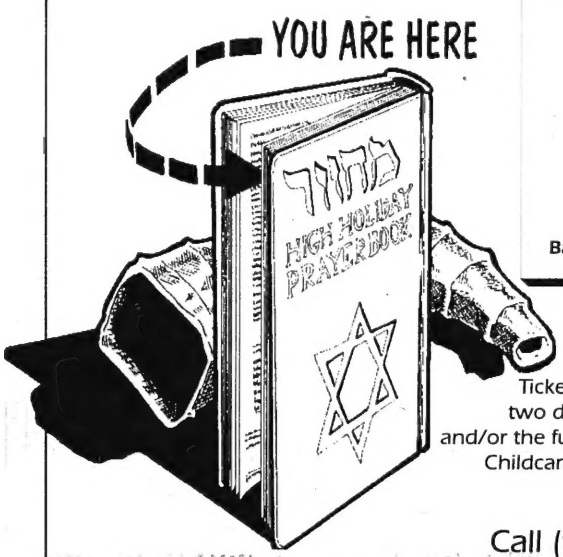

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Greater Toronto Area

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Leo Baeck Day School	$7,000	$7,600	— 8.%
Associated Hebrew Day Schools	$6,950	$6,950	—
Beth Jacob High School for Girls	$9,575	$9,575	—
Ner Israel Yeshiva	$11,500	$11,500	—
Ulpanat Orot Girls' School	$10,400	$10,275	1.2%
Yeshivat Or Chaim	$10,400	$10,275	1.2%
Bialik Hebrew Day School	$7,350	$7,250	1.4%
Netivot Hatorah	$7,500	$7,400	1.5%
United Synagogue Day Schools	$7,400	$7,100	4.0%
Eitz Chaim Day School	$7,200	$6,900	4.5 %
Or Haemet	$6,500	$6,150	6.0%
She'arim Hebrew Day School	$12,500	$11,750	6.5%
CHAT	$10,400	$9,575	8.6%

Tuition fees up at day schools

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For kids, it's time once again for new pencils and notebooks. But many parents of the roughly 10,000 students in Metro Toronto's Jewish day schools are facing another round of tuition fee increases.

The increases are described as in line with the cost of living.

Nine of the 13 schools under the Toronto Board of Jewish Education (BJE) are reporting fee increases for this academic year; tuition at three schools is unchanged from last year; and at one school — Leo Baeck — fees have actually gone down.

The average increase across the board is just over two percent (skewed by the drop at Leo Baeck). Last year, the average rise over the year before was 3.5 percent.

This year's increases are in line with low inflation and a small rise in the cost of living, says Bernard Shoub, director of school finances at the BJE.

Shoub says the decrease in fees at Leo Baeck can be attributed to increased enrolment. "Their overhead has not gone up and it's spread out among more students. So they're passing the savings along to the parents."

He says Leo Baeck's enrolment is growing at an average annual rate of five percent.

Again this year, CHAT has the sharpest rise in tuition. Shoub says that can be attributed to the adding of more programs at the high school.

The rise at Or Haemet came because the Sephardi school is opening its new branch this week in Thornhill, he says.

Ottawa considers U.S. Nazi hunter

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Neal Sher

TORONTO — The former head of the U.S. Office of Special Investigations (OSI), that country's top Nazi-hunting office, may be joining Canada's war crimes unit.

Neal Sher, who headed the OSI from 1982 to 1994, confirmed he is negotiating with Canadian officials about an arrangement to join Canada's war crimes unit. However, Sher, who is currently in a private law practice in Washington, D.C., declined to give any details, saying "the process is still unfolding."

The announcement that Sher may join the Canadian war crimes unit was greeted warmly in Canada. Bernie Farber, national director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, said Sher "is a legend in the field of bringing to justice Nazi war criminals.

"Nobody has more experience, knowledge and fire in the belly," he said.

"One can't help but welcome reports that the war crimes unit will take on Sher," said Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre.

"He's a highly experienced and competent prosecutor with lots of experience... If they listen to his advice, they can become effective. The unit obviously needs his help," Littman said.

John Russell, a spokesperson for the U.S. Justice Department, recalled Sher as "a very vigorous prosecutor. I think he'd be a good asset" for Canada's war crimes unit.

Russell, who worked as an OSI investigator for five years under Sher, said he brings "vigor, drive, knowledge and a sensitivity to the crimes" being investigated.

Paul Vickery, head of Canada's war crimes unit, said negotiations are under way to retain Sher on "a consultancy basis." Any arrangement with Sher must receive ministerial approval, he added.

After leaving the OSI in 1994, Sher served for two years as executive director of AIPAC, a Jewish community organization registered to lobby Congress on U.S./Israeli relations.

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JUDY KAUFFMAN, Homecare
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DR. PETER SINGER, MD, MPH, Sunlife Chair and Director, University of Toronto, Joint Centre of Bioethics

Greater Toronto Area

UJA Federation launches 1998 campaign

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The UJA Federation campaign is the "glue" that keeps the Toronto Jewish community going, despite attempts to "splinter it," said Rabbi Gunther Plaut at a rousing gala opening of the 1998 campaign attended by a standing-room only crowd of more than 1,000 at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts.

Buoyed by crisp videos focused on the Jewish revival in far-flung areas of the world, and high quality entertainment in a theatre setting, the large crowd cheered the campaign slogan of For One People Forever when it flashed on the screen.

"No one should demonize anyone else," Rabbi Plaut said, referring to the "polarization" in the community. "There are people in the world, perhaps in this community, who believe Jews can be divided from israel. They were very wrong yesterday and they are very wrong today and tomorrow." His last statement was loudly applauded.

Poverty exists underground in the Toronto Jewish community, "away from public gaze," Rabbi Plaut said, and it is one of the reasons the federation's campaign for funds must succeed.

"Identity is a problem with our children and grandchildren as never before," he said. "Among the most vulnerable are Jewish college students."

The desperate needs of Jews in the former Soviet Union were brought home when he and his wife visited a Jewish village so remote they had to go there by helicopter, said Leo Goldhar, 1998 campaign chair.

The needs of Jews in Israel and locally were highlighted in videos presented by the United Israel Appeal of Canada and UJA Federation.

The launch chairs were Carol Kassel and Lawrence Bloomberg.

Canadian singer/song writer Amy Sky headlined the entertainment, which included the five member Israeli troupe Hashavim, four of whom are recent arrivals from the former Soviet Union.

HARRIS HELPS BAYCREST BREAK GROUND

Ontario Premier Mike Harris (centre) helped break ground last week for the Baycrest Centre's new state-of-the-art facility for Jewish seniors. Joining him were (from left) chief benefactors Honey and Barry Sherman; Florence Mintz Geneen, chair of Baycrest's board of directors; Sally Fisher, chair of the resident's council of the Jewish Home for the Aged and her nurse; and Baycrest CEO Stephen Herbert. Joining the hundreds of donors at the event were Health Minister Jim Wilson and Attorney General Charles Harnick. The planned Apotex Centre will replace the current 372-bed Jewish Home for the Aged and add 100 new beds. The addition will be known as the Centre for Cognitive Disorders, and will focus on older adults whose cognitive abilities have been damaged by stroke or other ailments. It's scheduled to open in 1999.

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Off the sidelines

We have lately seen welcome signs that the federal government has left the sidelines in the struggle to save the country from the separatists who are intent on destroying it. The signs have appeared in the mail.

It began when Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard conveyed his deep feeling of umbrage to Frank McKenna because McKenna had expressed understanding and even some sympathy to a group of Quebec federalists about the idea of partitioning Quebec.

Federal Intergovernmental Minister Stephane Dion responded to the charges directed by Bouchard against McKenna by pointing out the inconsistency in the separatists' claim that they rest on democratic principles but can ignore the rule of law.

In turn, Quebec's deputy premier, Bernard Landry, picked up the pen, wrote to Dion and accused him and the federal government of being "anti-democratic."

Last week Dion replied to Landry. This was the fifth letter in the four-cornered exchange. He reconfirmed his earlier position that Quebec can only separate from Canada *legally*, that is, within the norms of internationally accepted rules of law.

"At the very least, I am entitled to insist on a process that is clear, legal and fair not only to me, but also to the seven million human beings who are both Quebecers and Canadians and to the other 22 million human beings who enjoy the good fortune of having Quebec as part of their country."

Dion's position is the true democrat's position. It is the one we support. It is rooted firmly and fairly in the ground of respect for law. It espouses order over chaos, due process over wile and guile, law over anarchy. It is not surprising that Landry has said he will not answer Dion's last missive. He has no answer.

100 Years

In modern times, it crystallized twice. On Aug. 29, 1897, in Basel, Switzerland, with the convening of the first Zionist Congress. And then again, some 51 years later on May 14, 1948 with the Declaration of the State of Israel: Zionism.

On these two dates, the "revolution" of the Jewish people took shape and ultimately found unique, exhilarating and idealistic form.

One can define Zionism as the return by the Jewish people to the land of our ancestors. Of course, the term itself derives from the word Zion, which is not modern. Indeed, it is as old as the yearning itself to return, for Zion originally meant Jerusalem.

As far back as the destruction of the first Temple it was the name and the image that fired the imagination and stirred the soul of the exiles who sat by the shores of the rivers of Babylon.

That name and that image, *Zion*, in our own time, became the metaphorical and perhaps even the metaphysical mobilizer for an entire people to rise up against its fate – as either a despised or barely tolerated minority within an alien host society – to reclaim and rebuild their ancient, ancestral home. But, in reclaiming and rebuilding their ancient land, the ancient people also reclaimed and rebuilt itself.

That process is ongoing. Indeed, it is never ending, always seeking practical, human, societal fulfilment of the ideals, values and mission that were imparted in the desert to a former slave rabble, that roused our prophets, that inspired our songs by the shores of Babylonian rivers and that led to a conference in a hotel in Basel 100 years ago.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"Before emancipation, the Jew was a stranger among the peoples, but he did not think of making a stand against his fate. He felt himself belonging to a race of his own which had nothing in common with the other people of the country."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

Dry Bones

OVER THE COURSE OF OUR ONE-DAY ISRAELI WEEKEND
NINETY OF US WERE WOUNDED ON THE ROADS!
IF OUR ENEMIES WERE SMART THEY'D STOP SHOOTING KATYUSHAS
AND START OFFERING US LOW-COST "EASY TERMS" CAR LOANS INSTEAD.

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Sept. 5, 1940, after visiting Jewish internees in New Brunswick, Saul Hayes observed that they were being treated more like prisoners of war rather than as refugees. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Palestinians should work in Arab countries

Yasser Arafat and his supporters among the Palestinian population have been fighting for an independent state in the Middle East.

On the other hand, Arafat has been complaining that Israel has sealed off the West Bank as a result of the suicide bomber's attack in Jerusalem and is preventing Arab workers from entering Israel to work.

You wonder why they still want to be dependent on Israel for jobs and other services?

You would have thought that Arafat would have approached the Arab countries, such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt, the Gulf States, who supposedly are supportive of his aspirations, to allow the Palestinians to come to work in these countries?

How are we to understand this contradictory state of affairs?

A. Noodelman
Montreal

Religious leaders must speak out

It is time for society as a whole to respond "en masse" and condemn all who encourage, use and promote religious murder as unacceptable, primitive, barbaric and repugnant.

It is time for all religious leaders to speak up and condemn barbaric acts that kill, maim and degrade those who are created in the image of G-d.

Let us see how many clerics and wearers of religious garb will dare promote death and destruction and knowingly supply arms to terrorists when they are thus condemned.

These suicide missionaries are now crippling the civilized world, be it in the New York Trade Centre, the Paris and Tokyo subways, or the heart of London and Jerusalem. By their nature, politicians will not stop using the plebeian masses to achieve their goals, but how in the name of G-d can anyone claim membership in modern society by killing innocents and how can people committed to religious beliefs act like Hitler, Stalin and other anti-religious tyrants?

How long will we, as a progressive civilization, let them kill and maim innocent people while we mollycoddle them with legal niceties and civilized philosophical excuses.

Arnold Friedman
President
Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association of Toronto

Living survivors need help now!

It is now more than 4½ years since the final restitution to Holocaust survivors, was announced.

While it appears that the German government was willing to help needy survivors, the criteria for eligibility were worded in such a way as to eliminate most of them from receiving it.

While negotiations are ongoing to change the criteria, survivors are old, sick and need help now. The dead don't need any help, the living do, and they are fully entitled to it.

Leizer Hoffer
Weyburn, Sask.

House cleaning needed at the UN

Secretary General Kofi Annan has proposed measures that will streamline and modernize the operations of the United Nations. All the cost saving measures in the world will change nothing, if the members continue to make decisions based on nationalistic, geopolitical and self-serving reasons that foster and perpetuate regional and ideological differences. The best and worst example of this is the failure of the United Nations-created court to bring to justice war criminals from the former Yugoslavia.

The United Nations forces cannot march in because the Russians would object. Notwithstanding the lofty declaration of protecting human rights, the failure to enforce such fundamental principles in countries such as the former Zaire, Cambodia, Indonesia, Somalia and other countries is an international disgrace of gigantic proportions.

On the issue of cost saving and efficient use of time, the secretary general should consider the hundreds of resolutions brought before the United Nations General Assembly condemning Israel for every conceivable transgression real or imagined, just to satisfy the propaganda machine of the Arab countries.

Yet not once has there been a single resolution of the United Nations condemning racism, persecution and aggression (save and except Iraq) directed against totalitarian and dictatorial Arab regimes. In the final analysis, not only does the United Nations need a reality check in eliminating its bloated bureaucracy but a re-evaluation of its founding principles and some semblance of intellectual honesty and a sincere commitment to justice.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

A. M. Klein: One of our most important writers

By HARRY HEFT

Last week, in the first instalment of this two-part tribute to A.M. Klein marking the 25th anniversary of his death, I attempted to celebrate the great poet and novelist by providing a general overview of his life and accomplishments. In this week's article, I hope to provide a more fully developed examination of Klein's works and to see how the main preoccupations of his life found their strongest expression in his poetry and fiction. By doing this, it may become possible to understand the qualities of Klein's literary genius that made him one of the most important and influential Canadian writers in history.

As a writer, Klein's first literary influences were clearly derived from the Orthodox environment and studies of his upbringing in the "Jewish ghetto" of Montreal. During the first important phase of his career as a poet in the early 1930s, it was his Jewish heritage that provided most of his inspiration, and his best works of this period explore Jewish themes. Rather than focusing upon Jewish spirituality of theology, though, Klein seemed more intent on exploring Jewish culture or trying to understand the role of Judaism in his own life. During this early period, Klein was struggling to find ways to express the continued relevance of thousands of years of Jewish culture in a new, modern, North American context.

Many of the poems that Klein wrote during this period were eventually published in his first volume, *Hath Not a Jew*, the title of which is an obvious allusion to Shylock's famous soliloquy on the struggle of the Jew in Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*. In *Hath Not a Jew*, Klein's poems examine the survival of the Jewish spirit in the Diaspora, where the Jew has been consistently marginalized. In one of the volume's under-appreciated poems, *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*, Klein recognizes how the condition of wandering has forced the Jew to adopt many different personae, but that no matter what the outward appearance, the Jewish identity survives: "Always and ever,/ Whether in caftan robed, or in tuxedo slicked,/ Whether of bearded chin, or of the jowls shaved blue,/ Always and ever have I been the Jew/ Bewildered, and a man who has been tricked..." In this poem, Klein seems to be making two separate points: first, that the Jew may alter his identity, but that Judaism endures nonetheless; and second, that even if the Jew attempts to conceal his identity, the non-Jewish world will remind him.

Although some of Klein's poems study the Jewish identity in a general sense, he is better remembered for those poems in which he celebrates specific Jewish types or personae, such as the "landlord," the "pintele yid," the "shadchan" or the "junk dealer," all of whom appear in his poem, *Portraits of a Minyan*.

The poem that is now considered Klein's masterpiece from this period is *Out of the Pulver and the Polished Lens*, which is written in praise of Baruch Spinoza, the excommunicated Jewish philosopher of Amsterdam.

In the poem, Klein portrays Spinoza as an individual struggling to find a more justifiable relationship with God than the one found in more conventional Judaism, and turning toward nature in the process: "Thou art everywhere, a pillar to thy sanctuary is every blade of grass./ Wherefore I said to the wicked. Go to the ant, thou sluggard, seek thou an audience with God./ On the swift wings of a star, even on the numb legs of a snail, thou dost move, O Lord." Klein depicts Spinoza as an individual who is banished to the fringe of society because he is searching for more valid answers than those which mainstream culture can tolerate. This theme is repeated in much of Klein's best work.

Toward the end of this major period of poetic activity, in the mid-1930s, Klein began to recognize the growing threat of the emerging Nazi government in Germany and dedicated much of his energy to writing newspaper editorials in which he argued the urgency of fighting this evil force immediately. Klein's longtime literary battle with Nazism culminated in his poem, *The Hitleriad*, which was eventually published by the prestigious American press, New Directions.

The Hitleriad is written as a mock-epic poem in which Hitler and his highest ranking officials are parodied by Klein for their various laughable shortcomings: "Frustrated men, who'd tried all things, and failed,/ And then determined to be jailed, or hailed!/ *Herr Goebbels such a one* –/ Club footed, rat faced, halitotic, the/ Brave Nordic ideal, a contrario!" Although Klein's intentions and literary skills in writing *The Hitleriad* were sound, the poem was considered a failure when it was published, since it appeared to be an overly clever and stylized way of addressing a topic that required blunt action.

In the early 1940s, Klein entered the second major phase of his career as a poet and turned his attention to a range of topics beyond his immediate milieu. He began writing poems about the other communities that surrounded him, such as the Québécois and Canadian natives. His poems on the subject of French Canada were so successful that the Canadian Jewish Congress published them as a pamphlet to be circulated in Quebec in order to improve relations between the communities.

Among Klein's finest poems from this period is *Montreal*, in which he attempted to celebrate the cultural mix of his city by writing in an experimental language in which every word could as easily be interpreted in English and French. "I,/ Auditor of your music, cherish the/ Joined double-melodied vocabulaire,/ Where English vocable and roll Ecossic,/ Bilinguefact your air!" The triumph of *Montreal* is Klein's ability to write about a city where different languages coexist in a language that embodies that coexistence.

Many of the poems from this second period of poetic activity were published in 1948 in Klein's last volume of poetry, *The Rocking Chair*. The final poem of the volume, *Portrait of the Poet* as *Landscape*, is one of the most intense and arguably the greatest poem that Klein wrote, considered by some to be one of the greatest poems ever written by any Canadian poet.

In the poem, Klein paints a bleak picture of the condition of the artist in modern society. The world has become so indifferent to poetry that "from our real society/ [the poet] has disappeared; he simply does not count." Because he has been forgotten, the poet is filled with self-loathing, and begins to see himself as "throwback, relief, freak,/ his mother's miscarriage, his great-grandfather's ghost." But ultimately, despite this alienation, the poet begins to find comfort in the meaning that exists in his craft: "For to praise/ the world – he, solitary man – is breath/ to him. Until it has been praised, that part/ has not been." The poet's function is not necessarily to belong in the world, but constantly to bring the world into existence, and to bring significance to his world, through his writing.

While *The Rocking Chair* was Klein's highest artistic achievement, it also represented the end of his career as a poet. After 1948, Klein was to complete only one more sustained literary work, his novel *The Second Scroll*, which was published in 1951. The novel was inspired by a trip Klein took to the newly created State of Israel in 1949, a trip sponsored by the Canadian Jewish Congress. Although the main purpose was to allow Klein to gather information that he could later use on a fundraising tour, Klein felt that he had seen a modern miracle in Israel, and he attempted to capture that miracle in his story.

In the novel, a Canadian editor is sent by his publisher to Israel to collect a volume of new Israeli poetry. Before his departure, the editor discovers that his uncle, Melech Davidson, has survived the Holocaust, and he decides to use his trip as an opportunity to find his uncle. The chapters of the novel are modeled upon the five books of the Torah and as the story progresses, it becomes increasingly evident that Melech is a messianic figure leading his nephew across Europe and into Israel. The nephew comes to see the rebirth of Israel as the redemption of the Jewish people in the aftermath of the Holocaust, and the new poetry of Israel is found in the rejuvenation of the Hebrew language. Melech, as Messiah, remains ever evasive, but in following in his path, his nephew is able to find renewal in the Jewish spirit.

Many critics have considered Klein's greatest literary achievement to be in his sensitivity to minority cultures, his study of the individual against society or his role in bringing Modernism to Canada. But perhaps, on the 25th anniversary of his death, it may be more appropriate to see him as the writer who lived through a historical period of trauma and conflict, and who nonetheless always aspired in his writing to put the world right through reconciliation.

In a province where cultures were at odds, Klein created a language that brought all disparate peoples together. In a world where Nazism was causing mass destruction, Klein's poetry promised the ultimate triumph of virtue. And in the aftermath of destruction, Klein found redemption. Though the conflicts of the world may have defeated him personally, his gift to his readers was the hope of resolution.

Harry Heft recently returned from a visiting professorship at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and is the author of a new book On Your Mark, *published by Macmillan.*

Heirloom

My father bequeathed me no wide estates;
No keys and ledgers were my heritage;
Only some holy books with yahrzeit dates
Writ mournfully upon a blank front page –

Books of the Baal Shem Tov, and of his wonders;
Pamphlets upon the devil and his crew;
Prayers against road demons, witches, thunders;
And sundry other tomes for a good Jew.

Beautiful: though no pictures on them, save
The scorpion crawling on a printed track;
The Virgin floating on a scriptural wave,
Square letters twinkling in the Zodiac.

The snuff left on this page, now brown and old,
The tallow stains of midnight liturgy –
These are my coat of arms, and these unfold
My noble lineage, my proud ancestry!

And my tears, too, have stained this heirloomed ground,
When reading in these treatises some weird
Miracle, I turned a leaf and found
A white hair fallen from my father's beard.

Opinions

The mirror has two faces

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

It isn't easy to find self-critical voices in Arab society. The absence of a tradition of free speech and the prevalence of a patriarchal hierarchy make it difficult for such voices to be heard and to survive. But it is worth listening to those voices that do speak up courageously. As observers of the Middle East are commenting on the new divide in the region – between those committed to peace and those who are not – self-critical voices provide a valuable, helpful insight into the internal debates in the Arab world.

One such voice is that of Daoud Kuttab, the Palestinian journalist who was arrested last spring by the Palestinian police in Ramallah for broadcasting live sessions of the Palestinian Legislative Authority. Kuttab made it clear that the issue of his arrest, and other violations of freedom of the press, were an internal Palestinian issue that had little to do with the Palestinian relationship with Israel. Such actions by the Palestinian authorities reflect their difficult transition from a guerrilla movement to a government responsible for the welfare of two million people.

While polls show that 71 percent of Palestinians want council sessions to be broadcast, the authorities want to cut the council off from public view. To Arafat and some around him, democracy is of secondary importance at best, and the struggle for independence is paramount. They see no connection between the two, unlike Kuttab, for whom democracy is essential for the evolution of the Palestinian state he would like to see. The internal debate about progress towards democracy is complicated by the fact that to satisfy Israel's demands for a crackdown on the infrastructure of terrorism, Arafat has to act in ways that are anything but democratic.

A second, serious indictment of Arab society was recently published in the London daily, *Al-Itihad*, by Salah Bashir and Hazem Saariya. These two writers believe that the absence of democracy and the inherent nature of Arab society make it impossible for Israelis to have confidence in the Arab commitment to peace. Furthermore, they argue, progress towards democracy may paradoxically work against peace, because among the people are many voices who oppose the regimes and the policy of making peace with Israel. This is the case in Egypt, Jordan and certainly within the Palestinian community.

Peace, say Bashir and Saariya, is a construct of the rulers, rather than a product of popular desire. The resulting status quo of little progress works to Israel's advantage: There is no need for Israel to pay the price of peace, while the status quo strengthens the hand of those Israelis who distrust the Arabs and who warn of the security risks inherent in the peace process. The Arabs, in turn, can neither wage effective war nor make effective peace.

Bashir and Saariya concede that Israel has legitimate security concerns, but they believe that the Arabs, especially the pan-Arab and fundamentalist groups, play specifically into the hands of the disbelievers in peace in Israel, by opposing normalization and by seeing Israel as the eternal enemy.

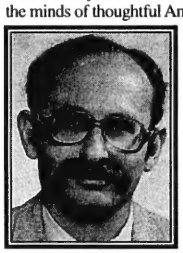
Given the pessimism of their analysis, their conclusion is surprising. Bashir and Saariya believe that Arab societies have no choice but to move towards peace agreements with Israel. Therefore, their answer is not to give up or wait until democracy comes to societies that are governed by different traditions, but to find ways to create dialogues that are not strictly political. Such efforts at "normalization," initiated by Arabs, they argue, will strengthen the hand of the believers in Israel and will develop a greater constituency for peace on both sides. These efforts should come early in the process, rather than being its conclusion.

The prescription may be dismissed as being dubious and naive by many, but in this case, the diagnosis is more important.

A mirror image of the debate is unfolding in Israel. The government of Benjamin Netanyahu, in ironic agreement with the Bashir-Saariya thesis, has repeatedly stated that in the absence of a move towards democracy, Arab societies cannot be relied upon. Therefore, the best that one can hope for is a "cold-war" peace, upheld largely by Israel's deterrent capability.

In contrast, proponents of the peace process say that moving forward is first and foremost in Israel's self-interest, given the cost – not in financial terms – of continued occupation of close to one million Palestinians. They also argue that the Arabs need to be provided with incentives to develop their people's commitment to peace, and they cite economic cooperation and other forms of "normalization" as examples. Indeed, the "peace industry" that aims at creating such opportunities continues to thrive in academic, non-political circles, even as the political process is stalled. The partners on the Arab side are voices such as those of Kuttab, Bashir and Saariya. They deserve a fair hearing, at home and abroad.

Jews in Canada and the U.S.



By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

Two engaging recent books offer some insight into the future of American Jewry, the hold that Christianity has on the minds of thoughtful American Jews, and by extension, how that differs from the Canadian case.

The first is by Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state in the Reagan administration and son-in-law of former *Commentary* editor Norman Podhoretz. While the book is titled *Faith or Fear*, what is more interesting is the subtitle: *How Jews Can Survive in a Christian America.*

Abrams calls upon Jews to stop fearing Christians, including fundamentalists, and instead to make common cause with them against the more dangerous liberal secularists, who pose the greatest danger for Jewish continuity. He sees the Pat Buchanans of the United States as more of a nuisance than a serious threat. Buchanan's ultimate electoral failure is proof that anti-Semitism – and bigotry in general – is a hard sell in the United States.

There are several reasons to call for a vigorous Christianity in America, from a Jewish survivalist perspective. If America becomes more devoutly Christian, there is less chance that gentiles will want to marry Jews, as they clearly do at present! And on issues like the defence of Israel, Christian support is indeed strong.

Abrams' critique of the Jewish alliance with liberalism, anticipated by earlier writings of Podhoretz, Irving Kristol and Ruth Wisse, is not shared by Harvard law professor Alan M. Dershowitz. Dershowitz, who in *The Vanishing American Jew* is as apprehensive as Abrams about the demographic dangers facing Jews, is worried about the dangers of the Christian right and their "Jewish allies." For him, American Christianity in its conservative form is the enemy of an American Jewry which is – and ought to remain – committed to liberalism and the strict separation of church and state. While Dershowitz makes the point that anti-Semitism is no longer a serious threat to American Jews, he nevertheless devotes roughly 30 percent of the book to discussing its various aspects.

The two naturally differ in their prescriptions. Abrams seems to call for a return to traditional, quasi-Orthodox Jewish expression exemplified by Torah. But he is not clear why such an appeal would work and how it could be pitched successfully to the large majority of non-Orthodox American Jews.

Dershowitz, by contrast, recognizes in almost Reconstructionist-like terms that Judaism is entering a new phase in its history as "an evolving civilization." Dershowitz seeks to synthesize traditional and modern Jewish texts with the world view of largely secular, liberal Jews. He wants to use Jewish learning as a vehicle to emphasize the moral, ethical and spiritual elements of the Jewish heritage, over mere rituals.

As a sociologist and something of a behaviorist, I think Dershowitz is too quick to dismiss rituals – both old and new – as a cornerstone of meaningful Jewish survival. His intellectually focused formula may work for professors, and his emphasis on texts and learning is certainly laudable. But his call for a "new Jewish civilization" not rooted in the Divine and which he will help create smacks of, well, chutzpah.

From a Canadian perspective, what is interesting about both books is the relative obsession with Christianity and anti-Semitism. The American constitutional separation of church and state has made American Jewish liberals hypersensitive to perceived dangers of an encroaching, expansive Christianity. In Canada, religious expressions are protected via direct and indirect government action, including certain dimensions of multicultural policy. And provincial governments can offer financial support to religious schools.

On the other hand, American Jewish neoconservatives may make too much of the Christian model. There is no guarantee that increasing religiosity will not lead to greater intolerance between faiths and within Judaism. Certainly for the past two decades, religion and religiously-linked policy debates have fostered a polarizing harshness in American public life. They do not do so in Canada.

Both the liberalism of Dershowitz and the neo-conservatism of Abrams nurture a conception of Jewishness in which ethnic or cultural elements are given short shrift. This too is typically American. Jews are seen as one of the three major faiths of the Judeo-Christian tradition and not as an ethnocultural group. This is because American Jews are likely to be one generation further removed from the culture of the old country than Canadians. In short, the kind of pessimism underlying both books is not (yet) warranted for the Canadian Jewish scene.

The Osnos file

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Recently, courtesy of my son, I received a copy of the *Detroit News* of June 24. A large picture on the front page of one section showed a gentleman who I knew well. His name is Walter Stark. Whenever I have the opportunity to visit the Detroit area, I phone him and arrange for a game of tennis (at which he excels).

We are about the same age and he too emigrated to the United States in the 1930s. Here is the story of that migration, which the newspaper article covered in great and fascinating detail.

Stark's family, like mine, lived in Germany – his in Munich, mine in Berlin. He was convinced that the Nazis were a deadly threat to the Jews, though his family believed that the Nazi regime was a passing event. In this too, our families were alike.

It so happened that his father, who was in the clothing business, had an employee by the name of Albert Schmidt, a gentile who was about to emigrate to the United States. Stark's father did not think that Schmidt had proper clothes with which to impress his future employer in Detroit and asked him to pick out some new suits as a farewell present. Schmidt did so and did not forget his employer's thoughtfulness.

For when Walter Stark wrote him that he and his family also wanted to emigrate and wondered whether Schmidt could talk to his new employer about possibly giving the Starks an affidavit, Schmidt gladly complied. He spoke of the request to his new employer, a Jew named Herman Osnos, owner of Sam's Cutrate Inc.

A lengthy correspondence ensued between young Walter Stark (he was still in his teens) and Osnos, amounting to a thick file that was discovered only recently by Osnos' son, Gilbert, who lives in Stamford, Conn. The letters from young Stark to Osnos in Detroit covered several years, and with every letter, the young man's request became more urgent. In the end, Herman Osnos complied, and this jubilant telegram is found in the files: "Documents arrived safely. Thousand thanks! Stark."

It was none too early. Kristallnacht was about to happen and police in Munich tipped off the Stark family that danger was in the offing. (In this respect, too, our lives paralleled, for in Berlin a policeman warned my father also).

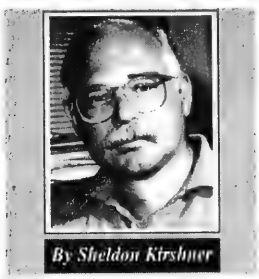
The elder Starks, like my Dad, disappeared into temporary hiding, and shortly thereafter, both families were able to leave Germany. My parents went first to England, the Starks to Detroit. Alas, both of our families had many relatives who were caught by the Nazi killing machine and perished.

Young Stark grew up to be a successful engineer and he never forgot what the Osnos family had done for him. The tale of the Stark-Schmidt-Osnos triangle reminds me of a line in Kohelet (Ecclesiastes): "Cast your bread upon the waters, and it will return to you after many days."

The suits that Albert had picked out in Munich as his goodbye present were indeed the "bread" of which the Bible speaks.

The Kirshner File

California's gold rush Jewish communities



When gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill in 1848, thousands of prospectors, adventurers and merchants descended on the site, touching off the great, short-lived California gold rush.

As a result of the stampede, mining towns such as Marysville and Sonora sprang up. The makeshift settlements attracted not only native Americans but foreigners from around the world. Among the fortune seekers were Jews, who established communities in chaotic frontier conditions.

These Jewish communities did not last long. Once the gold was depleted, people moved on, leaving behind cemeteries, buildings, an array of documents and fading memories.

Ava Kahn, an American historian affiliated with the Jewish Museum of the West in Berkeley, Calif., has studied this period. At a recent academic conference in Colorado, she delivered a paper entitled *Traditions During Chaos: Jewish Life in California Gold Rush Mining Towns.*

Kahn's monograph is based on letters, newspaper reports, minutes of meetings, obituaries and marriage certificates. She intends to write a book on the subject.

Kahn believes that these mining towns deserve to be studied not as anomalies, but as "integral parts" of the development of 19th century American Jewry.

According to Kahn, many of the Jews who went to California opened small shops which supplied miners with clothing, dry goods and food. Anti-Semitism existed, but Jews were generally respected because they provided needed services and were often perceived as just another group of foreigners in what was an alien environment for all.

In some towns, such as Sonora, which was founded by Mexicans, the Jewish community and the town emerged at the same time. One of Sonora's first settlers was Emanuel Linoberg, a Polish Jew who immigrated to the United States in 1849. A prosperous merchant, he also owned an entertainment hall, a gold mine and a ranch.

Linoberg, who died of a stroke at the age of 40, was president of the Hebrew Congregation. Kahn writes that Jews in mining towns usually observed major holidays. Some followed traditional Judaism, while others supported the growing Reform movement.

None of the communities, however, were large enough to engage permanent rabbis. More often than not, High Holy Day services, marriages and circumcisions were conducted by rabbis from San Francisco.

When the gold rush ended in the 1870s and 1880s, the majority of Jews in mining towns left and headed for big cities like San Francisco and Sacramento.

Buildings mouldered away and cemeteries fell into disrepair. In Marysville, for example, tombstones crumbled and toppled over. But Marysville's Jewish cemetery has not been forgotten. It will be restored by the Commission for the Preservation of Pioneer Jewish Cemeteries and Landmarks, a division of the Judah Magnes Museum, which houses the Jewish Museum of the West. Recently, the museum published *A Traveller's Guide to Jewish Cemeteries of the California Gold Rush* by archivist Susan Morris.

Readers who wish to explore this topic further may buy a 42-minute video by Bill Chayes called *Birth of a Community: Jews and the Gold Rush.* It is available at the Judah Magnes Museum (2911 Russell St., Berkeley, Calif.).

A reasoned look at intermarriage

Intermarriage is and has been perceived as a threat to Jewish continuity. In the United States, with the world's largest Jewish population, intermarriage has been incrementally growing. According to the latest data, compiled by the National Jewish Population Survey, the intermarriage rate has reached 52 percent, an increase of 500 percent since the 1960s. To put it another way, one-third of Jewish households in the Unite States today contain a non-Jewish spouse.

Some are crying *gevalt.* Two decades ago, when the rate was about 30 percent, a Harvard University demographer, Elihu Bergman, warned that if the trend continued the Jewish population, then estimated at 5.7 million, would shrink to 10,000 by the year 2076.

Ellen Jaffe McClain, a Los Angeles teacher, claims that such reports are unduly alarmist, and that intermarriage is less of a threat to American Jewry than is commonly assumed.

In her provocative book, *Embracing the Stranger* (HarperCollins, $35), whose reflections can be applied to Canada or any other country with a sizable Jewish community, Jaffe McClain concludes that statistics can be misleading, and urges readers not to stereotype Jews who marry non-Jews.

As for her first contention, she writes that too many Jewish leaders use statistics "to read too many people out of Jewish life." Citing the research of sociologist Egon Mayer, she reminds us that there are approximately 150,000 Americans (and counting) who are descendants of two generations of intermarriage *and* who consider themselves to be Jews.

And furthermore, she points out, a fair number of intermarried Jews, such as herself, are Jewishly involved. She and her husband observe Shabbat as well as Jewish holidays.

She readily acknowledges that intermarriage often means that the offspring of these unions are raised as Christians. But by the same token, she urges Jewish communities not to ostracize Jews who wed non-Jews.

"Converts and prospective converts to Judaism probably face more rejection, suspicion, blind prejudice and just plain bad attitude than any other spiritual seekers," she observes.

Converts face rejection

And, she adds, rabbis turn away potential converts far too often, sometimes because they can't be bothered with engaging themselves in what is usually a time-consuming process.

Jaffe McClain regards outreach programs, which have existed since the mid-1960s, as promising. They bring intermarried Jews, their partners and their children into Jewish life.

Jaffe McClain, however, admits that intermarriage is taking its toll.

"The model of American Jewry that seems to be taking hold as we head into the next century seems to involve a firm core of committed Jews surrounded by a wide, mushy ring of Jews who are more and more alienated from Jewish life the further you get from the core," she writes.

"Think of a matzoh ball in a big plate of chicken soup. The matzoh ball is the American Jewish community, and the soup is American society."

Food for thought.

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Elul helps us prepare for High Holy Days

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

The month of Elul precedes the start of the High Holy Days.

Most Jews are aware of the importance placed by our culture on the High Holy Days. It is a time when we stand in awe of a Greater Power and attempt to grasp the concept that although we are responsible for our actions, we are not the final masters of our destinies. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are times when we focus on the tremendous discrepancies between our mortal existence and Omnipotent Infinity. Yet despite these discrepancies, we are expected to engage in a relationship with the Divine.

We are expected to communicate and negotiate, but what is the foundation for this relationship whose enormity will overwhelm us in one short month? The month of Elul may offer us a glimpse of an answer.

The rabbis noticed that the name of the month – "Elul" – can be understood as the initials of a well-known Hebrew phrase: "Ani ledodi vedodi li." In Hebrew, the beginning consonants of this phrase are identical to the consonants of "Elul." The phrase means "I am for my beloved and my beloved is for me."

It is a quote from the biblical book, Song of Songs, which is a dialogue of love. The Song of Songs speaks of intimacies between lovers, and Rabbi Akiva added to this meaning that the book also speaks of the relationship between God and Israel. It is a relationship of love and intimacy and longing.

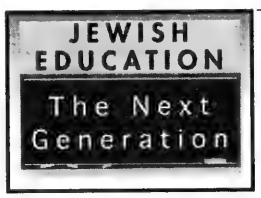
The Talmud states: "You shall make the Lord beloved." The statement does not speak of emotion, but rather speaks of action. The Zohar comments: "How does one love the Lord? By encompassing oneself with benevolence on every side, by doing benevolence to all without sparing your strength or your property."

It is clear that the love of God must be actively expressed and not simply felt. We make God our beloved by dealing positively with the world around us. And yet part of an intimate relationship is the aspect of longing.

There is an ancient midrash that speaks of a palm tree that bore no fruit. All attempts to nurture the tree failed until one palm gardener told the townspeople that the tall palm tree could see another palm tree in Jericho and was longing for her. The people of the community immediately grafted a branch from the tree in Jericho onto the first palm tree and it then bore fruit.

The image of the first tree, knowing what it needed but anchored to its spot unable to fulfil its longing, speaks to every person. There are times when the reality of our lives keeps us away from spirituality and yet we continue to long for it.

Before the High Holy Days arrive, we are given the month of Elul in which to prepare. During this month, the month when we concentrate on the positive, we should also take note of the wisdom conveyed in the midrash. Although it is a time of introspection, we must always be aware of those around us who are longing for connections. We must be the palm gardener who observes and the community who reacts.



The price of Torah is worth paying

By ELLIOTT MALAMET

Recently a parent confided to me that, after having sent their daughter to a day school for many years, he and his wife were now enrolling her in a public high school because "we want her to gain a wider exposure to different people and ideas. Day school can be quite confining, you know."

The strangely Kafkaesque feel of this assertion – the sense that Jewish day schools are somehow insular and surreal – is only furthered by its inherent vagueness.

The credo of a "wider exposure" does not admit of too much scrutiny. Indeed, one would be hard pressed to explain how, *by definition*, public school is the road to an expansive view of reality, the more likely conduit to creating a generation-X of Renaissance men and women. Yet this idea is the often voiced mantra of many Jewish parents in our time, despite its intellectual dubiousness.

Do we mean to say that we are willing to put our children's Jewish education and hence an important component of their Jewish identity at risk because we feel they are multiculturally deprived?

Or perhaps this is not the issue at all. Perhaps what this September swan song is all about is money, specifically the very real problem of paying thousands of dollars in tuition. Is learning a little Talmud and becoming familiar with the Balfour Declaration really worth digging into the family pocketbook? Somewhere beneath the "I want my child to be a citizen of the world" speechmaking cited above, one can feel the anxiety.

Some parents joke about tuitions, a few are almost lewdly proud of their ability to pay. Most of us, though, have very real concerns about the price of Torah these days.

Rorschach of the soul

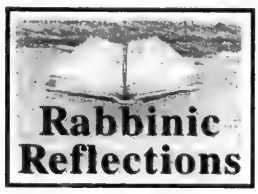
But sympathy for the groaning budget must also be tempered by some honest introspection. "We can't afford it" is never an objective statement. It is a Rorschach of the contemporary soul, of what we value and what we would like to overlook.

Financial prosperity, as the Torah incisively narrates, must always be integrated into a total grasp of what is the good life and how do I achieve it. The Torah's textbook model of what happens when money alone talks is Abraham's nephew, Lot. Chapter 12 of Genesis finds Lot investing in some prime real estate, "well-watered" farmland. Alas, this shrewd financial venture has one drawback; he now lives in the unfriendly confines of Sodom, the city that epitomized moral corruption and societal breakdown. Lot finds that his perfectly balanced cheque book is more than offset by the rape gangs that literally bang at his door, looking to assault his guests.

Of course, our various local public schools are scarcely candidates for a divine visitation of fire and brimstone. And for many, tuition fees are not a replacement for luxury items; they are competition for the grocery list. Nonetheless, Judaism's unflinching eye lights upon a growing number of parents who would choose to spend money on certain lifestyle items and not on their children's Jewish education.

When all the rationalizations are done, what this points to is the fact that many parents seem unconcerned about ransoming their children's Jewish future. Why? Because – and here's the dirty little secret – they are ambivalent about their own Jewish identities. Why pay for something that you're not really sure matters in the long run?

It will be interesting to see the outcome of these choices in years to come. Beware the knock on the door in the middle of the night, her non-Jewish boyfriend come to gallantly expose her to a whole wide world of people and ideas.



Prayer practised daily a service of the heart

By RABBI CHARLES FREUNDLICH

There's a story told about a wealthy Jewish tourist who was mountain climbing in Switzerland. One day he found himself on a wood and rope bridge that connected two peaks. Below was a deep ravine.

As he began crossing the bridge, a wind began to blow hard, causing the bridge to sway back and forth. He felt his life was in peril and was terrified to see the deep ravine below. In his moment of fear he looked upwards and prayed. "I'll give $100,000 to the United Jewish Appeal."

Immediately, the wind stopped blowing and the bridge became steady. As he came to the end of the bridge, he looked upward and said, "Can I make it $50,000?" And suddenly the wind began to howl and the bridge began to sway back and forth.

The man smiled, "I was only joking, God."

Many of us, like the wealthy tourist, discover religion in moments of crisis or danger. We turn to God and the synagogue seeking comfort and support. When medical treatment seems futile we ask for a special prayer – a *mi sheberach.*

But religion, like any art or skill, is most beneficial when used and practised on a regular basis. Prayer cannot become meaningful when used only on special occasions. A regular discipline of prayer practised daily warms us to the heightened excitement of the service of the heart.

The superstars of baseball will get a hit every third time at bat. And to achieve this percentage, a rigorous training program is required. We all need a disciplined program of religious observance throughout our daily life to experience the special high peaks of religious emotion.

Rabbi Freundlich is the spiritual leader of Beth Torah Congregation in Toronto.

Man Reading
by Anna Ticho

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Some of my favorite sites

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

The month of Elul is finally here and that means Rosh Hashanah is less than a month away. As the year draws to a close, I'd like to share with you the best sites that I've travelled on the Jewish Highway.

Today, I will focus on several excellent sites which catalogue thousands of other pages with Jewish or Israeli content. In future columns, I will focus on individual Web pages that I find myself visiting over and over again.

The Ultimate Jewish/Israel Link Launcher **[http://ucsu.colorado.edu/~jsu/launcher.html]** was the first massive compendium of Jewish sites I ever stumbled on. After browsing through Steve Ruttenberg's links, I was convinced that a column devoted to the Jewish Internet would have no shortage of material. Kol Hakavod to Steve for a site that never disappoints!

Over the past year, Matthew Album's Maven: More than 5,000 Jewish/Israel Links **[http://www.maven.co.il/]** has transformed itself into a slick, well organized Jewish site catalogue and search engine. I particularly like Maven's weekly newsletter list that announces the latest sites to join the Jewish Highway **[http://www.maven.co.il/subscribe.htm]**.

The Digital Genizah **[http://uscj.org/metny/middletown/genizah.htm]** is not only an elegant site but also has a marvellous name. (A genizah is the traditional name for a repository for ancient, sacred Jewish works.) Mark C. Bassell of Temple Sinai in Middletown, N.Y., has also done a wonderful job.

There's more. Definitely worth a look are Gerry Hoch's Jewish Links **[http://alcor.concordia.ca/~g_hoch/bumnet.html]**, the Jewish Communication Network's JC-Navigate **[http://www.jcn18.com/jhot00.htm]** and Andrew Tannenbaum's Judaism and Jewish Resources **[http://shamash.org/trb/judaism.html]**.

If you want to focus your search on Israel, then try The (almost) Complete Guide to WWW in Israel **[http://www.math.technion.ac.il/~nyh/israel/]**. There are several other excellent Israeli search engines, which I will describe in a future column.

And don't forget about some of the standard search engines such as Altavista **[http://altavista.digital.com/]**, Lycos **[http://www.lycos.com/]** and Web directories like Yahoo **[http://www.yahoo.com/Society_and_culture/Religion/Judaism]**, **[http://www.yahoo.com/text/Regional/Countries/Israel]**.

Finally, I recommend taking a look at the Jewish Ring **[http://yarra.vicnet.net.au/~aragorn/jewring.htm]**. This is an example of an Internet Webring, which is simply a collection of sites on a common theme, in this case 140 sites about Judaism. If you type the following address **[http://www.webring.org/cgi-bin/webring?ring=jewish&id=85&random]** one of those sites will appear at random. So what I've done is make that address my browser's "Home Page." Every time I turn on my browser, I am automatically transported to a different Jewish site!

Well, that should keep you busy for a while. Next time we'll continue our year-end journey by looking at some of the best stops on the Jewish Highway.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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William Katz [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Katz celebrates his 100th birthday

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The accolades flowed as friends and family toasted and lightly roasted William Katz at a recent celebration marking his 100th birthday.

The birthday bash, which drew more than 125 people from four generations, was also a reunion for many members of Katz's extended family, who had come from as far away as Israel, Chicago and Los Angeles.

The festivities included the presentation of a plaque inscribed with a poem written especially for Katz by Yiddish poet Simcha Simchovitch, speeches by grandchildren, great-grandchildren and other family members, as well as plenty of reminiscing.

A stranger to the party would have been hard pressed to identify the centenarian in the group. Katz, looking dapper in a light summer suit and rose boutonniere, looks at least 15 years younger than his remarkable age. He walks erect and unassisted and has only a slight hearing loss.

He lives independently in the apartment he has lived in for the last 25 years, but since he stopped driving three years ago, he depends on friends and family for transportation. A staunch Yiddishist, he participates in three weekly Yiddish reading groups and attends two to five concerts or programs with Jewish or Yiddish content a month.

Katz said his love affair with Yiddish literature began after he immigrated to Canada in 1920. In the Polish shtetl where he grew up, the only reading material available was the Talmud and the Bible, but in Canada he could obtain Yiddish books on every subject imaginable. "It was an open world," he said.

He left Poland in 1919 to avoid the draft, because he had no interest in serving in an anti-Semitic army, he said. He worked in Germany for a year and through sheer luck, was able to secure free passage to Canada. The ticket was paid for by the American uncle of a cousin who was not able to travel. As Katz remarked, "My life has been a series of miracles."

He arrived in Canada with $25 borrowed from a friend and the address of the Shidlowsky family, relatives of a friend. He fell in love with the Shidlowskys' daughter, Bluma, whom he married in 1922.

The union was beshert, he said. "She was waiting for me. I had to travel and go through all that hardship to meet her."

She died in 1972.

One of Katz's most important miracles was that he came to Canada in time to sponsor his brother and two sisters, who arrived in Toronto in 1924. He contends they would have perished in the Holocaust had he not immigrated here when he did, noting sadly that his efforts to sponsor a half-sister a decade later were unsuccessful and she did not survive the war.

Katz had learned the shoemaker's trade in Poland, but unable to find employment here, he worked at a number of jobs in the apparel industry, from hat making to embroidery. A leftist and supporter of progressive causes, Katz helped found the embroidery local of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union.

He said he was such "a good union member" that he couldn't get a job in Canada and had to work in Chicago to support his wife and their only child, Ida Abrams, who stayed in Toronto.

Katz is still a charter member of the Labor League Mutual Benefit Society, later renamed United Jewish People's Order (UJPO), founded in 1926. He has served in many executive positions at UJPO and continues to be active, attending a lodge brunch and executive meeting monthly.

In 1930, Katz became a partner in a small embroidery shop on Adelaide Street where he worked until 1972.

In his retirement he took up folk and ballroom dancing, which he kept up until his 97th birthday. He said dancing has kept him in good shape over the years.

Katz attributes his good health and long life to the fact that he does not allow himself to get irritated.

"I'm not an envious person. I don't worry," he said, noting proudly that he is zayde to five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Greater Toronto Area

JNF emissary back with his Diaspora 'family'

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

Col. (Res.) Yaen Vered

TORONTO — Col. (Res.) Yaen Vered, a 58-year-old veteran of the Israeli army, says he has a "love affair with the Jewish nation" that started in Canada, and that's the reason he has come to Toronto as the new Jewish National Fund (JNF) special Jerusalem emissary.

Vered, a veteran of the Israeli public service, was the British Columbia JNF representative in Vancouver from 1981 to 1985. While there, he says he developed a keen interest in the Diaspora. "Since life is short, I wanted to come back to the Diaspora, to be with my family."

Though he owns two houses in Israel, he says his first choice was to return to Canada to learn more about his fellow Jews in the Diaspora.

Here since Aug. 1, Vered has been up and down the Bathurst Street corridor, seen all the Jewish signs on the shops, which made him feel he was back in Tel Aviv, and has had a chance to talk to many Toronto Jews.

"It is good that Jews here are concerned about spiritual problems and the question of who is a Jew."

Perhaps what is needed, he suggests, is a conference of the elders of the Jewish Nation, "wherever they are – scholars, rabbis, people from every stream of Judaism to help us understand what Judaism is."

Born in Moshav Gan HaShomron, Vered is a specialist in electronics and communication. Just prior to his Toronto posting, he was for three years general director of NITZAN, the Israeli Association for the Advancement of Children and Adults with Learning, Behavioral and Functional Disabilities. He also served as deputy director general of the AMAL Schools and Colleges Network for eight years, directing a budget of $10 million and coordinating more than 500 different courses with an enrolment of 11,000.

Vered credits his Canadian experience with turning him into a Zionist concerned with the problems of Jews everywhere. "To be born in Israel and to be a Zionist is one thing, but for you in the Diaspora to make a decision to be a Zionist is more commendable."

He described as "worried, but not pessimistic" the views of Canadian Jews about Israel. "They are worried about Israeli security, about the attitude of the Israeli government to the Arabs. And I was asked many times about the problems of Jewish continuity."

Vered and his wife, Pnina, have a home in Petach Tikvah. Pnina will join him in their rented condominium at St. Clair Avenue and Yonge Street for the High Holy Days, but will not be able to move to Toronto until the beginning of 1998.

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את קולך בשיר נתת
הגורל נקש בדלת
ואתה כלל לא שמעת

שוב ושוב עובר בי רעד
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לב אל לב נפתח כפרח
אקדחו טעון במוות
ועיניו קרות כקרח...."

את השיר הזה כתב יעקוב רוטבליט, כותב "שיר לשלום", שהיה השיר האחרון ששר יצחק רבין בחייו.

לו הייתי בארץ עכשיו נוסע לעבודה ביום קיצי, בטח הייתי מקשיב לאלטון ג'ון או סיבליוס, אבל פה מחוץ למחנה, אני, כמו רבים מיכם, מקשיב הרבה למה שבא משם. התקליט הזה כל כך מדבר בתענוג שהוא יביא לכם, שאין צורך להמליץ יותר מידי. זה מה שקוראים "עשר". באותו עניין- יש תקליטים אחרים, שנשמעים בהתחלה כמו בָּלָה ואתה לא ממש מבין מה רוצים ממך, אבל אחרי שמיעה עשירית אתה שר את השירים כמו תפילה. כזה הוא התקליט של מתי כספי וריקי גל "אוהבת אותך יותר". אל תוותרו עליו, כי הוא ילך ויתחזק בכם וגם יחזק אתכם.

שבע וחצי בבוקר, במעלית:

7:30 בבוקר, אני עולה במעלית לקומה השמינית של בית החולים למשרד שלי. איתי עולים איש צעיר עם שער ארוך וג'ינס, אישה צעירה ובנם בן השלוש או ארבע שיושב בעגלת הליכה. ראשו של הילד כמעט קירח מתרופות נגד סרטן ובעיניו תלויות דמעות. הוא בא למרפאת החוץ כדי לקבל טיפול. כל כך הרבה אנשים מעורבים במלחמה לחיין, אבל כל מה שהוא יודע זה שבעוד דקה יכניסו אותו לחדר העיניים, וכשיצא משם יהיה כאוב יותר, ומפוחד יותר. ואז אמא מביטה בו, והרי היא בעצמה כמעט ילדה, ומחייכת אליו חיוך גדול - מאיפה היא לוקחת אותו עכשיו - ואומרת לו בקול רך שהאל נתן לאימהות: "ואחרי זה אתה יודע לאן נלך , נכון?" ויש בקולה כל כך הרבה הבטחה, והילד מביט בה ומעלה חיוך, והיא עושה תנועה של שני אגודלים למעלה, תנועה של "יש", ויש כל כך הרבה כוח במה שהיא מעבירה עכשיו לילד, והכוח הזה נספג בו ויישאר איתו כל חייו. האל לא יכול להיות בכל מקום, לכן הוא שלח את אמא.

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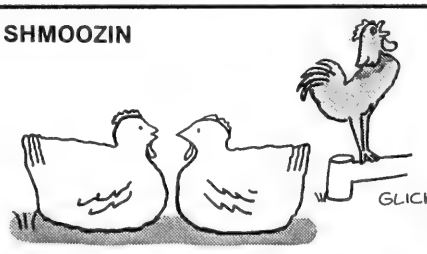

"Imagine, crowing every morning at the crack of dawn — that rooster must think he's such a k'nahker!"

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish groups denounce messianic 'synagogue'

[Cont'd. from page 3]

poster is in Hebrew. There's a space for children's services, and plans call for a library and offices.

Jews for Judaism, the counter-missionary group, says City of David is one of many so-called "Hebrew-Christian" groups operating in Toronto, including Jews for Jesus, which target Jews for conversion to Christianity.

City of David is really an evangelical church "disguised" as a synagogue, and is part of the fundamentalist Protestant movement that "aggressively" proselytizes to Jews, says Jews for Judaism executive director Julius Ciss.

The group has issued "an urgent warning to Toronto's Jewish community" about the congregation in its most recent newsletter.

Ciss says the surrounding community should be wary of the congregation. He says messianic groups have successfully reached vulnerable people, like Jewish seniors, recent immigrants and the young, by employing Hebrew and other Jewish trappings in their services.

Fundamentalist Christians contribute millions of dollars toward proselytizing Jews every year, spurred by New Testament teachings, Ciss says.

Asked by *The CJN* whether the congregation will seek to convert Jews, Forman said: "We have a natural desire to reach Jewish people. Jesus has been rejected by the Jewish people. But one day, he's going to reveal himself as Yeshua, the Jew."

Forman says York Region's burgeoning Jewish population has nothing to worry about: "We're here to be a blessing to the community."

Messianic mailings warning issued

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and Jews for Judaism are also warning Toronto Jewry about an apparent increase in random mailings from messianic groups to Jewish homes.

Last week, a number of apartment dwellers in the Bathurst-Steeles area, home to many Russian-Jewish immigrants, reported receiving an eight-page mailing from Jews for Jesus.

Half the mailing was in Russian, with the other half in English. It admonished readers that "it's not too late to be saved" and urged them to recite a prayer "to accept Yeshua in my heart."

The mailing is "a rather odious attempt by evangelical Christians to convert Jews by means of religious fraud," said CJC's Bernie Farber.

Jews for Judaism says Congregation Melech Yisrael on Rainee Avenue also sent out flyers recently, advertising film screenings.

As well, Jewish homes in the Bathurst-Sheppard area reported receiving a letter from the Toronto Jewish Mission on Sheppard, asking them to send away for a free Bible.

Farber said there seems to be a "highly-funded, big push" by Toronto's messianic groups of late, indicating they are gearing up for the year 2000. According to some fundamentalist Christians, Jesus will return that year, but before that, Jews must accept him as messiah. — R.C.

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The proceeds from this fund will support Ph.D. students at the Weizmann Institute as they learn and work towards developing new understanding of and new approaches to diseases affecting the lives and well-being of women including breast and ovarian cancer, heart disease, osteoporosis, lupus and reproductive disorders.

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Towards a better future, integrating people with developmental handicaps into the community

Israeli Scout Friendship Caravan performs in Mel Lastman Square. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Israeli scouts provide lively entertainment

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Mel Lastman Square in North York was alive with the sound of Israeli music, thanks to the recent performance by the Israeli Scout Friendship Caravan, a musical troupe of Israeli scouts.

The 10-member troupe, made up of Israeli teens 16 and 17 years old, was enthusiastically received by the audience, estimated at 1,300. They clapped and sang, and some people even got up on the stage to join the young high-spirited performers.

The Ontario visit of the Friendship Caravan, now in its 25th year, was co-sponsored by the Jewish Advisory Committee on Scouting and Guiding, Canadian Jewish Congress, and United Israel Appeal.

Robert Engel, chair of the scout advisory committee, was the key organizer of the Ontario concerts also held at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care and in Niagara Falls.

The troupe, which toured the United States and Canada for three months, performed a total of 125 concerts at a variety of settings, including summer camps, community centres and synagogues. The North York concert was one of the last stops.

The teens, who rehearsed intensively for three months in Israel, were selected from a delegation of 50 young leaders and counsellors in the Israel Scout Movement chosen to represent Israel from a large pool of applicants.

Those who were not part of the Friendship Caravan became counsellors or leaders in scout camps and Jewish summer camps.

Caravan members told *The CJN* that the three-month tour was a unique experience.

"It was the best time of my life," said Yoni Amgor, 17. "It's an experience you can have only have once in a life time."

Lilach Birger, also 17, said meeting so many people – they visited 25 U.S. states – was interesting, but the friendships among troupe members was what made the experience so special.

Eran Sinvany said performing was hard work – the troupe often did two concerts a day and on one occasion, four – but he always felt energized by the companionship of other troupe members.

Group leader Dan Helfman said one of the highlights of the trip was participating and performing at a scout jamboree near Richmond, Va., which drew some 45,000 people. President Bill Clinton, the jamboree's keynote speaker gave a special greeting to the Israeli troop, Helfman said.

"He looked surprised when he saw the Israeli flag – I don't think he knew there are scouts in Israeli – and then he said, 'Shalom. Welcome.'"

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DRIVE FOR NEW DONORS KICK-STARTS CAMPAIGN '98

UJA Federation's drive to attract new contributors to its annual campaign is shifting into high gear.

Last year more than 3,000 community members joined the UJA Federation family, helping to raise $35.5 million for Jews in need here at home, in Israel and around the world.

Although campaigners are already preparing to contact non-contributors, a special New Gifts telethon on Sunday, September 28 will officially kick-off the effort.

Another York Region telethon will be held at the Promenade Shopping Centre later in the Fall to increase involvement in UJA Federation among the growing number of Jews living north of Steeles.

The campaign for new gifts includes a series of community parlour meetings and a bus mission for grade 7 day school students to get them acquainted with local services and programs funded by UJA Federation.

"The mission is a great way to expose our children to the work of UJA Federation at an age when they can really appreciate what they see," says Gary Grundman, who for the second year, is co-chairing the new gifts effort with Rosanne Ain.

Grundman is also hoping an early start will produce "bigger and better results."

"We're putting new gifts at the forefront of Campaign '98 from the beginning to emphasize its importance," he adds.

"We want to keep the momentum going strong all the way through the campaign," says UJA Federation Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar. "These new contributors will be the backbone and future of UJA Federation."

Ain, who is overseeing the parlour meetings starting in November, says the small gatherings are for "people who want to get involved but don't know where to start."

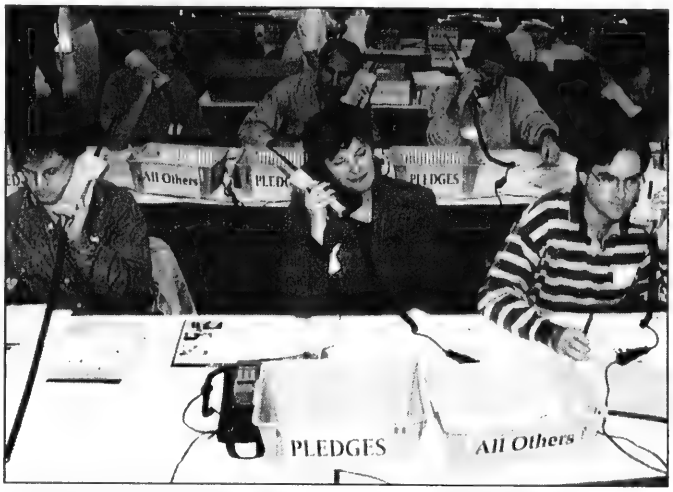
"Many of the people who attended parlour meetings held during last year's campaign ended up becoming new donors," adds Ain. "It's a real grass roots initiative."

UJA Federation's 1998 Campaign was officially launched last week with leaders emphasizing the community's growing needs.

Government cutbacks have placed more pressure on UJA Federation to fill the gap left by funding decreases.

Campaign officials have identified the alleviation of poverty, the rescue of Jews around the world and the preservation of Jewish identity as this year's important priorities.

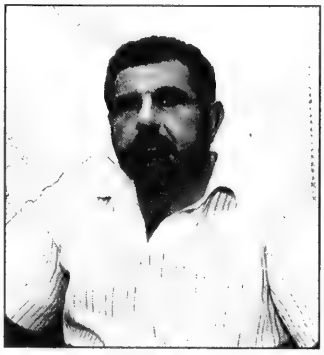
If you would like more information on new gifts events, please call (416) 631-5738.



York Region residents on the line at last year's UJA Federation New Gifts telethon.

EXODUS SUPERVISOR IN REMOTE REGIONS

TASHKENT - Zvi Kiliman relishes a challenge. The 44 year old head of the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency in what was once Soviet Central Asia oversees the ongoing immigration to Israel of the region's remaining 60 thousand Jews.



Zvi Kiliman

"Nearly three thousand people are studying Hebrew," he says, "and 640 teenagers participated in youth camps during the summer."

Based in Tashkent, Kiliman is responsible for a part of the world which includes Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tadjikistan, Khyrgizia and Turkmenistan. These former Soviet republics had over 150,000 Jews before 1990 but a mass exodus for Israel has drastically reduced numbers.

Since 1994, about 26,000 Jews have emigrated to Israel, and this year over 4,000 Central Asian Jews are expected.

"Most of the older remaining Jews are reluctant to come to Israel," observes Kiliman. "But their children do not need much persuading. Our informal youth programs stimulate interest in Israel and their Jewish heritage, while our ulpanim teach not only Hebrew but Jewish festivals, Jewish history and Israel as well."

Kiliman was born in Kishniev, Moldova and made aliyah, with his family, when he was 19, in 1972. An engineering graduate from the prestigious Technion, Kiliman served as a professional soldier in the Israel Defence Forces for 20 years, reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Before assuming his current position in Tashkent, Kiliman served in Baku, Kishniev and Odessa.

While he especially enjoys direct contact with members of the Jewish communities under his jurisdiction, most of Kiliman's time is spent handling logistics over a region spanning thousands of miles.

"In Tashkent we have 20 personnel including five emissaries from Israel", he explains, "while in Alma Ata, in Kazakhstan, we have a similar size office. Then we have dozens of smaller offices throughout the region managed by local coordinators."

Although all the countries of the region are Moslem, anti-semitism has not been a factor motivating immigration.The only exception today is Tadjikistan where the Iranian influence has triggered civil war and political strife.

"The major prejudice that confronts Jews is hatred of Russians by the local Asian population," says Kiliman.

However, political turmoil and economic insecurity are widespread, convincing younger Jews there's no future for them in the area.

Campaign Barometer '98

- Nearly $20 million raised to date
- Approximately 9,000 donors have given a gift for the 1998 campaign
- More than 18,000 remain to be contacted
- UJA Federation raised $35.5 million last year.

Community Matters

MISSION WITH A FAMILY FEELING

The secret for the success of UJA Federation's most recent mission to Israel was all in the family.

Eighty five community members – parents, children and even some grandparents – participated in the eight-day mission, with a customized itinerary that delivered something for everyone.

Aside from all the fun on land, sea and air, including a jeep ride in the Galilee and inner-tubing on the Jordan River, Family Mission members visited Yitzhak Rabin's grave, the Yad Vashem memorial and archeological digs in Tel Morashah.

"It's amazing how much the children absorbed," noted Lori Disenhouse, who chaired the mission with her husband Sheldon and three children. Even though this was the Disenhouse's first family trip to Israel, this one was different. "We never realized how much variety Israel had to offer to the entire family," she said.

Lori's daughter, Sari, was one of five mission participants to celebrate bar and bat mitvahs high atop Masada. "It was such a special moment, not just for us, but for all the families celebrating," recalled Sheldon Disenhouse.

Renee Bal also celebrated her 70th birthday by climbing Masada with her children and grandchildren.

"The trip was special because there was always enough to interest both parents and their kids," said Adam Pivnick, who brought along his wife and two children. "Every day there was something to look forward to."

"Everybody was entertained all the time," observed Eileen Bronstetter. "My kids absolutely loved it."

"There isn't a better way to experience Israel with the entire family than a UJA Federation mission," Disenhouse added.

Right: *Nicole (l), Randi (centre), Melissa (r) and Lauren Silverstein-Rausch.*

Bottom: *Lori Disenhouse looks on as daughter Sari reads from the Torah at her bat mitzvah ceremony atop Masada.*

Israel 'trekers' seek return trip

A group of young adults recently sampled a taste of Israel which left them hungry for more.

Fifteen 25-35 year-old Torontonians, most of them visiting Israel for the first time, participated in UJA Federation's first Israel Trek mission this summer. The program was designed for young adults looking for an alternative to traditional missions.

"We wanted to offer this age group something different," explains Israel Trek Chair Marc Benjamin. "But at the same time we wanted the mission to instill in them a love of Israel that only a first hand experience can do."

In addition to visiting UJA Federation and United Israel Appeal funded Partnership 2000 projects near Eilat, Yad Vashem and Mt. Herzl, the group ventured off the beaten track and even rappelled down a cliff at Mitzpe Ramon in southern Israel. "It was a great ice-breaker," notes Benjamin.

First-timer Robin Nozetz, a 30 year old graphics designer, said she "loved all the physical activity," which included hiking through the Ein Gedi reserve, camping by the foot of Masada, sailing on the Red Sea and kayaking down the Jordan River. "It was five-star all the way," adds Nozetz.

"I developed a whole new appreciation for where UJA Federation dollars go," says Dara Willow. The 27 year old corporate planner, who was also visiting Israel for the first time, said having the Mayor of Eilat welcome them into the region was one of the highlights of her trip. "The warm welcome and special attention we were given made us feel privileged."

"The mission was action-packed, very educational and exciting whether it was someone's first visit or sixth," adds 30 year old life and disability insurance specialist, Bronna Mitgang . "I can't wait to get back."

Bottom left: *Jordan Benjamin, Marc Benjamin, Natalie Vine, Dara Willow and Robin Nozetz.*

Bronna Mitgang makes her way down a cliff at Mitzpe Ramon.

Washington Fly-In is headline event

Participants on UJA Federation's Washington Fly-In will learn the latest this month about the ongoing Swiss banking controversy.

The Fly-In, Thursday, September 25, will feature a visit to the world renowned Holocaust Museum and a high level briefing by the man leading U.S. investigations into Swiss banks and Jewish assets. Gregg Rickman, Project Director for the United States Senate Banking Committee investigating the use by Swiss banks of funds from Holocaust victims and their families, will address the group at a dinner reception.

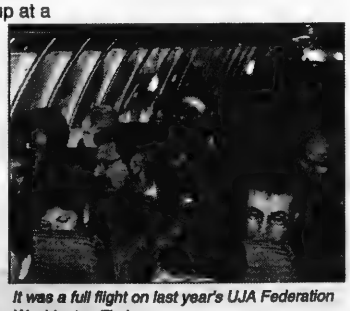
Fly-In participants will also be briefed by Aaron Miller, a top American advisor on Middle East affairs, and other senior U.S. government officials.

The one-day visit to the U.S. capital is one of UJA Federation's most popular annual events, which drew 160 community members last year.

"Next to a UJA Federation mission to Israel, the Washington Fly-In is the most exciting mission I've ever been on," says Alan Winer, who is co-chairing the trip with Joel Reitman.

The cost is $525 with a minimum UJA Federation gift of $1,000 per participant.

For more information or to book your seat, call Marc Bookbinder at (416) 631-5703.



It was a full flight on last year's UJA Federation Washington Fly-In.

Community Matters

LAUNCH LOOKS GREAT FOR '98

The mood was Sky high among more than 1,000 participants at last week's Launch of the 1998 UJA Federation Campaign at the Ford Centre. Canadian recording star Amy Sky was the featured entertainer, with the Israeli singing group Hashavim. But the most important business - raising millions of dollars for Jews in need has just begun.

Photos by Stephen Epstein

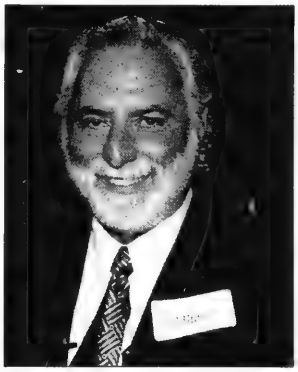
Amy Sky delighted Launch participants with her hit single "I Will Take Care of You."

Launch with the family. Bonnie Goldstein (L) with sister Malkie Green (R) and Malkie's daughter Alison Himel.

Israel, represented by Consul General Jehudi Kinar, was front and centre.

UJA Federation President Joseph Steiner and his wife Elaine.

Launch Co-Chairs Lawrence Bloomberg and Carol Kassel.



Campaign '98 Chairman Leo Goldhar.

Women's Campaign Chair Agi Mandel with her husband Jack.

The Shermans share the fun. Honey (l), Lauren and Barry Sherman turned out for the Campaign takeoff.

Jill and Joel Reitman. Jill is President of Jewish Women's Federation.

Great Beginnings. Rabbi Jerry Unterman, the new Executive Director of UJA Federation's Board of Jewish Education, joins the Launch crowd.

A perfect fit. David Burstein displays the message campaigners are taking to the community.

The Jordan Klapman Klezmer Trio entertains 1,000 people waiting for the Ford Centre doors to open.

Greater Toronto Area

Gene discovered for colon cancer

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Hughes Medical Institute of Johns Hopkins University. The findings appear in the September issue of the journal, *Nature Genetics*.

The scientists analyzed blood and tissue samples taken from about 1,000 Ashkenazi Jews and concluded that Jews who carry the genetic mutation have double the odds – a 16 to 30 percent chance – of other Ashkenazi Jews of getting colon cancer.

Some in the health field warned of over-estimating the chances of Ashkenazi Jews getting colon cancer, citing initial reports that mutations BRCA1 and BRCA2 conferred a 70 to 80 percent chance of Jews with those genes getting breast cancer.

Those estimates were reduced in more recent studies that put the rate at closer to 50 percent.

This finding marks the third time in as many years that Ashkenazi Jews have been singled out for discoveries about genetic mutations causing potentially fatal diseases. The two other discoveries both revolved around breast cancer genes.

"I have trouble myself figuring out why we keep finding mutations so much in Ashkenazi Jews," said Mark Skolnik, chief scientific officer at Myriad Genetics, a Salt Lake City, Utah, laboratory.

"Why should this happen in Ashkenazim and not other populations? The answer is that we don't understand," he said.

Concern over privacy

"The mystery is not that there's a specific mutation in a specific population. That's to be expected. The mystery is that they're so frequent" among Ashkenazi Jews.

The breast cancer discoveries raise growing concerns about the privacy of genetic test results and the way that information might be used by medical insurance companies and employers to discriminate against those whose genes deem them predisposed toward serious disease.

The colon cancer discovery has prompted the same concerns, but with a twist.

Even if a woman is tested and found to have the breast cancer mutations, there is little she can do. She can change her diet and exercise habits, which can somewhat reduce her chances of being stricken with cancer, but short of having a prophylactic mastectomy – amputating healthy breasts – that is all.

In contrast, colon cancer can be detected very early and in many cases, it can be prevented with periodic colonoscopies.

The test is generally recommended for people over 50 and could become a way for people with the genetic predisposition to monitor the colon starting at an even earlier age.

Brensinger said people with a parent, child or sibling who have the disease are encouraged to have colonoscopies prior to age 50.

Because the ramifications of the discovery have not all been explored, it is not clear yet whether health professionals will encourage genetic testing for all Ashkenazi Jews.

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Sept. 8, is deadline for Sept. 18 issue, and Monday, Sept. 15, is deadline for Sept. 25. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Sept. 6

PRAYERS OF EMPATHY

Beth Tzedec Congregation Michael and Anne Firestone Annual Lecture, 8:45 a.m. **Prof. Saul Wachs**, of Gratz College in Pennsylvania speaks from the pulpit on Prayers of Empathy.

SUNNYBROOK MINYAN

Ma'yan Or, the Sunnybrook Liberal Minyan, Sabbath services 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. Kiddush following. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Sunday, Sept. 7

AVIVA PRESENTS AVIVA

Aviva chapter of Hadassah-WIZO presents pianist **Aviva Aronovich** in concert at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts Studio Theatre, 2:30 p.m. Meet-the-Artist-Reception following. **Luba Richardson** 633-9801.

PNAI MEETING

At PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis) meeting, **Col. Yaen Vered**, shaliach for JNF, speaks on The Situation Between Israel and Arafat, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. 783-7872.

JUDY & DAVID IN CONCERT

Beit Rayim Synagogue and School presents **Judy** and **David** in Concert. Barbecue, pony rides and more. Event celebrates opening of the new Hebrew school and youth program. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., 9711 Bayview Ave. 905-770-7639.

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Jewish Storytelling hosted by **Alec Gelcer** at 179a Danforth Ave., 7:30 p.m. All welcome to listen and tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 699-8914.

GIANT GARAGE SALE

Giant garage sale, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 279 Hillhurst Ave., sponsored by Golda Meir chapter, Jewish Women International.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Red China Blues by **Jan Wong** discussed at the feminist book discussion group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network, 2 p.m., 505 Lawrence Ave. W. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

Monday, Sept. 8

JEWISH WOMEN ARTISTS

Emunah Women presents A Celebration of Jewish Women Artists exhibit and sale, guest speaker **Judy Singer**, artist and York University professor. Exhibit features works of various artists in various media. 8 p.m. Leah Posluns Theatre. Guests $5.

DIABETES TREATMENT

Canadian Diabetes Association Jewish diabetes chapter meeting, New Trends in Diabetes Treatment with **Dr. Irving Gottesman**, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

KABBALAH LECTURE

Discover the Hidden Secrets: Success, Fulfillment, Happiness, free lecture, Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Register 7 p.m., lecture 7:30 p.m. For information, Kabbalah Centre, 631-9395.

THEATRE AUDITIONS

Medina Theatre Ensemble auditions, 7-8:30 p.m. members, 8:30-9:30 p.m. non-members. A staged reading of a Holocaust play, *Aching Heart of Samuel Kleinerman* by **Marion Andre** at B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. 785-1074.

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[Cont'd. on page 25]

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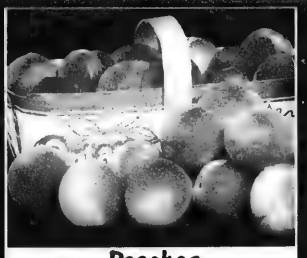

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

Pride of Israel Sisterhood, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres.

Wednesday, Sept. 10

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Chai Shalom and Adult Education Pre-Holiday Musical Interlude, 7:30 p.m., **Rabbi Barry Schneider, Cantor Louis Danto**, Zemer Chorale (directed by **Charles Heller**). $5. Tickets at office.

POMEGRANATE GUILD

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting, 8 p.m., Lodzer Holocaust Congregation, 12 Heaton St. Lecture/slide presentation by color-wash quilter **Gay Walker**.

CAIP MEETING

Canadian Association for Israel Philately ,7:30 p.m., Beth Joseph Lubavitch, 44 Edinburgh Dr. (note new location). Judaic postcards, philatelic material related to Toronto with **Harold Alter**. 225-1459.

Thursday, Sept. 11

BUSINESS AWARDS

Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry Business Excellence Awards ceremony recognizing Canadian businesses for outstanding achievements in a number of different categories, 5-7:30 p.m., Inn on the Park Hotel. Keynote speaker **Mark Smith** of Claridge Israel, Inc., largest private foreign investor in Israel. $20 members, $25 non-members. 410-7273.

FUNDRAISING TEA

Toronto chapter, Dysautonomia Foundation, annual fundraising event – tea, fashions, music, boutiques, 1-4 p.m., at the home of **Sheila and Max Guttman**. 905-882-7725.

And What Else Is New

HEALTHY LIVING FORUM

Community Healthy Living Forum, Mondays, Sept. 8, 15, 22, 7-9 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre. Sept. 8: Are Dental Implants for You?, Nutrition for Optimal Dental Health, Understanding Gum Disease; Sept. 15: Prevention and Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease, Safety Issues and Alternative Medicine; Sept. 22: Women's Health Issues. Members $3,non-members $5 per session. Register. **Joe Moniz** 636-1880, ext. 492.

WOMEN'S TORAH CLASSES

Shoshana Zolty's Torah classes for women on the topic Joseph and His Brothers: Part I: The Selling of Joseph and Judah and Tamar, at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue Tuesday or Wednesday mornings and at Beth Jacob Synagogue Tuesday evenings beginning Sept. 9 and 10. Open to women of all backgrounds. Some familiarity with Torah expected. Shaarei Shomayim 789-3213, Beth Jacob 633-5406, instructor 783-8989.

KOLEL WORKSHOPS

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning High Holy Day educational workshops, A Day of Learning, Sunday, Sept. 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Holy Blossom Temple. Morning service by **Rabbi Elyse Goldstein** followed by workshops, by pre-registration only. Day culminates with lecture by poet/Judaic scholar **Marcia Falk**.

SIMCHAH BREAKFAST

Beth Sholom Brotherhood and Sisterhood Simchah Breakfast celebrating the synagogue's and Israel's 50th anniversary, Sunday, Sept. 14, 10 a.m. Special display, 50 years of Beth Sholom in pictures and memorabilia. $10. RSVP 783-6103.

BIBLE-TANACH CLASS

Weekly Bible-Tanach class, Thursdays 9:10 a.m. at Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue, resumes Sept. 11. Group will begin study of the Book of Judges. Class led by **Aaron Nussbaum**. Conducted in English. 633-8097.

LADIES BOWLING LEAGUE

Ladies 10-pin bowling league, Mondays 9 p.m., Newtonbrook Bowlerama. **Lori** 905-731-4451 or **Aviva** 905-731-3987.

STUDY CLUB

Forum 15 Study Club is looking for new members for the 1997/98 season. Eight lectures, four on Jewish themes led by **Prof. Selma Sage**, and four literary reviews. Club meets Thursday evenings, once per month starting Sept. 18. **Randy** 756-0183.

YOUTH LEARNING CENTRE

Jewish Youth Learning Centre drop-in centre for grades 6 and up to do homework or just talk and relax, Mondays to Thursdays 4-6:30 p.m., 3995 Bathurst St., Suite 206. For Grade 5 and up, outings (fishing, skating, horseback riding, laser games). **Rabbi Danny Bahar** 633-5722. Also, Saturday night coffee house for single young adults, 601 Clark Ave. W., Apt. 315, Thornhill.

COFFEE NIGHT

Thornhill-Maven Couples Group Coffee Night Saturday, Sept. 13, 8 p.m. at Gallanough Library. Free. RSVP **Lori** 905-707-8850.

MEN'S BOWLING LEAGUE

Men's 10-pin bowling league, Mondays, 9 p.m., Playtime Bowl. Call after 6 p.m., **Sarah** 661-8266 or **Harry** 905-737-3860.

JEWISH BURIAL PRACTICE

Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood breakfast Sunday, Sept. 14, guest speaker **Michael Benjamin** of Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel discusses Jewish Burial Practices and Mourning Customs. Service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, lecture at 10.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

Aishes Chayill Sisterhood's Ladies Night Out, **Chaya Schon, Ariella Goldberg, Rivka Morrow**. Sunday, Sept. 7, 8 p.m. $5.

Is G-d Listening to Me?, **Rabbi Mitch Mandel**, Wednesday, Sept. 10, 8 p.m.

Crash course in Hebrew reading, Mondays 9 p.m. or Tuesday 8 p.m. starting Sept. 8.

Judaism 2000 – classes exploring the relevance of Jewish philosophy and practice, **Rabbi David Green**, Mondays 8 p.m. starting Sept. 8.

Shalom Bayit – creating and maintaining harmony in the home, for women, Tuesdays 2 p.m. starting Sept. 9.

CLUB FOR THE BLIND

The Hebrew Club for the Blind, established almost 50 years ago, provides social programs for its visually impaired members. Club meets the first Monday of each month at Bathurst Jewish Centre. First meeting of the season is Sept. 8. Club welcomes new members and volunteers of all ages. For membership **George Kline** 633-3524. For general inquiries **Ben Bauer**, president, 905-731-7447.

DEALING WITH ANGER

Dealing With Anger: An Intervention Program for Men to explore anger and to help men learn more effective ways of handling it, starts Sept. 23. **Bernie Finnigan** at Jewish Family and Child Service, 905-882-2340, ext. 214.

HEBREW CLASSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave., courses for adults, teenagers, preteens in conversational Hebrew, all levels. Monday mornings Sept. 15-Dec. 15 (intermediate I); Tuesday mornings Sept. 16-Dec. 16 (beginners); Wednesday mornings Sept. 17-Dec. 17 (intermediate II); Tuesday evenings Sept. 16-Dec. 16 (all levels). Beginners instructor **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tzedec Chaverim new season opening program, Monday, Sept. 8, 1:30 p.m. **Corey Keeble**, curator of antiquities, Royal Ontario Museum, speaks on Russian Splendor – the Art of Carl Faberge, illustrated with slides. Nominal charge.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning – trip to Niagara Casino; movie video *Mr. Holland's Opus* Nov. 3; musical luncheon, entertainers **Ivory and Silver** Nov. 10. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Sept. 11 trip to Casino Niagara. Members $8, guests $15 including $10 coupon for food. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trip 1998 Wednesdays 10 a.m. at Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Casino Rama Sept. 17; Haliburton Sept. 22-23; Canada Cap Factory and Fortinos in Woodbridge Sept. 24; Casino Niagara Sept. 25; Washington and Atlantic City Oct. 26-31. 395-7881.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Parkinson's Support Group, Tuesday, Sept. 9, 1:15 p.m. Parkinsonian **Jerry Swartz** speaks on Coming to Terms and Living With Parkinson's: A Patient's Perspective. **Ruth**.

Fashion Fantasia (a comical fashion show with a difference), Wednesday, Sept. 10, 1:30 p.m. Members $3, non-members $4.

Thursday, Sept. 11, **Samantha Hoffman** and the Fire Safety Branch of North York Fire Department present Older and Wiser, a fire safety education program for older adults. 1:30-2:30 p.m. **Joan**.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-alongs, dances, bingo. Sept. 9 program is bingo. **Anna.**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Open House Week Sept. 8-14, fitness classes, pottery, swimming, yoga, dance, Suzuki School of Music.

Saturday, Sept. 13, 8 p.m., The Stars Celebrate Bloor musical fundraiser featuring **David Gale, Nancy White, Jay Jackson** and Take Three, **Batsheva, Karen and Allen Kaeja**.

Sunday, Sept. 14, Fitness Fair, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

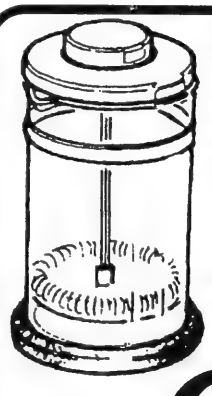
Vendors and crafters wanted for Annual Bizaare Autumn Affair on Sept. 28.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club – Thursday, Sept. 4, gala fall tea 2 p.m.; Thursday, Sept. 11, 2 p.m. **Rabbi Dow Marmur** of Holy Blossom Temple speaks on The Year 5758: What Will It Bring? **Judy.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Senior Adult Services Open House, Monday, Sept. 8, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., BJC lobby. Programs: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., needlecrafts and painting display with demonstrations; 1-1:30 p.m. open folkdance session with **Teme Kernerman**; 1:30-2 p.m. open line dance session with **Ken Fenell**; department information and registration available 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Teme.**



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Greater Toronto Area

Kelman steps down after 38 years at Beth Emeth

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — After some 45 years in the rabbinate, Rabbi Joseph Kelman remains an idealist.

"I'm an optimist by nature. I like to see good in everything," said the personable rabbi, who retired as spiritual leader of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Sept. 1 after 38 years of service.

Rabbi Kelman will continue to be involved in Jewish education and will maintain his involvement with the congregation as rabbi emeritus.

He recently took on the role of educational director of United Congregational Schools of Greater Toronto, the Beth Emeth-based supplementary school he co-founded many years ago.

Despite a long rabbinic lineage, Rabbi Kelman was not initially encouraged to follow family tradition.

"You can work for the community in other ways," he remembers being told by his mother, Mirl, who once led a march to Kensington Market to convince shopkeepers to stop working on Shabbat.

Ensconced in a high-backed armchair behind the cluttered desk in his book-lined study, Rabbi Kelman's eyes twinkled as he said he would have liked to manage the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Kidding aside, he recalled considering a career as a professor of Jewish history. But a lucite-encased baseball signed by Blue Jay Joe Carter, almost smack in the middle of the desk, attests to the rabbi's lifelong interest in baseball.

Whatever path he took, the future rabbi wasn't about to strike out. Taking a positive approach became his personal philosophy.

Shortly after he was hired by the fledgling Beth Emeth congregation in 1959, the rabbi would recruit new members by going door to door in the evenings.

In the greater community, Rabbi Kelman was a co-founder of the Reena Foundation and Shearim Hebrew Day School. In 1964, he was involved in founding the Ezra school, an afternoon religious program for children with learning disabilities which became the precursor of Shearim.

About a year after joining Beth Emeth, Rabbi Kelman received a late evening phone call requesting his services at Queen Street Ontario Hospital (now Queen Street Mental Health Centre).

"My first reaction was, 'It's been a long day,'" he recalled. But he was needed, and he went to offer solace to a Jewish patient who had attempted suicide. "I was scared," he admitted, "but I must have said the right thing."

The experience opened his eyes to the needs of Jews in institutions and helped shaped his philosophy of equal opportunities for all Jews.

In 1962, he became a chaplain at Queen Street, arranging for kosher food and organizing weekly prayer services for patients. Eventually he was asked to become part-time coordinator of chaplaincy services for Ontario and chaplain of the Don Jail.

A prospective member who inquired about bar mitzvah opportunities for a developmentally disabled child provided the impetus for Kadima, a Hebrew school program for children with developmental disabilities.

"I don't think I've been naive, but I certainly think a positive approach can help one be creative and innovative."

A highlight of Rabbi Kelman's career was the establishment of the Rabbi Joseph Kelman Educational Research Centre at Tel Aviv University in 1991. Since then, it has had a number of major conferences.

Rabbi Joseph Kelman has fielded countless phone calls in his 38 years at Beth Emeth. [Frances Kraft photo]

In honor of the rabbi on his retirement, the congregation has commissioned a Torah and created an endowment fund to assist members with educational endeavors. The year-long project culminates in a Siyyum HaTorah ceremony and gala banquet Nov. 9.

He credits his family – wife Ruth and their three children (two of whom are now rabbis) – as well as his congregation, which has grown to over 1,500 families, for supporting his work and his ideas.

A staunch traditionalist, his family background is chassidic. "[But] I've always maintained we shouldn't be labelling Jews anyway...There's no reason there can't be greater cooperation between rabbis of different movements, especially when there are common concerns. I was brought up to have love for all Jews."

Born in Vienna and raised in Toronto, Rabbi Kelman was one of six children of Rabbi Tzvi Yehuda Kelman. He left for New York at age 17 and was ordained at Yeshiva Rabeinu Yitzchak Elchanan.

He began his career serving congregations in Sherbrooke, Que., New York and Massachusetts before settling back in Toronto.

"He's a very committed individual," said Rabbi Barry Schneider, who succeeds Rabbi Kelman as senior rabbi of the shul. "As he nurtured the congregation, he was also nurturing the community. He [has taken] a very personal interest in members' families and their lives. He was always on call and always available."

Early in his career, Rabbi Kelman decided he didn't want to develop any pompous airs. "I like to be close to the people. I think it's important that a rabbi be a mentsh first and a rabbi second."

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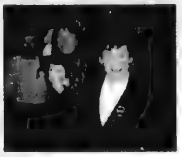

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Villeneuve compares Irgun, Quebec liberation

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Former FLQ terrorist Raymond Villeneuve, who last fall said Jews could face retaliation for working against Quebec independence, recently compared Quebec's national liberation movement to the Irgun freedom-fighters of pre-state Palestine and blamed the anglophone media for portraying him as an anti-Semite.

In the July issue of *Vice*, a monthly English-language tabloid with a circulation of 60,000 copies that are distributed free of charge across Canada, Villeneuve is quoted as saying that all partitionists "are going to die" and that "if you ask me, I didn't kill enough English. I should have killed more."

At the same time, Villeneuve draws an analogy between the group he founded, the Mouvement de Libération Nationale du Québec (MLNQ), and other liberation forces, including the Basque's ETA, the IRA and the Irgun.

The interview, by Robbie Dylan, quotes Villeneuve as saying that he bears "no specific hatred for 'English Jews' or any other ethnic group."

"Personally, I don't have anything against them," he says.

"If they will respect me, I will respect them, but when they place their interests on the side of the oppressors, they act as enemies of the Quebec people."

Villeneuve blames a "conspiracy" in the anglophone media for his image as an anti-Semite.

"They are always criticizing us, saying we are racist and anti-Semitic.

"They try to demonize the Quebec people so that immigrants will be afraid to vote for Quebec independence."

Last September, Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q) lodged a complaint of incitement of hatred against Villeneuve with provincial and federal attorneys general and asked Montreal Urban Community police to investigate after his alleged threat against the Jews appeared in his newsletter, *La Tempête*.

Villeneuve sent the newsletter out to the media on the eve of Yom Kippur and the controversy over its contents erupted the next day all over French- and English-language radio.

To even react to Villeneuve's latest utterings "lends them a credibility they do not deserve," said Jack Jedwab, CJC-Q's executive director.

Comparing the MLNQ to the Irgun is "completely absurd," Jedwab said. "There is no possible comparison between the two."

As for Villeneuve's protestations about not being anti-Semitic, Jedwab considers them "irrelevant."

"Whether he perceives himself that way or not, he made comments that were anti-Semitic and issued threats against the community," Jedwab said.

Villeneuve may think there is a media conspiracy to paint him as anti-Semitic, but "we got his statements from the radio and on tape.

"We couldn't have more tangible evidence. The proof couldn't be more solid."

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From coast to coast

CJC delivered Judaic content to summer camps

TORONTO — Visitors passing through the rotunda of Toronto's Lipa Green Building for Jewish community services this summer reacted with curiosity and delight on witnessing four young women rehearsing the mystery *Who Stole the Degel?* (flag) and a re-enactment of the David and Goliath tale.

They were preparing interactive skits for presentation at Jewish and non-Jewish day camps across southern Ontario.

"We wrote these little plays to involve the campers as participants," said Carly Steinman, coordinator of the summer camp project of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region."

Through its community services and youth activities department, CJC has been delivering Judaic content programs to camps, as well as ones on multiculturalism and anti-racism, for 23 consecutive years. CJC offers this program free of charge.

Under the direction of Steinman, 21, the staff included Jocelyn Heisel, 20, and Channa Lockshin, 19. The students' salaries came from a grant from Canada Human Resources Development.

The main goal of the project is to educate and enhance the campers' understanding of Judaism and Israel, said Jennifer Turack, CJC's director of community services and youth activities. "Our program is designed to convey the importance of mitzvot. Programs on Israel emphasize biblical and Zionist heroes, and Israeli pioneers and culture."

Interactive plays

Jay Waxman, director of Camp Kadimah in Hamilton, commenting on the CJC program, said he felt that "it helped instill a greater pride in Judaism and a greater awareness of Israel. The interactive plays really got the kids involved."

Camps visited this year included Bloor JCC, Kidsworld, Earl Bales and Pleasant Junior in Toronto; Lovin'Care in Thornhill; Kids of Canada Hockey Camp in Richmond Hill; Mitzvah in Waterloo; Kadimah in Hamilton; Yonee in Windsor; Reena in Collingwood; Northland in Haliburton; and a community event for St. Catharines-Niagara Falls area Jewish youngsters.

Campers at Kidsworld in Toronto join in David and Goliath game organized by the Summer Camp Project of CJC, Ontario region. Project staff are (from left) coordinator Carly Steinman; Jocelyn Heisel, Yehudit Kaye and Channa Lockshin.

TAU set to hold major conference in Toronto

TORONTO — Authorities on a wide range of issues, from conquering disease through genetic engineering, to the search for peace in the Middle East, will be featured at Tel Aviv University's Third North American Conference in Toronto Sept. 18 to 21.

It's the first time the conference will be held in Canada.

Delegates from as far away as Switzerland, Israel and Brazil will join their colleagues from Canada and the United States.

Slated to attend are Tel Aviv University president Yoram Dinstein and Benno Gitter, chair of the international board of governors.

Guest speaker will be Norman Spector, Canada's former ambassador to Israel and currently publisher of the *Jerusalem Post.*

Featured speakers will include former Israeli justice minister David Libai; Prof. Moshe Lazar, who will address the search for Mideast peace; political scientist Michael Keren; and Prof. Abel Schejter, an internationally acclaimed biochemist who will update delegates on progress in treatment of diseases through genetics.

For details, call the Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University, 416-787-9930.

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HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE

From coast to coast

Ethiopian-born MK discusses 'racism'

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The only Ethiopian-born Knesset member and members of the Ethiopian Jewish community here strongly disagreed over the extent of "racism" in Israel towards the black African Jews.

Addisu Messele, the president of the United Ethiopian Jewish Organization, who was elected a Labor MK this year, found considerable opposition to his contention that racism, with regard to the Ethiopians, is confined to "individuals and certain groups" and that Israel "as a society" is not racist or discriminatory. These same people tend to hold prejudices against immigrants generally, he added.

Messele did emphasize that the integration of the Ethiopians has been very difficult and that the Israeli government and, especially the chief rabbinate, have made grievous mistakes with regard to the Ethiopian olim. As a result, the Ethiopians feel they are "second-class."

Because they refused the chief rabbinate's request that they convert, they have problems finding a rabbi in Israel who will marry them, he said.

Members of the audience, however, had serious concerns about the placement of Ethiopian children in religious residential schools, thus isolating them from mainstream society and separating them from their families and customs.

Others rejected Messele's depiction of the Ethiopians as a primitive, Third World people who need a long time to catch up in a Western, technological society. Messele said he expects his people will not be completely integrated for another generation, because "their mentality is difficult to change."

Fled native Gondor

The meeting was organized by Na'amat, which has a chapter of Ethiopian women. Leaders of the small local community were also present. Messele was in Montreal to take part in the Combined Jewish Appeal launch.

Messele, 36, was among the first Ethiopians to arrive in Israel in 1980. He fled his native Gondor and walked through Sudan for 32 days before reaching his destination. He has been employed by the Jewish Agency and Histadrut, acting as a liaison between his community and Israeli officials.

Many of the young Ethiopians are doing well. He noted the high number of Ethiopians in university and in the army, including 62 officers. He also presented himself as an example of the success Ethiopians can achieve in Israel.

But some of the young are not integrating well. They have adopted either the African-American or Jamaican culture and are "neither Israeli nor Ethiopian."

Their parents, however, have had a harder time. Most are poor and their average salary is the minimum wage, or about $700 (US) a month. With families of 10 or 12 children not uncommon, few can afford to give them an education.

Although parents can now send their children to the school they want, the residential religious schools remain popular because they relieve the families' crowded housing and mean fewer mouths to feed, he indicated. However, these schools tend to offer a lower quality of education, he said, and isolate young Ethiopians from the majority of Israelis who attend secular schools.

Vancouver prepares for Israel's 50th

Western Jewish Bulletin

VANCOUVER — Plans for a year-long party in celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary in 1998 are being launched in Vancouver.

"I'm actually very excited about it," said Judy Mandleman, chair of the Jewish community of the Lower Mainland 50th anniversary celebration committee. "It's a wonderful project and time to celebrate," Mandleman said after the first meeting attended by representatives from about 20 Jewish groups.

Some of the diverse events tentatively planned for the celebration, which starts worldwide with the lighting of the first Chanukah candle, include: a program to take events to smaller Jewish communities such as White Rock; speakers; tours of Israel; a series of public debates as well as education programs for both Jewish and public schools; and a theatrical event telling the story of Israeli modern history.

Extravaganza

There are plans for an extravaganza on Yom Ha'atzmaut, which falls next year on June 1, said Mandleman, immediate past president of Hadassah-WIZO of Canada.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver has already given the committee $5,000 in seed money, said executive director Drew Staffenberg. "There will be more," he added. "We want it to be a community-wide celebration."

Federation is also organizing a trip in celebration of Israel's anniversary. The Mission '98 – Israel at 50 Feb. 23 to March 4 trip to Israel is tagged at $2,498. It does not include the cost of getting to Toronto, said Staffenberg.

Travellers must also make a federation campaign contribution of at least $500 over two years. There is room for 1,500 and participants will meet government leaders and tour a number of religious sites.

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From coast to coast

Keep relationship expectations in check: panel

By BAILA LAZARUS
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — If your marriage, intimate relationship or friendship isn't working out quite like you'd like, it's possible you've been letting your expectations get the better of you.

That's the word from three professionals in the field of counselling and personal growth that came to speak in the Torah and Ethics series at the Lubavitch Centre.

The topic for the evening was Marriages and Relationships: Why some succeed and others fail. Brought together for the panel discussion were Dr. David Freeman, a family therapist and professor in the School of Social Work at the University of British Columbia; Marilee Sigal, clinical director at the Jewish Family Service Agency; and Rabbi Laibl Wolf, a lawyer and dean of the Institute for Jewish Development in Melbourne, Australia.

Rabbi Wolf was on a North American tour lecturing and coordinating workshops on topics such as controlling anger, science and Judaism, time management and uncommon subjects such as Spirituality in the Boardroom.

The issue of expectations set the theme for the evening when Freeman discussed our tendency to project special attributes on people with whom we are in relationships.

"We think we're relating to a person, but those people represent first and foremost metaphors," said Freeman. "They're not really real people to us. They're illusions, myths. They represent things about ourselves we think we need and there are very high expectations that we bring into those relationships."

When those people don't relate in the way their partners were expecting and don't provide the emotional support needed, their partners end up feeling betrayed and hurt, Freeman explained. The resulting effect is that one partner ends up trying to change the other to become what they want. The answer, instead, Freeman suggested is for people to try to change themselves.

"We have to learn far more creative ways to deal with emotional fear," Freeman explained, "to deal with hurt, to deal with disappointment."

Sigal agreed. "In the beginning we're more inclined to ignore differences," she said, adding that often people want to prove to the world they can overcome differences, such as within an intermarriage.

"Over time we can't continue to defer to other people around the things that we need," said Sigal. "We begin to feel like we're disappearing."

Though having differences in a relationship is normal, "it's in the ways couples manage their differences that will predict happiness or misery," said Sigal. To do that, people have to drop the myth of what a perfect couple should be and develop skills needed to listen to and communicate with their partner on a realistic level. "These are just skills like any other skills that can be learned," said Sigal.

Bringing the topic to a more spiritual level, Rabbi Wolf addressed the fundamental issues of how we get to know the people we are involved with.

"To know something is to internalize it," he said. "To really know something is to make it a part of self, and the other and self merge into a oneness." This can only be achieved, said Rabbi Laibl, in a spirit of humility.

But this humility does not imply turning the other cheek, according to Rabbi Wolf. "It includes assertiveness because it includes recognition of our giftedness," he explained. "But at the same time it means to confer that giftedness at the right time to the right person."

In cases of conflict, humility requires certain steps be taken to achieve understanding. "The initial step means withdrawal, step backwards, create a comfort zone for the other one to step into," Rabbi Wolf said. "What I'm doing is not focussing on the self, I'm focussing on the other."

The other aspect to a successful relationship, Rabbi Wolf suggested, is commitment – the ability for two people to stay in love even if they stop loving each other.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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DATE	EVENT	ORGANIZATION	TIME	PLACE
SEPTEMBER '97				
Sat 6	Firestone Annual Lecture: "Elul: A Time To Return" with Prof. Saul Wachs	Beth Tzedec Synagogue	8:45 am	Beth Tzedec Synagogue
Sat 6	Singles Weekend (ages 25-35)	Aish Hatorah	6:00 pm	Camp Wahanowin, Orillia
Sun 7	Community Celebration: Opening of Toby & Henry Battle Centre	Reena	1:00 pm	Battle Centre, Thornhill
Sun 7	Concert with Aviva Aranovich, Pianist	Toronto Hadassah-WIZO Aviva Chapter	2:30 pm	Ford Centre, Studio Theatre
Mon 8	Opening Event	Emunah Women of Canada	8:00 pm	Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue
Tues 9	"For One People: Rebuilding the Bridges" with Yael Dayan	UJA Federation & Holy Blossom Temple	8:00 pm	Holy Blossom Temple
Tues 9, 16, 23	"The Sandwich Generation"	Beth Tzedec Synagogue	8:00 pm	Beth Tzedec Synagogue
Thurs 11	Business Excellence Awards Ceremony	Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce & Industry	5:00 pm	Inn on the Park
Thurs 11	Opening Meeting "The Light After the Dark" with Alvin Abram	National Council of Jewish Women	7:30 pm	Council House
Sun 14	Super Sunday	UJA Federation	9:00 am	Lipa Green Building
Mon 15 - Thurs 18	Super Week	UJA Federation	6:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Mon 15	"Surfing on the Internet" with Mark Mietkiewicz	Beth Tzedec Synagogue & Assoc. of Jewish Libraries	8:00 pm	Beth Tzedec Synagogue
Tues 16	Lecture: Dr. Riyad El-Zanoun, Minister of Health, Palestinian Authority	Mount Sinai Hospital Cisepo Visiting Prof. Peace Program	6:00 pm	Mount Sinai Hospital
Thurs 18-Sun 21	North American Conference	Friends of Tel Aviv University	Various	Various
Sat 20-Tues 23	Biennial Convention	National Council of Jewish Women	9:00 am	Inn on the Park
Sun 21	Wonderfun Day	UJA Federation	10:00 am	Canada's Wonderland
Sun 21	2nd Annual Jewish Life & Kosher Foodfest	Aish Hatorah	12 Noon	Centrepoint Mall
Sun 21	Tribute Dinner for Rabbi Irwin E. Witty	Board of Jewish Education	6:00 pm	Inn on the Park
Mon 22	Opening of Archival Exhibit	National Council of Jewish Women	9:00 am	Multicultural Historical Soc. of Ont., Queen's Park Cir.
Wed 24	Speaker: Shabti Shavit, Former Head of Mossad	State of Israel Bonds	8:00 pm	Sephardic Kehila Centre
Thurs 25	Washington Fly-In	UJA Federation	6:45 am	Washington, D.C.
Sun 28	New Gifts Super Sunday	UJA Federation	9:00 am	Lipa Green Building
OCTOBER '97				
Tues 7	Community-wide Awareness Event with John Loftus	State of Israel Bonds	7:30 pm	Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue
Mon 13	Semi-Annual Craft & Gift Sale	Na'amat Toronto Beersheba Club	10:00 am	Bayview Village
Tues 14	Annual Meeting & Reception	Jewish Vocational Services	5:30 pm	Beth Tzedec Synagogue
Tues 21	"Abuse Through the Generations"	National Council of Jewish Women	8:00 pm	Council House
Sun 26	"Soiree Musicale"	National Council of Jewish Women	7:30 pm	Council House
Mon 27	75th Anniversary Gala & Concert	Jewish Immigrant Aid Services	7:30 pm	Ford Centre for the Performing Arts
Tues 28	"New Beginnings" - An Art Exhibit and Auction Celebrating the Strength of Women	Jewish Women's Federation & UJA Federation Campaign	6:00 pm	80 Spadina Avenue
Tues 28	Annual General Meeting	Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa	6:30 pm	Lipa Green Building
Wed 29	Hadassah Bazaar	Toronto Hadassah-WIZO	9:00 am	Exhibition Place
Thurs 30	Annual Meeting	Bathurst Jewish Centre	7:00 pm	Bathurst Jewish Centre
Thurs 30	Opening Night - 17th Annual Holocaust Education Week	Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation	8:00 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Thurs 30 - Nov 9	17th Annual Holocaust Education Week	Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation	Various	Various

Community Calendar is published as a community service by UJA Federation which reserves the right to include/exclude listings.

UJA FEDERATION

On Campus

Campus life out of town may have its advantages

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto Jewish students who go to university out of town are generally "more than pleased" with their decision, Prof. Paul Socken said last week.

Speaking at the Thornhill Community Centre at an event co-sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region and UJA Federation, the University of Waterloo faculty member addressed issues faced by Jewish students on "small" campuses. (Although the University of Waterloo is Ontario's fourth-largest university, it has a relatively small Jewish population.)

Socken, chair of Waterloo's Department of French Studies and a former liaison between Kitchener's Beth Jacob Congregation and Waterloo's Jewish Students' Association, outlined what students can expect on campuses with small Jewish student populations. "For one thing," he said, "You are going to meet people who never met a Jew."

Some of the questions Jewish students have encountered from their non-Jewish peers are, "Why don't you believe in Jesus?" and "What do you do in synagogue?"

Paul Socken

Pearl Gropper Berman

Among the difficulties he mentioned were the occasional anti-Semitic incident and trying to find kosher food. Putting up a mezuzah in residence or rescheduling exams that conflict with Jewish holidays is not an issue, he said.

"Jewish student associations are small," he noted, "and can't separate into Orthodox, Conservative and Reform, so people have to learn to get along together and find a way to function on a personal level and at gatherings."

The best news, according to Socken, is that "Jewish boys do meet Jewish girls, they do go out, and even marriages have resulted." Students Cari Ross and Ari Magder, who were representing Queen's University Hillel, approached Socken after his talk to tell him they met at Queen's University Hillel and are engaged to be married next year.

Socken mentioned that much combined programming exists among smaller Jewish student organizations. Last year, for example, McMaster, the University of Guelph, Waterloo, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier University had a joint Chanukah party.

The University of Waterloo, which has a reciprocal program with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, is developing a Jewish Studies program and has annual guest speakers on Judaica. Socken is chair of the dean's advisory committee on Jewish Studies.

Among the campuses represented at the event were McMaster, Queen's University, Sir Wilfrid Laurier University, Trent University (which has an estimated 40 Jewish students) and the University of Western Ontario. An open house, with representatives from the various student associations, preceded the speakers.

Pearl Gropper Berman, director of York University's Jewish Student Federation (JSF), spoke about Jewish identity on a big campus.

Both JSF and its umbrella organization, Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, provide "multiple gateways" for interested students.

The JSF offers a women's caucus, an environmental caucus and programming for a variety of Jewish denominations. There is also a campus-based Jewish literary publication.

"We're really trying to say to the student, 'Where are you at? How can we try and involve you?'" said Gropper Berman. "There's a lot of diversity and a lot of options."

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Scholar-in-Residence
Fri., Sept. 26, 1997
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"Can we move toward Jewish unity in 5758"
* * * * *
Sat., Sept. 27, 1997 (S'lichot)
9:30 p.m.
"Teshuvah - the personal road to return"
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Adult Education Committee
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This Scholar-in-Residence Weekend is sponsored by the Stone Family Endowment Fund

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MODERATED BY NEIL MACDONALD ~ CBC NEWSWORLD
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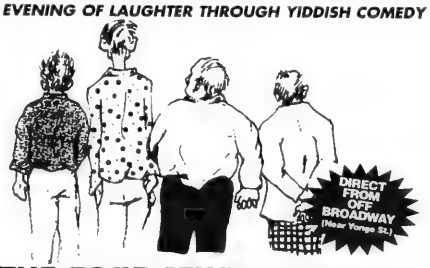

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On Campus

Orthodox students threaten to sue Yale

By MATTHEW DORF
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Jeremy Hershman can't live in a Yale dormitory. It's not that he doesn't want to; his religious beliefs prevent it. The 19-year-old from Cedarhurst, N.Y., has repeatedly told Yale officials that his Orthodox Jewish convictions are not compatible with the mixed-sex atmosphere of dormitory life.

But Hershman, who is set to enter his sophomore year when school opens next week, is in a bind.

Yale housing policy requires that all freshmen and sophomores live on campus unless they are married or over 21 years old.

Hershman and four of his schoolmates have threatened to sue Yale if the university does not change its policy.

For its part, Yale has threatened disciplinary action if the students do not live on campus.

But this has not deterred the two sophomores and three freshmen who have decided that come next week, they will be living off campus, paying thousands of dollars for rooms they will not use.

"Yale permits and often encourages a lifestyle in the dormitories that there's no way a fully observant Orthodox Jew can live in," Hershman said in a recent telephone interview from his home.

He said he will live with two Orthodox graduate students near campus and will pay $7,000 to Yale for room and board in addition to his rent this year.

Last year, when they were entering freshmen, the school had assured Hershman and Lisa Friedman, another Orthodox Jewish student, that a single-sex dorm would accommodate their concerns.

But when Hershman arrived on campus, he said, he found bathrooms that were used by both men and women.

He also attended a freshman orientation lecture that included a speech on how to politely ask your roommate to leave "when you want to have sex with your partner," he recalled.

He never slept in the dorm.

"The obligation to exercise care and modesty in living accommodations so as not to permit even inadvertent inappropriate encounters between men and women is a long-standing rule of Jewish religious observance," Nathan Lewin, an attorney, recently wrote to the dean of Yale College, Richard Brodhead.

"Their religious convictions forbid them from residing in dormitories that are readily accessible to members of the opposite sex for extended periods of time, including overnight visits," Lewin said of the students.

Problems with housing policy

After the university received Lewin's letter, which threatened legal action, Yale's general counsel called Lewin.

"He kept impressing on me that this is an important policy of Yale, to have kids live in dormitories," said Lewin, who said he knew of no similar problem at any other university.

Tom Conroy, deputy director of public affairs at Yale, said that Yale places much emphasis on small residential communities, which include libraries and dining services, as the centre of student life.

Conroy said that such living is an "integral and important" part of attending Yale.

He said the university is open to discussing a solution for the students that would not involve living off-campus.

Hinting that Yale might drop its threat to discipline the students, he added that the college does not conduct bed checks.

For Lewin, a prominent Washington attorney who has frequently represented Orthodox Jews in discrimination claims, this is a simple case of "religious discrimination."

Lewin vowed to file a lawsuit if Yale does not change its policy.

So far, Yale is not budging.

In an exchange of letters in the spring between Friedman and the college's dean of students, Betty Trachtenberg, the school's position was made clear.

"Rather than addressing the religious concerns expressed by the few students," Friedman wrote to Trachtenberg, "you said that students with those religious views should not have sought admission to Yale.

In a terse response dated June 17, Trachtenberg wrote, in part, "We will do everything to make residential college living not only acceptable, but pleasurable to you.

"After consultation with many members of the community who care very deeply about Yale's educational philosophy, one that includes the importance of the residential colleges as a force in a Yale education, I must again deny your request to live off-campus."

Lewin was particularly put off by another comment Trachtenberg wrote to Hershman.

"I personally know many Orthodox Jewish students who live in the residential colleges throughout their four years at Yale and have done so without compromising their religious practices and beliefs," she wrote.

In his letter to Brodhead, Lewin wrote that Trachtenberg's observation about other Orthodox Jews "does not diminish the validity of the religious principle that is at stake."

For his part, Hershman is still hoping that Yale will change its mind.

"I love it there," he said. "It's unfortunate this is happening."

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A child's Jewish education is most valuable investment

By CILIA BASIN

All parents hope for and dream of the best future for their children. We all want to give them the best food and clothes, the best health care and the best education we can find.

Guest Voices

I want to tell you about my family. We came from the former Soviet Union, where for generations Jews were discriminated against physically and spiritually. We never had a Jewish school; we didn't know Jewish history and traditions. The only reminders we had that we were Jewish were the word "Jew" on our passports and the people around us who kept telling us who we were.

When we came to Canada, we registered our kids in public school without thinking of their future education. We didn't have any Yiddishkeit, although we went to the synagogue for Yom Kippur and ate matzah on Passover.

Our oldest daughter went back to Israel, where we had lived before we came to Canada, and became a baalat tshuvah. It was a shock for the whole family. First we thought she was crazy. But then we saw how many people around us live in a Jewish way and we wondered if so many people could be crazy?

We started to go to synagogue and read books and we tried to understand why more and more people around us were starting to live a Jewish life. One by one, we began to do some of the mitzvot: We koshered the kitchen, put up mezuzot on the doors, began to light candles, gave tzedakah.

We registered our other daughter, then 10 years old, in a part-time Jewish school that had just opened the doors to Jewish Russian children who were going to public schools. The school was part of the program at the Jewish Russian Community Centre.

When she finished Grade 7, our daughter decided she wanted to go to a Jewish day school. And when she graduated from Grade 8, we registered her in a Jewish high school from which she graduated this year.

In September, my daughter is going to Israel to continue her Jewish education at a women's seminary.

Our family went through good changes

Our family went through big changes, good changes. Our daughter learned a lot of good things, which she passed along to us. She became a volunteer at Baycrest Centre and on Saturdays, she visited the sick at Branson Hospital. Her life was filled with important and meaningful things. We grew together with her.

We experienced real happiness when we visited our older daughter and our 3-year-old granddaughter in Israel last year. It was the first time our granddaughter got to know us.

During the three weeks we were there, she taught us many important things, including to say the blessing over food. It seemed weird to us for a 3-year-old to teach her grandparents. But maybe it is not weird, just very, very sad.

When we came back from Israel, we started to go to the synagogue on Saturdays and holidays. We started to take Judaism classes on Sundays.

We had our eyes opened, learned a lot and got straight answers to most of our questions. We experienced real Jewish nachas thanks to our children.

People invest in different things. Some invest in homes and businesses, bonds or stocks. But I think the most important investment is in our children's education. The interest you receive from that investment is more valuable than anything else.

A while ago I was very confused. But we grew to understand how important it is to give our children what we didn't have – a Jewish education, how important it is that our children and grandchildren will live a Jewish life, that they will be proud to be Jewish.

Every Jew has inside him a "Jewish spot." This "Jewish spot" always helps a Jew make a right decision. And when the decision is made, G-d always helps.

Cilia Basin is a mother and grandmother who lives in Toronto.

STUDENT-DESIGNED CARDS FOR SALE

Kol Hastudentim, the independent council of Ontario Jewish students established last year, is selling New Year's cards as a fundraiser. York University Fine Arts student Adina Herman designed the cards' artwork, seen above, with its stylized Hebrew Shanah Tovah in the shape of a white dove on a blue background. Among Kol's upcoming events is a trip to Ottawa at the end of September. Kol Hastudentim, which has a presence at over a dozen Ontario campuses, can be reached at 905-669-8294, ext. 2.

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Four IDF soldiers die in ambush in Lebanon

Fierce brushfire claims casualties

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Four IDF soldiers were burned to death and six others wounded, three seriously, when caught in the middle of a fierce brushfire last week following a gunbattle in south Lebanon.

An IDF spokesperson identified three of the soldiers killed as St.-Sgt. Oshri Schwartz, 19, from Or Akiva; St.-Sgt. Oren Zarif, 21, from Herzliya; and Sgt. Shimon Yadag, 21, from Sderot.

The wounded were treated in the field once the flames died down and rescuers could reach them. They were later evacuated to Haifa's Rambam Hospital and Rebecca Sieff Hospital in Tzfat.

One soldier was reported in critical condition and two others were said to have sustained serious injuries. Three were moderately hurt.

OC Northern Command Maj. Gen. Amiram Levine appointed Maj.-Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi, assistant to the head of operations, to investigate what happened.

The catastrophe occurred in the afternoon after a clash between troops from a Golani Brigade unit and a squad from the Amal Shiite movement.

The troops had been on ambush duty in a thickly vegetated valley known as Wadi Hujuar west of Kanatra village on the border of the security zone in the eastern sector.

The Golani soldiers apparently took the Amal squad by surprise and opened fire at the gunmen, killing four. A fifth squad member was reportedly wounded but managed to escape.

There were no casualties among the IDF troops as a result of the gunfight, but they stayed in place as fighting continued in the area.

Hezbollah claimed in a statement from Beirut that its fighters joined the battle later and opened fire with machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades.

There were no casualties among the soldiers from the gunfight, but support units were called into action and began pounding the area with mortars and artillery fire.

IAF helicopter gunships also went into action strafing the ground, apparently to ensure there were no more gunmen around.

A blaze broke out in the area and quickly spread. It is not clear whether the brush fire was caused by the "friendly fire" or by rounds fired by gunmen.

A statement by the IDF said that "an IDF force in action in the central sector of the security zone spotted a terrorist squad in the early afternoon. The force opened fire killing four terrorists.

"During the clash there was light arms fire and fire from helicopter gunships. In the area of the clash a brushfire erupted as a result of the shooting and heavy winds propelled the fire towards the IDF force. The soldiers detected the approaching fire and tried to extricate themselves but the fire caught up with them and caused the death of four soldiers, and six were injured," the statement said.

Levine said the brushfire was apparently caused by artillery fire.

News agencies reported that the fire broke out as a result of IDF fire. It said that the blaze spread quickly engulfing four soldiers, who were killed, and then setting off ammunition they were carrying, seriously injuring two other soldiers.

One wounded soldier described the ordeal to a reporter at Rambam Hospital, where he was brought along with three others burned in the blaze.

"We were on the slopes of a hillside with another hill opposite. The terrorists that we killed were in a crevice," said Cpl. Ronen Laloush, 20, of Upper Nazareth.

"We fought them for about four hours and killed four of the terrorists. The fifth managed to get away.

"The battalion knew about the place and started to fire mortars to make certain the terrorists had been wiped out. One of the mortars started a fire on the hill opposite. All the area is covered in scrub and bushes," Laloush said.

Laloush said the troops remained in position even though the opposite hillside was ablaze. "Then a strong wind started blowing in our direction.

"We didn't really notice at first what was happening. When we did, the fire was right below us and spreading rapidly upwards," he said.

He said the fire by then was spreading at a rate of 20 metres a minute, with flames shooting into the air. The troops received orders to climb out of the wadi and took off their heavy equipment to make it easier.

Laloush said there was choking, heavy smoke everywhere. "We started to have the jitters at the scene as the fire reached us and we began to burn," he said.

"I didn't think we would get out of there. The flames were as high as eight metres. It was frightening.

"I started to climb up, but it was impossible to breathe or see. We shouted our names to one another." Laloush said that at one stage he looked back to see what was happening to his comrades and felt a finger of flame reach out to him.

"I put up my hands to cover my face and they got burned and lost all feeling in them. I climbed up on my hands and knees as best I could.

"We reached the top and then the unit commander and myself turned back, when the flames had passed, and went back down about 20 or 30 metres in order to help our comrades.

"It was terrible. They were all burned. We couldn't help because of the fire and the heat. It was horrible," he said.

During the fighting, IAF warplanes struck at Hezbollah targets in the Jabal Shaffi region in the eastern sector of south Lebanon, north of the security zone.

The army spokesperson said the pilots reported direct hits and that all the planes returned safely to their bases.

Reports from Lebanon said the jets fired air-to-ground missiles at a deserted house apparently used by Hezbollah gunmen as a launching pad for attacks and infiltrations into Israel's security zone.

There were no immediate reports of any Hezbollah casualties in the air raid the 10th by the IAF against targets in Lebanon in the past month although reports from Lebanon said the building was destroyed.

(With files from Arieh O'Sullivan.)

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[illegible] devoted to the Holocaust, including acclaimed documentaries and other genre will be held on the evenings of October 28 and November 2 and on the afternoon and evening of October 31.

Israel & the Jewish World

Claims conference draws fire over German properties

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany has called a board meeting in New York City for Sept. 10, following allegations that it has abused its mandate.

Formed in 1951 by 23 major Jewish organizations to channel German reparation funds to Holocaust survivors, the conference took the decision at an executive committee meeting in Jerusalem on July 3.

As a result of a cover story in.the May 15 edition of the *Jerusalem Report,* the conference will examine "serious basic issues" about its policy on unclaimed Jewish property in Germany.

"The policy will be reviewed," George Berman, a New York-based communications consultant retained by the conference, told *The CJN* in an interview.

The *Jerusalem Report* charges that the conference, with branches in New York, Frankfurt and Tel Aviv, is blocking attempts by rightful heirs to lay claim to properties worth a fortune in now defunct East Germany.

The conference, whose net assets last year were $88 million (US), denies the accusation.

The roots of the current controversy are bound up with the collapse of the Communist regime in East Berlin and the subsequent reunification of Germany in 1990.

With the amalgamation of West and East Germany, the conference entered into negotiations with the German government to ensure that property that had been seized by the Nazis and the Communists in the eastern part of the country would be returned to their original Jewish owners. The conference made claims on some 75,000 properties.

Properties sold on open market

It was agreed that Jewish properties unclaimed by heirs by the end of 1992 would be transferred to the conference.

The conference, in turn, would sell them on the open market and channel the proceeds to institutions around the world, including those in Canada, which offer Holocaust education programs and provide shelter and social services to needy Holocaust survivors.

"We sold the properties as fast as possible to aid the survivors," explained Berman. "We're not sitting on this money. We make two rounds of allocations a year."

According to the *Jerusalem Report,* the conference has so far reaped $150 million (US) from the sale of properties.

In a statement submitted to *The CJN,* Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the conference, maintains that "we are the owners, not [the] trustees," of these properties.

Rabbi Miller also said that nearly $100 million (US) has been allocated since 1996 for programs of assistance for survivors.

In 1994, the conference established the Goodwill Fund to accommodate heirs who had missed the 1992 deadline. Last year, the fund had assets of $20 million (US). It is continually replenished by the sale of properties.

To discourage so-called "inheritance chasers," the conference, in 1996, decided that it would terminate the Goodwill Fund on Dec. 31, 1997. But recently, the conference was urged to extend the deadline by one year.

When a claim is adjudicated under the terms of the Goodwill Fund, the conference takes a 10 percent administrative cut and shares in the net profits.

"Depending on the value of the property, Goodwill claimants may be entitled to up to 100 percent of the net proceeds," said Rabbi Miller in a press release.

But according to the conference's spokesperson, the average claimant receives about 47 percent of the value of the property. He said that 30 percent of claims already have been settled. "We might clear up all claims by 2000," he added.

Critics such as New York academic Howard Adelson accuse the conference of being arrogant and greedy. In a recent column in the *Jewish Press,* published in New York City, Adelson writes: "By its own fiat, the...conference has become the heir of all those survivors and their heirs who are denied their rightful compensation."

Adelson adds that the conference "has failed miserably in its purpose of assisting victims of the Holocaust and their heirs to secure justice."

Assisting Holocaust victims

Critics also contend that the conference has no right to demand a split of the net proceeds from property sales, that it should act like a trustee rather than an owner and that it should not rush to scrap the Goodwill Fund. These issues will dominate the Sept. 10 meeting.

***

Since its creation 46 years ago, the conference – which was founded by the late president of the World Jewish Congress, Nahum Goldmann – has negotiated agreements with Germany worth about $50 billion (US) at current exchange rates. These payments have gone to individual Holocaust survivors throughout the western world.

By Rabbi Miller's reckoning, 60 percent of the proceeds from the sale of unclaimed Jewish properties in eastern Germany have been allocated to Israeli institutions which help survivors and further the cause of Holocaust education,

In the former Soviet Union, the conference works closely with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to assist survivors who did not receive German reparation payments during the Communist era.

In Canada, the conference makes allocations to social service agencies, notably the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care in Toronto, B'nai Brith, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and Jewish Support Services for the Elderly in Montreal.

Australia, home to the highest percentage of Holocaust survivors, gets funding for senior day care centres, homecare and related services.

As well, the conference supports Christian rescuers of Jews (Righteous Gentiles), and has made major grants to Yad Vashem in Jerusalem and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

Among the member organizations of the conference are Canadian Jewish Congress, American Zionist Federation, World Jewish Congress, World Union of Progressive Jewry, Jewish Agency for Israel, Council of Jews in Germany, American Jewish Committee and the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

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Aaron M. Milrad

Fraser & Beatty is pleased to announce that Aaron M. Milrad has joined the firm's Toronto office. Aaron brings 35 years of experience providing strategic planning to creators, collectors and companies in the arts, media and communications areas. Aaron will be continuing his practice with an emphasis on general business law, contracts, copyright, libel, multimedia, estate planning, gifting and charitable issues.

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Mixed results in Far East trip

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Israel's hi-tech capacity is uncertain if not nonexistent.

Korea's industrial conglomerates are opening trade offices in Israel, its entrepreneurs are entering joint ventures with Israelis and its citizens are keen on visiting Israel.

Despite Netanyahu's argument that the Arab oil-producing states no longer can corner the international oil market, or impose another oil embargo and are comparatively static consumers compared to Israel's burgeoning yen for imports, traditional policies are slow to change in Tokyo.

Perhaps the prime minister's sales pitch was a bit too shrill for Japanese ears. Perhaps his hastily arranged itinerary seemed incomplete without the customary call on the emperor (he was away on vacation) and without the reassuring presence of their foreign minister (he was abroad).

But had Netanyahu waited one more year for Japan to be able to grant him one of the four annual official visits budgeted for foreign heads of government, there would have been no chance of his potential business partners attending the Prime Minister's Economic Conference in November 1998.

The prime minister evidently decided that the opportunity to pay an official visit to Korea justified a bold foray into Japan as well, even if the level of protocol was lower than the Japanese might have preferred.

His prognosis of future events in Israel, which is not necessarily shared with the news media, may have prompted him to go while the going was still good. As for China, how much can be expected from an airport stopover? It may have been the harbinger of a much more elaborate visit at a later date.

Above all, Netanyahu managed to get his main message across to all three Asian interlocutors: that Iran's attempt to become a nuclear power and acquire deadly ballistic missiles must be thwarted not only for the sake of Israeli security, but also in the interest of world peace. His warnings evidently did not fall on deaf ears in Beijing, Tokyo and Seoul.

Israel & the Jewish World

The Week in Israel

Aug. 25

• Speaking at a news conference in Japan, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross would soon return to the region to check whether Yasser Arafat was fulfilling his pledge to fight terrorism. At the same conference, Japan's Prime Minister Rytaro Hashimoto called on Israel to ease sanctions imposed on the Palestinian Authority.

Aug. 26

•Lt. Gen. Amnon Shahak told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that he did not think an explosion of violence was imminent in the territories.

• The daily newspaper, *Ha'aretz* announced plans to publish a four-page English language supplement in September to be inserted in the *International Herald Tribune*.

Aug. 27

• Israel lifted the internal closure it had imposed on Bethlehem. The closure between Israel and the West Bank and Gaza Strip remained in effect.

• Israel arrested a Druze woman in the Golan Heights on charges that she spied for Syria.

• An Israeli court allowed the publication of the news that earlier this month Israel had arrested, Nadia Fudah, an Israeli woman on suspicion that she spied for Iraq.

Aug. 28

• Media reported that Israel and Jordan would soon sign an agreement to open an airport in the Jordanian town of Aqaba. The Aqaba airport will eventually divert all international flights from Eilat.

• Netanyahu said Israel was not committed to withdrawing from the Golan Heights in order to make peace with Syria.

Aug. 29

• The Histadrut Teachers Union announced that it would strike on the first day of classes if school hours were not restored and if some 12,000 teachers are not returned to work.

Wid. files from the JTA

Arafat's dual policy

'The kiss of death'

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Much to Israel's indignation, Yasser Arafat recently embraced and kissed the leaders of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, while refusing to clamp down on their terrorist infrastructure in the Palestinian autonomous areas.

Mideast Analysis

Arafat's gesture to the rejectionists, combined with his defiant refusal to resume full security cooperation with Israel, occurred three weeks after two still unidentified Hamas suicide bombers killed 14 Israelis in Jerusalem.

Last week, Benjamin Netanyahu warned Arafat that his " national dialogue" with Palestinian forces opposed to a peaceful accommodation with Israel may have doomed the tottering Oslo peace process with " the kiss of death."

Arafat has ignored Netanyahu's admonition. Taking a calculated risk, he has cozied up to the likes of Hamas activist Abdel-Aziz Rantisi, who, together with 400 other Islamic fundamentalists, was temporarily banished to southern Lebanon in December 1992.

Despite the PLO's historic rapprochement with Israel, consummated four years ago this week in Washington, Arafat has steadfastly resisted Israeli demands to deal with terrorism once and for all. Nor, judging by his recent meetings with his political rivals, has he abandoned efforts to smooth over yawning divisions in the Palestinian camp.

Basically, as Shin Bet chieftain Ami Ayalon has observed, Arafat is playing a carrot-and-stick game with Palestinians who want to wreck the Oslo accords. In the aftermath of the 1996 suicide bombings, he cracked down on Hamas and Islamic Jihad, jailing their leaders, closing their offices and removing their sympathizers from mosques. But within months of this sweep, he lifted some of the restrictions.

Arafat's strategy, to which he has hewed regardless of the ideological complexion of Israel's government, is based on several considerations. The most important of these is avoidance of a Palestinian civil war and the furtherance of Palestinian unity through the co-option of opponents, be they religious or secular.

With the virtual breakdown of his relationship with Netanyahu, the suspension of the peace process, the closure of the territories, the punitive economic sanctions Israel has imposed on the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the charges of rampant corruption levelled against his administration, Arafat has additional reasons to try to rally Palestinians under his banner.

Arafat, who flinches at the thought of being perceived as an Israeli collaborator, has been assiduously courting Hamas and, to a lesser extent, Islamic Jihad, for at least the past two years. He knows full well that their constituents represent a sizeable chunk of Palestinian opinion, which has hardened under the impact of Netanyahu's settlement policies and his aversion to a Palestinian state.

Arafat began the effort in January 1996, when he supposedly won a pledge from Hamas not to launch attacks against Israel from Palestinian towns in Area A of the West Bank. In March 1996, Arafat convinced Islamic militants formerly associated with Hamas to form a new political party that rejects violence. Six months ago, he apparently persuaded Hamas to support the PA in final status talks with Israel, negotiations which should have begun in May 1996.

Arafat's policy has essentially failed because the Islamic fundamentalists whose backing he seeks have not given up their dream of destroying Israel. "Islam," Rantisi has said, " does not permit giving up one inch of Palestine."

The imprisoned leader of Hamas, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, takes a more conciliatory view, having suggested that "there can be peace" if Israel returns to its pre-Six Day War borders and permits the Palestinians to establish a state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Yassin, however, no longer expresses the yearnings of most Hamas sympathizers. Out of the loop, he has been superseded by Islamic radicals such as Rantisi, who is far less likely to accede to Arafat's conception of peace.

BETHLEHEM BLOCKADE

A Greek Orthodox bishop argues with two Israeli Border Policemen at a roadblock leading into Bethlehem. The blockade was lifted later in the week. [RNS/Reuters photo]

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Israel & the Jewish World

Missile malfunction won't slow deployment

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The first deployment of the Arrow anti-missile defence system will take place in late 1998 or early 1999 as scheduled, despite the recent failure of an Arrow 2 test launch due to a malfunction, officials said last week.

"We see no reason to change our plans," said Uzi Rubin, head of the anti-missile defence project, called Choma (wall). "The partial deployment will be at the end of 1998 or early 1999 and we hope to stand by this schedule," he said.

Rubin and other officials involved in the Arrow project held a news conference at the Defence Ministry to discuss the failed launch, in which the Arrow 2 missile went out of control seconds after it was fired toward a target missile. The Arrow 2, launched in the Mediterranean, was destroyed in mid-flight to prevent it from veering toward population centres.

The Arrow 2 was to have undergone six test launches, according to the joint U.S.-Israel program. Officials said the partial emergency deployment of the system was to have begun after the sixth and final test, scheduled for early next year.

Uzi Eilam, head of the Defence Ministry's research and development unit, said Arrow program engineers would correct the malfunction before the next test.

"We have enough time to conduct research, enough time to perform simulation," he said. Privately, the engineers said they hope to combine the goals of two tests into the next launch.

"We hope we don't have to go back to the drawing board," said Yair Ramati, Arrow program engineer for Israel Aircraft Industries, the $1.6-billion project's chief contractor.

"We will have a system that can deter," Eilam said. "When we talk of partial capability, we are talking about the capability of destroying another missile. The number of missiles that we have will accumulate over time."

Officials said that, despite the subject's being raised during Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's tour of the Far East, the Arrow program is not seeking additional partners. Both Japan and South Korea have expressed interest in acquiring anti-missile defence capability.

"If we have other countries enter Arrow, it will be with the full coordination of the United States," Eilam said. Everything we do will be done together."

Albright gets set to visit Mideast to aid peace process

By HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will travel to the Middle East next week in a bid to prod the Israeli-Palestinian peace process forward.

Albright will visit Syria during her first visit to the region since assuming office, an Israeli Embassy official said, adding that Jerusalem believes that she can be helpful in trying to restart talks that were suspended a year and a half ago.

The United States will officially announce Albright's travel schedule Friday, he said.

"It's a very good idea," the official said of Albright's stop in Damascus. "You have to do something for there to be talks. We want to speak with the Syrians. If we need the Americans' help to do so, that's okay."

Albright also is expected to meet with Jordan's King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. But the five-day visit to the region will be dominated by meetings with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

In a major policy speech here last month, Albright said she would visit the region at the end of August if she judged there to be sufficient progress on security cooperation between Israel and the PA.

At the time, she criticized the PA for withholding security cooperation as leverage and not taking sufficient steps to suppress terrorism. Albright also rebuked Israel over Har Choma, saying it was undermining mutual trust by taking steps to predetermine the outcome of final-status talks.

U.S. officials have been reserved in evaluating the PA's performance since a trilateral committee was established during U.S. special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross' visit to the region earlier last month. They have not said whether the PA's performance has improved enough to justify the yardstick Albright set down in her speech.

Albright's trip also appears to signal a return to Netanyahu's good graces of ambassador to the U.S. Eliyahu Ben-Elissar. The envoy will return to Israel for Albright's visit, as protocol dictates. The Israeli official added that Ben-Elissar will be returning early enough to participate in the government's planning sessions in advance of Albright's arrival.

He has been seen by many administration officials and Israeli diplomats here as being out of the loop in both Jerusalem and Washington.

He returned to Israel in late May to secure his position here.

Ben-Elissar met with Ross last week prior to leaving town for a California vacation and is due back this weekend. He will hold additional meetings with Ross this week.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Unity in Basel

By FREDY ROM
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BASEL, Switzerland — Jewish unity was the theme 100 years ago when Jewish delegates convened here to adopt a unified call for a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

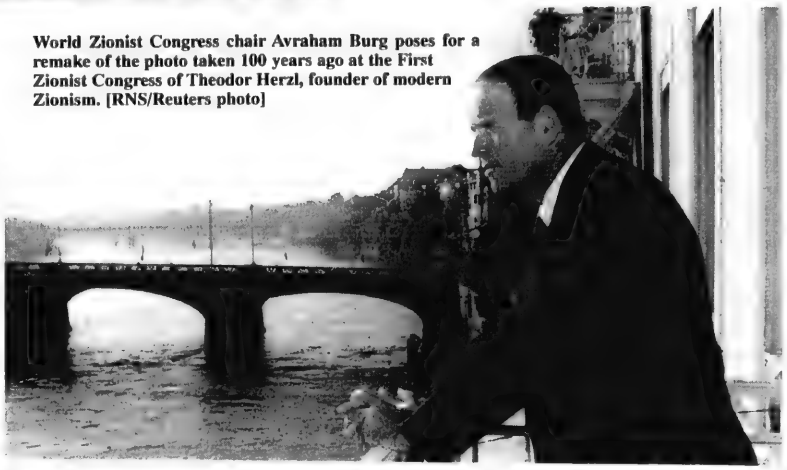
Unity was again a theme last week at ceremonies marking the centennial of the First Zionist Congress.

Avraham Burg, chair of the Jewish Agency for Israel and the World Zionist Organization, told the approximately 1,700 delegates attending the ceremonies that Jewish unity is still crucial, even though the dream of Theodor Herzl and his colleagues was realized with the creation of the state of Israel.

Burg called for a "reform" in religious attitudes that "would enable Jews to live among Jews as equals despite the differences between each other."

His comments came at a time of increasing tension between Orthodox and liberal Jews over pending conversion legislation in Israel that liberal Jews believe will delegitimize their beliefs.

Basel served as host for numerous events linked to the centennial celebrations, which concluded with a formal ceremony on Sunday night, on same the date and in the same hall where Herzl concluded the first congress.



World Zionist Congress chair Avraham Burg poses for a remake of the photo taken 100 years ago at the First Zionist Congress of Theodor Herzl, founder of modern Zionism. [RNS/Reuters photo]

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Henry Gertner at 50. It's hard to believe. He's still pretty nifty and sometimes naive. So happy 50th to Henry, from your loving family.

Anita & Norm Katzman and Marcia & Brian Bender announce the engagement of Marni and Jamie. Bubbies are Sarah Silverberg-Blackstien and Fanny Goodman.

Rochelle & Paul Hoffman, Sandra & Norman Burns, Arnold & Sharon Goldman announce the engagement of Aimee Hoffman to Charles Goldman. Mazel tov from grandparents.

Mazel tov on the engagement of Anne Szajman, daughter of Rena Zayit and Jerry Szajman, to Ross Mason, son of Barb & John Mason.

Mazel tov to Tracey & Alon on their engagement. Tracey's parents, Zil Latner & Ed Rumack, and Alon's parents, Aliza & Amnon Zohar are thrilled.

Mazel tov to Aron & Frida Weller on their 50th wedding anniversary, May 19, from their children and grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Sam & Ruth Gilbert on your 50th wedding anniversary. Love David, Francine, Jessica, Daniel and Elizabeth.

Tara & Gidon are engaged. Proud parents are Sybil & Barry Berenstein, Pnina & Uri Lenga. Grandparents are Annette & Eric Exton, Leah Berenstein and Bella Rochwerg.

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Obstacle overcome for Swiss payment to survivor fund

By FREDY ROM
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BERN — The Swiss Parliament's legal committee has determined that the Swiss National Bank does not need parliamentary approval to contribute $70 million (US) to a fund for Holocaust survivors.

The 12-5 decision last week countered the bank's long-standing position that such approval would be necessary.

The committee's vote "creates a new situation," said bank spokesperson Gabriel Juri. "We will have to discuss this issue with the government."

According to sources involved in the approval process, the parliament will agree with the committee's decision when it convenes for its fall session. (The parliament is expected to take up the issue by the end of September or early October.)

At that point, the bank can immediately make the contribution to the Holocaust Memorial Fund, Lili Nabholz, the head of the legal committee, said in an interview.

"This is a good day for the Jewish people," said Thomas Lyssy, vice-president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Switzerland. "We are optimistic that this money will be paid into the fund within the next few weeks."

The Holocaust Memorial Fund, valued at about $116 million, was created in February with contributions from Switzerland's largest private banks and industrial firms to help Holocaust survivors.

The long-awaited Swiss National Bank contribution would significantly augment the fund, which is expected to begin making payments to survivors soon.

In its decision, the legal committee said the central bank's contribution to the fund, far from being a humanitarian "gift," should be viewed as restitution for the guilt the bank brought upon itself when it purchased millions of dollars of Nazi gold during World War II.

The central bank "did not ask for parliamentary approval when they did their questionable business with the Nazis," said Nabholz. "So why do they need our approval now?"

The committee reached its decision after holding a one-day hearing that involved legal experts, members of the central bank's board of directors and historian Jean-Francois Bergier.

Bergier is chair of the Independent Commission of Experts, the international panel of historians created by Switzerland last December to study the extent of the country's financial dealings with the Nazis.

According to sources within the legal committee, Bergier said the central bank's wartime dealings with the Nazis were indefensible from a moral point of view – particularly after 1943, when it was clear that the gold being purchased by the bank had been looted by the Nazis from the central banks of occupied countries.

Swiss National Bank officials have been loath to admit that their predecessors were guilty of financing the Nazi war effort via purchases of gold from the Reichsbank.

The central bank has a "rather imperfect knowledge of its own history," Jean-Pierre Roth, the vice chairman of the bank's governing board, said in an interview earlier this year. "We are not in a position to answer" all the questions about the bank's wartime actions.

Indeed, Roth defended those actions, saying they were part of the "national defense effort" and that the bank's activities were "directed at maintaining public confidence in the country's currency."

He also explained at the time that parliamentary approval for the bank's contribution to the Holocaust fund was necessary because the bank "has the authority to set monetary policy. It does not have the right to spend any of its reserves without governmental approval."

But in at least one instance this was not the case: Some 20 years ago, the central bank purchased the five-star Hotel Bellevue in the capital of Bern, spending millions of dollars without parliamentary approval.

A parliamentary vote of approval, which now appears unnecessary, could have sparked calls for a national referendum on the issue.

Given the climate in Switzerland, which has been reeling from international criticism over the wartime actions of its government and banking officials, it is not at all clear that the central bank's contribution would have been approved in a referendum.

(JTA foreign editor Mitchell Danow contributed to this report.)

UJA mission to bring the disabled to Israel

NEW YORK — United Jewish Appeal (UJA) campaigns in Canada and the United States are teaming up for a first-ever mission to Israel for the physically disabled.

The Ometz Mission from New York, Nov. 4 to 14, is designed for people aged 25 to 45 who use manual or power wheelchairs, scooters, walkers or canes. "Slow walkers" are also welcome.

Cost is $3,100 (US) per person, based on double occupancy, and includes round trip airfare, hotel and meals.

Mission chair Dawn Kellman of New York found herself pitching UJA the idea of a special trip to Israel after surveying the market and finding nothing for people like her.

"There wasn't much out there," recalls Kellman, who became a paraplegic and was confined to a wheelchair after injuring her back in 1991, a month before she was to visit Israel.

Kellman says she has had about 50 calls from people interested in the mission, including several from Canada.

The itinerary includes floating in the Dead Sea, spending Shabbat at the Western Wall, visiting a northern kibbutz, horseback riding in the Galilee and touring the Golan Heights. Participants will also take part in Israel's 50th anniversary festivities throughout the country.

Hotel accommodations will be wheelchair accessible and transportation will be via a lift-equipped, accessible bus.

Kellman said the group will also meet with disabled Israelis and exchange information.

For details, call Kellman at 212-410-3733.

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The family of the late
ILSA GREENBLATT SHORE ז"ל
extend thanks to the many friends and colleagues who visited, and brought flowers, cards and gifts to our beloved daughter and sister during her illness last year.
A special "Thank You" to the medical team at the Credit Valley Hospital, Drs. Fine, Kaiser, Myers and Higgins.
To the staff of the Oncology Clinic and the nurses on 2C for their wonderful care.
To her co-workers at Borden and Elliott, the board of governors of the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, The Haemophilia Society of Ontario, the staff of the Dr. Abraham Shore Shearim Day School, and to her many personal friends and business acquaintances and the members of the Shore family. We are deeply grateful.
We also wish to extend our thanks to Rabbi Kelman, Simon Kalkstein and many others who visited during the shiva.
Bess and Mendel Greenblatt **Moncton, N.B.**
Marvin Greenblatt **Calgary, AB.**
Pauline Greenblatt **Ottawa, Ont.**
The unveiling will take place Sunday, September 7th at 11:00 a.m. at Lambton Hills Cemetery (Royal York Rd.) – Hebrew Men of England section.
Friends and relatives are invited to attend.

Israel loans $500,000 to help victims of Maccabiah tragedy

By JEREMY JONES
Jewish Telegrahic Agency

SYDNEY — Maccabi Australia has welcomed a loan of $500,000 that the Israeli government advanced to help the victims of the bridge collapse at the recent Maccabiah Games in Israel.

The loan, which had been requested by Maccabi Australia and several Australian Jewish groups, was designed only to provide temporary help, according to the office of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The beneficiaries of the loan are expected to return the monies once insurance companies pay out compensation claims, the Prime Minister's Office said.

Tom Goldman, president of Maccabi Australia, last week told more than 400 Maccabi team members and friends that the loan had been matched by the Maccabi World Union.

Goldman said he hoped that the families suffering pain and loss would not also suffer financially duress.

Two Australian athletes were immediately killed and dozens of other participants at the opening ceremonies of the Maccabiah Games were injured when a pedestrian bridge collapsed at the Ramat Gan stadium on July 14, plunging scores of people into the Yarkon River below.

Two more Australians died weeks later as a result of complications that medical officials linked to contaminants in the river water.

An additional 10 Australian athletes were in serious condition, reportedly as a result of having ingested water from the Yarkon, sparking accusations among some Australian Jews that Israeli officials were taking too long to issue the results of their tests of river water samples.

Goldman has commissioned independent tests on samples he brought back from Israel.

IDF and PA hold first joint exercise

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israeli soldiers and Palestinian policemen held a first-ever joint exercise last week, simulating a car-bomb attack on the Netzarim road through the Gaza Strip.

Both sides treated a mix of Israelis and Palestinians and the IDF praised the success of what it called a "humanitarian drill."

Senior IDF commanders expressed disappointment that there is no such cooperation on the intelligence level to fight terror. But the Palestinian Police said the drill showed they were meeting a commitment to cooperate on security matters.

Taking place on the road to Netzarim, the site of previous clashes and bomb attacks, both sides rushed to treat "wounded" hurt by an explosion. Members of both forces played the role of the wounded.

"The drill succeeded on its humanitarian level, since both military medical forces and Palestinian medical forces worked together and treated Palestinian and Israeli wounded together," said Lt.-Col. Ofer, deputy IDF regional commander. During the exercise, Palestinian wounded were evacuated to Gaza and the Israeli injured were transported by helicopter and ambulances to Israel.

"This is regarded as a factual response to all claims that the Palestinian Authority doesn't illustrate the required level of security cooperation," Saeb Ajez, Palestinian National Security commander in Gaza, told Reuters.

Ten Palestinian and five Israeli ambulances took part in the disaster drill.

"The Israelis gave us 75 minutes to evacuate the victims and we've done the operation in half the time," said Maj. Mohammed Joudeh of the Palestinian Military Medical Services.

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Finding time, space in a Jewish Monday of healing

By SHIRA SHELLEY DUKE

Two years ago, I submitted an article inspired by Tisha b'Av to a Jewish newspaper. I expressed frustration regarding our lack of Jewish healing space.

Guest Voices

The article was never published, but it resulted in a personal phone call from the editor. That call became a symbolic Shema Yisrael and a turning point for me. Decades of having felt unheard, unseen and/or impotent to contribute authentically to mainstream Jewish life somehow magically fell away that year in the course of my community involvement.

The next summer, I once again contacted the editor. This time, I had been through a recurrence of cancer after eight years of remission and I was looking for somewhere in the Jewish community where I could healthily spend the Three Weeks of Mourning preceding Tisha b'Av.

My surgery had been on Purim, I told him. I'd been blessed with a new name from Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz and I'd benefited greatly from miracles of prayer from every branch of Judaism.

My clearest revelation now was that I, like Ruth, needed some kindly "gleaning ground" with my people to restore my healthy status. While I felt grateful, I said, to have found welcoming retreat opportunities in Christian, Buddhist, Taoist and New Age-type settings, it seemed important that I now find some way to immerse myself in the everyday rhythms and healing powers of my own faith.

The editor listened and kindly referred me to an outreach contact at Lubavitch. I share the humor and frustration of my call here, because I believe it is relevant and instructive for all our denominations. It comes with my sincere gratitude to Lubavitch for all the doors of Shabbat healing its community holds open and the ways they have helped me.

"Hello," I said. "I'm recuperating from cancer and was looking for a place to spend the Weeks of Mourning in a healing Jewish context."

"You mean you're looking for a place for Shabbos?"

"Well, not exactly. I'm actually blessed to have many good places to go for Shabbos. I'm looking for a place I could go for the rest of a Jewish week."

"You mean you want to rent a room."

"Well, not exactly. I actually have a room…I'm looking for the Jewish spiritual people to go with a room – people I could pray with, study with and share the rhythms of a Jewish spiritual life with."

"My wife would like that, too, but she's got eight children."

"Maybe I could help her with the children and she could help me with the immersion?"

"Maybe – maybe, in Israel or in New York. But in Toronto, you can come for Shabbos. By Monday, everyone will be out working. You'll sit in an empty house."

I called the editor back for one more try. He referred me this time to a rabbi who told me. "You have to go back to Lubavitch. For what you need, you need a large community. No one family or small group can do it. Call them back and don't tell them anything about yourself this time. Just tell them that you want to come for Shabbat. They are not totally wrong. Shabbat redeems the week. It's where a Jew needs to start."

I did what the rabbi told me for the next few months. While I still can't say that I've found "Monday" in Judaism, his advice was good. I did in fact re-immerse myself in full days of Shabbat observance with people who were good for my healing.

From there, my rekindled faith in Shabbat's redemptive powers got renewed with the help of other committed rabbis and friends in every denomination of Jewish life. I also found the rabbi a most patient and generous teacher who consistently took time to hear my calls for help during a long, hard year of dealing with yet another recurrence of cancer.

This rabbi's simple examples of mitzvot, service, healing prayers and human dignity helped me to more meaningfully understand, receive and even contribute to the levels of bikur cholim (caring for the sick) that Reform, Conservative, secular and Orthodox Jews alike offer.

When I wanted a healing space this summer, where I could quietly be with others while I threw up and lost my hair during chemotherapy, I gratefully took all the Shabbat light, tzedakah and blessings Jews *could* offer me and ran (okay hobbled!) to a kindly Mennonite farm-household with lessons about doing front-line service and hospitality.

I spoke to Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl recently. He told me about developments of the Toronto Jewish Healing Project and recommended an up-coming conference on What Is Jewish Healing? being offered by the National Centre for Jewish Healing Sept. 8 and 9 in Toronto. The next morning, I found myself calling out a mournful lament to this good rabbi's answering machine on my way to chemotherapy.

"What I don't understand about our people," I mourned, "is why no one ever *asks* me about Jewish healing. It's like designing a cancer program without talking to cancer patients. I feel like a wasted resource…" I knew the rabbi was on his way to Israel and I wasn't actually blaming him personally so I didn't need a direct reply, I told him, but I needed to express my frustration.

A few days later, I received a call from Susie Kessler, director of training and education for the National Centre for Jewish Healing in New York. She said Rabbi Frydman-Kohl had told her about me and that I sounded like the perfect layperson for a space they had been holding open on their plenary panel. She invited me to speak — on the Monday.

Few people will ever understand the significance of this little "time/space" for me on a Jewish Monday of healing in Toronto.

No one can take anyone else's steps of return through the gates of each New Year for them. With HaShem's help, however, I think that people who make time to sincerely listen and authentically respond to the laments of others often work untold miracles.

Shira Shelley Duke is a Jewish health practitioner and a healing Jew.

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B1

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Carol, Judith and Nachum
Wish their relatives & friends a happy and healthy New Year

A2

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel
The Israel Family

B2

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
The Israel Family
4485 Bathurst Street

A3

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Double the number of Canadians travelling to Israel

New IGTO head sets target

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — With Israel's 50th anniversary only months away and the Christian bimillennium approaching in the year 2000, the new director of the Israel Government Tourist Office (IGTO) in Toronto has set himself a challenge – to double the number of Canadians travelling to Israel by the end of his four-year term.

"Sure it's a lofty goal," Arie Shevy-Shibi admitted during a recent interview. "But I think it's possible, taking into consideration that we've seen growing numbers of Canadians come to Israel – from about 20,000 to 52,000– each year over the past decade."

For his ambition to be realized, Shevy-Shibi acknowledged that the Palestinian-Israeli peace process, which many have characterized as an unstoppable train, must not get stuck in its tracks.

"There's a tight connection between the peace process and tourism. They go hand in hand. We need peace for tourism to increase."

But he noted that various joint ventures between the tourism authorities of Israel, Jordan, Egypt and the Palestinian Authority are still on the rails, even if the peace process seems temporarily stalled.

Planning is still progressing on the proposed Common Peace International Airport to serve the twin Red Sea towns of Eilat and Aqaba, and the Israelis and Jordanians continue to work together to develop an underwater park for their coral-rich, shared harbor.

Another continuing project is the proposed Lowest Park in the World, a joint venture between the Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians in the Dead Sea region. Egypt, the Palestinians and Israel are also co-operating in a venture to develop tourist sites at various Mediterranean ports such as El Arish, Gaza and Ashdod.

Arie Shevy-Shibi

By investing big money in the region, the international business community is expressing confidence that a stable peace will be achieved, Shevy-Shibi said. He noted that Hilton, Sheraton, Radisson, Movenpick, Accor and Day's Inn are among the major hotel chains constructing new properties in Israel.

Though it seems ambitious, Shevy-Shibi's goal to double the number of Canadians to Israel is in keeping with the official projections of Israel's Tourism Ministry. The tourism sector presently accounts for about six percent of the Israeli economy and employs about 120,000 workers.

Economic forecasters say it could experience phenomenal growth in the next few years, if political conditions are right. Whereas Israel received close to 2.5 million visitors last year, planners indicate the figure could reach five million by the year 2000, especially if the Pope makes his long-promised pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Besides wooing the Jewish market, Shevy-Shibi intends to court the Christian market through a series of seminars directed at the clergy.

"The Catholics and the Protestants are very faithful travellers," he said. "It's kind of an irony that in times of crisis, we see more Christians than Jews in Israel. I'd like to ask Jewish travellers who are planning to come to Israel, please not to cancel because of any ghastly sporadic events. I call upon all our Jewish brothers and sisters to stay with us in our hour of need."

Commemoration of Israel's 50th anniversary commences in October with a series of concerts. The anniversary officially begins with the lighting of the first Chanukah candles on Dec. 23. Tied to the anniversary, Israeli authorities are planning a new forest for the northern Negev desert and a large march from the Judean desert to Jerusalem in April.

In Canada, the IGTO is planning a run a new television commercial and to stage its annual seminars for travel agents in major cities. But perhaps the biggest promotional event of the coming year will be the meeting of some 1,000 members of the Association of Canadian Travel Agents (ACTA), scheduled for Tel Aviv next June. Within the travel industry, the ACTA convention is seen as a major coup for Israel.

"We have plenty of aircraft flying from Canada to Israel," Shevy-Shibi said. "Now I want to fill the seats on those aircraft and I'm going to work hard to do it. I believe in hard work and I believe in what Herzl said: 'If there's a will, there's a way.'

"If there's a will, it's not a fantasy any more," he said. "It's a reality."

Executive's artistic gene emerges

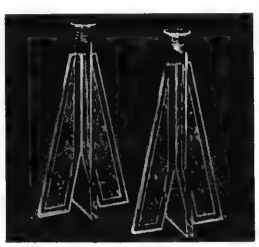
By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

THORNHILL — Iraqi born, Israeli raised artisan Judd Shemesh has chosen glass for his meticulously crafted Judaica because, he says, it is timeless.

Unlike clay and stone, which can deteriorate, glass retains its original character, "even after a thousand years." It is particularly appropriate for the distinctive menorot, candlesticks and mezuzot that comprise his Glassique collection.

Shemesh, who studied business administration in England, came to Canada in 1973 and for 17 years held an executive position with a recognized Canadian grocery conglomerate. Though business was his forte, he comes from a creative family. His mother and brother are skilled clothing designers and his sister is a sculptor and painter.

"I guess the artistic gene was in me," he muses and it has emerged full blown.


Glass candlesticks

Working out of his Thornhill studio, he conceives and executes contemporary pieces based on geometric circles and triangles.

Using commercial glass and crystal for strength, he sandblasts, carves, paints and polishes, uniting the components with no visible seams.

The result is a series of traditional artifacts in state of the art terms — clean cut with warmth and color.

Mezuzot, painstakingly polished, hand carved and painted in blue, carmine, gold, have a stained glass quality.

A remarkable menorah is so designed that a superimposed Magen David (Star of David) appears in triplicate. This was presented as a gift for the White House in Washington, D.C., when members of a Jewish organization visited there.

Shabbat candles are structured as a "seamlessly" joined pair or separated. The double version has wide appeal.

The Judd Shemesh Glassique collection is featured in the National Glass Museum in Waterloo. There are also two pieces on display in New York's Museum of Modern Art.

Glassique is available in fine shops across Canada, major United States cities and South America.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

PRODUCER MAKES VARIETY'S '50 HOTTEST' LIST

Camelia Frieberg, producer of **Atom Egoyan's** acclaimed *The Sweet Hereafter*, has been selected for *Variety* magazine's annual profile of the 50 hottest "behind the scenes" creative talents in North America. The profile appeared in *Variety's* issue of Aug. 25.

The Sweet Hereafter, Frieberg's recent collaboration with Egoyan, is the opening-night presentation of the Toronto International Film Festival, which begins this week. She has also produced several other Egoyan films, and is currently producing *The Fishing Trip*, a feature film by first-time director **Amnon Buchbinder**. She's also involved in preproduction for **Jeremy Podeswa's** *The Five Senses*, which is slated for production next spring.

"I was really surprised and pleased that *Variety* chose to single me out," Frieberg said. "And I was equally pleased that they're focusing on the creative accomplishments of two Canadian women."

The only other Canadian on *Variety*'s list is writer-director **Lynne Stopkewich**, who made the film *Kissed*.

* * *

Ofra in Concert: Tickets have already begun selling for globally acclaimed cellist **Ofra Harnoy**, who appears at a one-night gala concert at Temple Sinai, 210 Wilson Ave., Nov. 26, 8 p.m. Tickets for reserved seating and a post-concert reception are $135 (a maximum allowable tax receipt to be provided). General admission is $55. Ticket hotline, 416-425-1963.

* * *

Sci-Fi Composer: *Lexx – The Dark Zone Stories*, a science-fiction movie that aired on City TV twice in August and airs again Sept. 4 and 11 at 9 p.m., has a distinctive musical score that complements the extraordinary visuals. It's the work of Montreal-born composer **Marty Simon**, who recently moved to Toronto.

The former globe-trotting rock musician, whose career includes session work with **Mick Jagger** and memorable musical jams with **Jimmy Page** and **Jimi Hendrix**, has received numerous awards for the dozens of film and television soundtracks that he has composed since 1987. The *Lexx* soundtrack was recently released on CD and is available in record stores across Canada.

* * *

David Broza Returns: Israel's best-selling recording artist, **David Broza** returns to Toronto's Music Hall Oct. 12 for a third Toronto performance in as many years. His unique combination of flamenco guitar, Mediterranean music, Latin rhythms and American blues has thrilled audiences worldwide.

Broza is active in the search for Middle East peace. He has campaigned for the mixed Arab-Jewish town Neve Shalom (Wahlat Al Salam) that his grandfather helped found in 1970. He has sung at memorial ceremonies for Yitzhak Rabin at Madison Square Gardens and in a CBC radio tribute.

Also on the bill is Toronto songwriter **Marc Jordan**, who has composed hits for **Rod Stewart**, **Jeff Healey**, **Chicago**, **Joe Cocker** and **Amanda Marshall**. His latest album is *Cool Jam* on the Sony Music Canada label.

Tickets are $19.95 to $36.85 from TicketMaster, 416-870-8000. Music Hall, 147 Danforth Ave.

* * *

Arts Notes:

• The Alexander & Alla Tselyakov School of Music presents A Summer Piano Concert, Sept. 7, 3 p.m. 905-770-5258. Email [golomb @interlog.com].

• Creative Drama for Young People, a 10-week course for children 8 to 13, starts Sept 14 in the studio of Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St., North York. The cost is $150 plus a $25 non-athletic membership in the Bathurst Jewish Centre. 416-636-1880, ext. 231.

• Four artists from the MOMA (Making Our Mark on Art) collective display their works at the Free Times Cafe, 320 College St., Sept. 3 to Oct. 29. Meet the artists Sept. 21, 4 to 7 p.m. 416-924-0881.

• **Arlene Perly Rae** is editor of the new book *Everybody's Favourites: Canadians Talk About Books That Changed Their Lives*. Notable contributors such as **Peter Gzowski**, **Knowlton Nash** and **Anton Kuerti** are expected at the book launch Oct. 3 at the Harbourfront International Festival of Authors.

New play based on A.M. Klein's poetry and prose

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —A.M. Klein was a failure because his quest for a personal messiah in his poetry was unsuccessful.

This is the premise of a new play about the famous Canadian Jewish poet from Montreal by Arnold Bennett, an American now living in Newfoundland.

Titled *The Failure*, the play is based on Klein's poetry and prose but the central character, the Poet, is not identified as Klein. The poet is played by a woman and the only other character is The New Yorker, an admirer of Klein's work.

This is the 25th anniversary of Klein's yahrzeit. The poet went into seclusion at the height of his powers in 1954 and did not write a line for 18 years, dying in 1972.

Playwright Bennett, a Democratic party speech writer and an award winning documentary film maker, recently settled in Manuels, near St. John's.

His portrayal of Klein as a failure is challenged by Adam Fuerstenberg, of Toronto, an academic who has studied and written about the poet. "He was not a failure," said Feuerstenberg.

"I think the message of my play is that we must look for the meaning of A.M. Klein's life in our own lives," Bennett told *The CJN* in an interview.

Klein won the Governor General's Award for poetry for *The Rocking Chair*. He was at one time editor of the *Canadian Jewish Chronicle* and a speech writer for Samuel Bronfman, founder of the modern Canadian Jewish Congress.

"Klein had a deep conflict between his religious faith and his reason and this was at the heart of his ultimate collapse," Bennett said.

The play suggests that Klein was so angry at God for allowing the Holocaust that he attempted, in his poetry, to usher in a Messianic era. When he failed, the play says, he gave up and wrote no more.

Many of Klein's poems are used by the playwright to support his premise.

Four performances of *The Failure* were given in St. John's directed by Bennett, and produced by his wife, Nancy, a public relations consultant. One of the productions was sponsored by the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies and the Association of Canadian College Teachers of English.

Two musicians round out the four member cast. The specially composed music is by Jim Fidler.

Contrary to public belief, Bennett said that during the time he was a recluse, Klein did venture out of his house from time to time to a French-Canadian bookstore and often sat on his porch. He had limited conversations with his family.

Bennett said he is in the midst of negotiations to put on the play in Montreal and would be interested in a Toronto production.

He became interested in Klein's work while attending college in the United States.

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SERIES "A" – CONTEMPORARY FICTION

THE STATEMENT — By Brian Moore
Mon. Sept. 22 1 p.m.
Tues. Sept. 16 1 p.m.
Thurs. Sept. 18 8 p.m.

ALIAS GRACE — By Margaret Atwood
Mon. Nov. 10 1 p.m.
Tues. Nov. 4 1 p.m.
Thurs. Nov. 6 8 p.m.

A FINE BALANCE — By Rohinton Mistry
Mon. Jan. 19 1 p.m.
Tues. Jan. 13 1 p.m.
Thurs. Jan. 15 8 p.m.

THE CURE FOR DEATH BY LIGHTENING — By Gail Anderson - Dargatz
Mon. Mar. 23 1 p.m.
Tues. Mar. 17 1 p.m.
Thurs. Mar. 19 8 p.m.

THE ENGLISHMAN'S BOY — By Guy Vanderhaeghe
Mon. May 11 1 p.m.
Tues. May 5 1 p.m.
Thurs. May 7 8 p.m.

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SERIES "B" – INTERNATIONAL CINEMA

SECRETS AND LIES
Mon. Oct. 20 Screening 1 p.m.
Tues. Oct. 14 Screening 1 p.m.
Tues. Oct. 21 Screening 7 p.m.
Thurs. Oct. 9 Screening 7 p.m.

LONE STAR
Mon. Dec. 8 Screening 1 p.m.
Tues. Dec. 2 Screening 1 p.m.
Tues. Dec. 9 Screening 7 p.m.
Thurs. Dec. 4 Screening 7 p.m.

THE ENGLISH PATIENT
Mon. Feb. 16 Screening 12:45 p.m.
Tues. Feb. 10 Screening 12:45 p.m.
Tues. Feb. 17 Screening 6:45 p.m.
Thurs. Feb. 12 Screening 6:45 p.m.

FARGO
Mon. Apr. 20 Screening 1 p.m.
Tues. Apr. 14 Screening 1 p.m.
Tues. Apr. 21 Screening 7 p.m.
Thurs. Apr. 23 Screening 7 p.m.

PRISONERS OF THE MOUNTAIN*
Mon. May 25 Screening 1 p.m.
Tues. June 2 Screening 1 p.m.
Tues. May 26 Screening 7 p.m.
Thurs. June 4 Screening 7 p.m.
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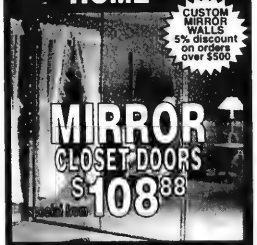
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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

THREE SPANISH TOWNS

Merida, a city of 41,000 inhabitants in the Spanish province of Estramadura, boasts the most spectacular Roman ruins in Spain and an outstanding museum in which many impressive ancient treasures are housed.

One's introduction to the National Museum of Roman Art in Merida is the town itself. Founded as a settlement for veterans of the army's Cantabria campaign, Merida became the largest Roman settlement on the Iberian peninsula.

There was plenty of entertainment in this glorified retirement community. An amphitheatre, built for gladiatorial matches, held about 15,000 while an adjacent coliseum-like theatre held 6,000 for more civilized dramatic fare.

Much of the old town lies buried beneath the modern city, but visible relics include a monumental Temple of Diana, a triumphal arch and an enormous 64-arch bridge. Several Renaissance-era mansions have incorporated standing pillars into their design. Mosaic floors are so common that an outdoor antiquities garden features several that are unprotected from the elements; visitors must walk on them to cross the site. Major statues of temple gods and goddesses were unearthed as recently as last year.

The National Museum of Roman Art. [Bill Gladstone photo]

The site of the National Museum of Roman Art is so archeologically rich that its basement is a crypt revealing the remains of homes, a necropolis, a road and an aqueduct. The museum is regarded as perhaps the finest achievement of Rafael Moneo, one of Europe's most notable architects.

One enters a grand hall framed by a receding row of colossal Roman arches fashioned in sand-colored brick and topped by skylights. But the best surprise is yet to come. As one walks through this magnificent sunlight-filled space, one attains unobstructed cross-sectional views, right and left, of every gallery and display area on three levels.

The walls are adorned with huge mosaic floors bearing exquisite decorations and scenes of mythic heroes, boar-hunts and charioteers. A noble bust, life-sized statue or decorative pillar fills every alcove.

Inscribed tablets tell of the circus, the exploits of the war dead, the glory of the emperors. Display cases show off Roman glass, coins, combs, dice, pottery, surgical instruments.

Moneo interweaves ancient and modern design features in such a way as to continually surprise and delight. Opened 11 years ago, the National Museum of Roman Art remains a shining paragon of museum design.

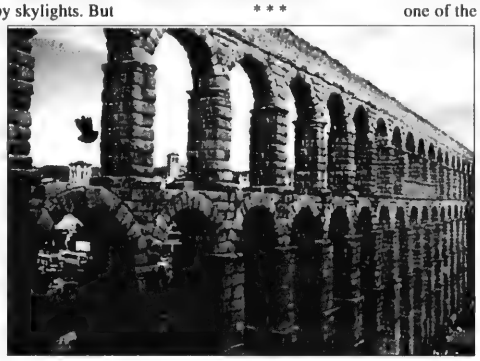
* * *

Segovia Synagogue: During their 600-year occupation of the land they called Hispania, the Romans built many roads and works. An extensive and remarkably well-preserved aqueduct stands in the central Spanish town of Segovia, north of Madrid.

Strolling from the aqueduct up the main street, one passes several fine churches and the medieval Convent of Corpus Cristi, which visitors may enter. Originally a synagogue, it was built in 1345 and operated until Jewish worship was banned in 1410. Architecturally grand, the interior features numerous horseshoe pillars in the moorish style, but the stone has lost all memory of the building's Jewish past.

The neighboring streets once formed the heart of the Jewish quarter, which once had five synagogues and eight gates. The Segovia Archaeological Museum stands on a site that locals still refer to as "the house of the Jewish butcher."

* * *



The aqueduct in Segovia. [Bill Gladstone photo]

Picturesque Hervas: Driving through central Spain, particularly in mountainous sections, one sees many exposed stretches of Roman roads. In the provinces of Estramadura and Castilla y Leon, these roads were important sheep-herding routes in the Middle Ages. Consequently, the mountain-pass towns of Hervas and Bejar, near the Portuguese border, each developed a strong wool trade and notable Jewries.

All traces of a Jewish quarter have disappeared from Bejar but after much restoration, Hervas has one of the best-preserved "barrios Judios" in Spain. Most of its 400 cottages are made of wood beams and bricks joined by a mortar of mud and straw. The town has painstakingly restored the quarter in the reasonable hope that the antique setting will draw travellers keen on remembering Spain's Jewish past.

Published three months ago, the Lonely Planet guide to Spain makes an excellent companion for any traveller in Spain.

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TORONTO — Pianist Aviva Aronovich will perform a sold-out concert at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts on Sept.7 at 2:30 p.m. under the sponsorship of the Aviva Chapter of Hadassah-WIZO.

Aranovich is scheduled to perform selections from Haydn, Chopin, Ravel, Liszt, Bach-Busoni, Medtner, Scriabin and Rachmaninoff.

Aranovich was born in Lithuania and made aliyah in 1973. She graduated from the Rubin Academy at the Tel-Aviv University where she won the annual piano competition for two consecutive years.

In New York at the celebrated Juilliard School, she received a full scholarship to study with Peter Serkin and graduated in 1990 with a Master's Degree.

Among her accomplishments, Aranovitch won the Vercelli International Piano Competion in Italy, as well as prestigious contests in Spain and the United States.

Business Profile

Home fashion firm offers Israeli products

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The headquarters of Revelle Home Fashions Inc. couldn't be more inviting. Just beyond the reception area, past a narrow 10-drawer chest with plush towels spilling out of partially opened drawers, is a cozy showroom with seven beds, each draped with the newest Revelle linens and accented with stylishly coordinated home accessories.

At a small round table covered with a jacquard tablecloth imported from Israel, Revelle co-owners Freddy Faust, 43, and Barbara Grnak, 41, sat over freshly poured coffee and a plate of baked goods and explained their business philosophy.

"We're not big on titles and ceremony," began Grnak. Their individual business cards, in fact, carry no title, only their names and the company name. "When you're both there from the bottom, building it hammer and nails, it's hard to say, 'You're the president.' We're both equal partners. All of the major decisions are made by us together. As a matter of fact, we share an office."

Neither has formal business training. "I think a lot of it is common sense and hard work," said Faust.

The roomy office he shares with Grnak – in contrast to the showroom – favors function over style. To Grnak's chagrin, it holds an increasing amount of clutter, evidence of Revelle's upcoming move to larger premises in the same Adelaide Street West building.

The business that began as Down-Town Duvets & Linens Ltd. when their separate cottage industries joined forces 17 years ago has grown to a 50-employee, almost $5-million-a-year enterprise, weathering two recessions along the way. (Revelle is a division of Down-Town Duvets, which manufactures Revelle products as well as its own high-end line of duvets, pillows, window treatments and accessories.)

"The key is to not be in debt when the recession comes," said Grnak. "Then you can plan to grow later. We're extremely cautious."

Next week, Revelle will receive an honorable mention at the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce & Industry's second annual Business Excellence Awards ceremony, for initiatives the company has taken in introducing Israeli products to the Canadian market. They are exclusive distributors in Canada for four Israeli mills, and almost half their trade is now conducted with Israel. Over the past four years, they have quadrupled their Israeli imports.

Since the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (FTA) was implemented in January of this year, Revelle has expanded its selection of Israeli imports by about 10 percent and reduced prices on goods it was already importing.

Israeli tablecloths, for example, recently became part of Revelle's line. "The duty was pretty high," said Faust, explaining why they didn't import them before the FTA came into effect. Previously, duty on finished products like tablecloths was 22 percent. With the FTA, those tariffs have been eliminated.

Faust was born and raised in Tivon, near Haifa, and moved at age 15 with his family to what was then Rhodesia. There he acquired experience in his family's textile business before moving to Canada in 1977.

Grnak, a native of Toronto, has sewn "from the time I could walk" and has training in fine arts.

By 1978, she was working out of her apartment making duvets and pillows. Her company, Featherdown Quilts, still exists in the form of a retail store on upscale Cumberland Street, as part of Down-Town Duvets.

Shortly after immigrating, Faust and two partners were making duvet covers under the name Faust Agencies. Like Grnak, he was recently married and working from home.

Faust and Grnak met through a customer and found their businesses complemented each other. Within about a year, Faust suggested they start their own business.

Their success depends on honesty and fair play, said Grnak. "Otherwise it won't work."

"You've got to be compatible," said Faust, recalling that at the outset, they were told that the majority of business partnerships fail within the first five years.

Their first location, around the corner from their present one in Toronto's fashion manufacturing district, was 2,500 square feet, less than one-tenth the size of the 26,000-square-foot space into which they're moving.

Revelle owners Freddy Faust and Barbara Grnak display a colorful sheet made from Israeli fabric; coordinating reversible jacquards cover the bed. [Frances Kraft photo]

"Remember the days we'd get so busy that family members would come help us at night?" Grnak asked Faust.

Before long they began hiring cutters and sewers. Today there is an on-site factory crammed with textiles, cutting tables and machines. At one end, Israeli fabric is being sewn into sheets and duvet covers for export to Taiwan. Nearby, a woman is sewing sheet corners using a process created by Revelle for reversible designs. They were the first in Canada to use reversible jacquards (woven from Egyptian cotton and imported from Israel) for bedding.

Elsewhere duvet covers are getting buttonholes reinforced "so they don't fall apart in the wash," said Grnak. "When you pay a lot for duvet covers, you want to make sure they last."

In addition to manufacturing Revelle designs, the company continues to subcontract for companies like Springmaid and Wamsutta and to distribute foreign goods like Thistletex towels from Scotland. John Butterworth Flannels from England and Peacock Alley linens from the United States are also part of the Revelle line.

Of the dozen lines Revelle sells to department stores and high-end linen stores across Canada, the most luxurious is an Italian line called Pertile with hemstitched, scallop-edged, white-on-white sateen sheets. Recently Revelle has begun to use Israeli fabric to produce a similar product that sells for about half the price. (The Italian duvet cover retails for about $300.)

Revelle was created in the early 1990s so that Faust and Grnak could create and market their own designs, using fine imported fabrics. They choose designs and colors they think will appeal to Canadian consumers, working with suppliers from Italy, Portugal and the United States.

To be at the forefront of style, Revelle frequently adapts European designs to better suit the Canadian market. "We often recolor a design or mix and match two designs not intended to be together," said Grnak.

Featherdown, their only retail outlet, is "a good way for us to test new designs" to see how well they will sell, said Faust.

"As a retailer, you're expected to be ahead of the times," said Grnak, "but it's a bit of a risk."

"[Some of] what you see here will be in the stores in a month to three months from now," said Faust.

Among the items sold under their Ambiance label is an environmentally friendly natural cotton product available in a range of soft, earthy colors. The cotton, marketed under the name TopCot, comes from a kibbutz where it is grown in white, olive green and fawn, which are mixed to create variations in color.

Faust has Ambiance color-grown bedding at home and swears it "feels softer all the time," even after over 100 washings.

Faust and Grnak test new fabrics themselves to check for shrinkage. "We throw them in with every load," said Grnak. "We try to abuse them as much as we can to see what it takes to wreck them. We may advise the customer to handle with care."

Grnak was delighted to learn "how much Israel had to offer in the way of fine fabrics. We wanted something nobody else had."

Revelle's initial contact with Israeli mills was arranged with help from the Israel Economic Mission, the Toronto office of Israel's trade commissioner.

"In Israel, we find they're very much on the mark, very service oriented and very quick to respond," said Grnak.

Their business relationship with Israel, in Faust's eyes, has been "a nice adventure."

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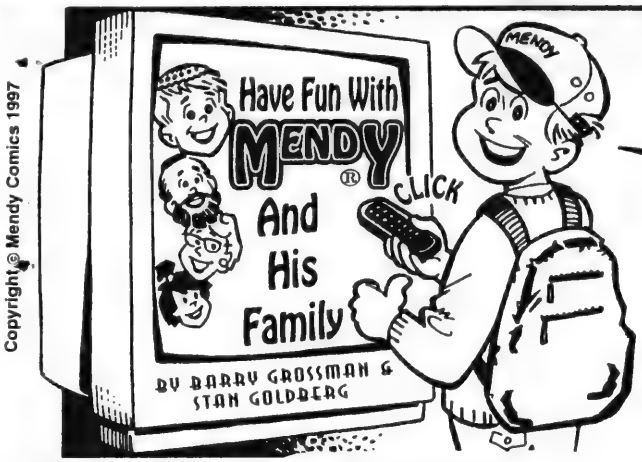

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VISITORS TO ISRAEL

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the former NBA superstar, recently visited Israel to see the land and its people. ***[Isranet photo]***

After Abdul-Jabbar's visit, 12-year-old Paulina Pokina (right) came to Israel from Moscow to celebrate her bat mitzvah in the Bar-Bat Mitzvah project for Russian children conducted by the Israel Forum. Paulina is seen here with Avraham Burg, the chair of the Jewish Agency for Israel.

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IT WAS TOO LATE TO START OVER!
HE SAVED THE BEST FOR LAST!
HOW DO I GET MYSELF INTO THESE THINGS?
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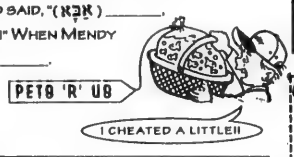
דָּג	FISH	DAHG	מִטָּה	BED	MIH-TAH
יָד	HAND	YAHD	סַל	BASKET	SAHL
כַּד	PITCHER	KAHD	דּוֹד	UNCLE	DAWD
כֶּלֶב	DOG	KEH-LEHV	מֶלֶךְ	KING	MEH-LECH

MENDY WOKE UP EARLY TO THE BARKING OF A (כֶּלֶב) _____. HE WAS GLAD TO BE UP EARLY BECAUSE HIS (דּוֹד) _____ LLOYD WAS TAKING HIM TO THE LAKE TO CATCH (דָּג) _____. HE JUMPED OUT OF (מִטָּה) _____, WENT INTO THE SHOWER AND THEN GOT DRESSED. HIS (אַבָּא) _____ WAS PREPARING BREAKFAST IN THE KITCHEN. RABBI KLEIN GRABBED THE (כַּד) _____ AND POURED MENDY A GLASS OF JUICE. HE SAID, "(בֵּן) _____, HERE'S A (סַל) _____ - FILL IT WITH A HUNDRED (דָּג) _____ !" MENDY PUT THE (סַל) _____ IN HIS (יָד) _____ AND SAID, "(אַבָּא) _____, I'LL BE (מֶלֶךְ) _____ OF THE LAKE IF I SUCCEED!" WHEN MENDY CAME HOME, HE DIDN'T DISAPPOINT HIS (אַבָּא) _____.



"The Garden" tells story of Israeli fight for independence

By LEILA SPEISMAN
CJN Staff Reporter

Carol Matas, a well-known Canadian author, has written several books about Jewish teenagers during the Holocaust. You may have read *Lisa,* or *Jesper,* about Danish resistance to the Nazis, or *Daniel's Story*, about a young boy's experiences in the concentration camps.

Last year, Matas published *After the War*, a moving account of Ruth Mendenberg, a young girl trying to escape from post-war Europe to what was then called Palestine.

Matas' latest book, *The Garden* (Scholastic, 1997), continues Ruth's story, as she struggles to rebuild her life in Palestine shortly before the establishment of the State of Israel.

The only way Ruth can deal with her memories of the terrible years is to create a kibbutz garden. But she loses even that comfort when British soldiers destroy it in a search for illegal guns.

One of the interesting themes in the book is the tension that existed between

the Haganah, the resistance group that pledged to use only necessary force to fight the British and the Arabs, and the Irgun, whose are described by Ruth's brother Simon, when he says, "If they shoot us, we shoot back. If they hang one of ours, we hang three of theirs. That's it. That's the way it'll be."

The resistance efforts intensify after the United Nations votes to partition Palestine and create a Jewish state. Ruth's Haganah group, as well as Simon's Irgun, fight not only against Arab terrorists, but against the pro-Arab British as well. Several of her friends are killed.

In the midst of all the trouble, we see Ruth's relationship with Zvi, who escaped from Europe with her, blossom from friendship into love.

Let's hope that Carol Matas continues the story of Ruth and her friends, and the early days of Israel, in a future book.

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51 ft. frontage in demand location, fab. bldg. lot near Avenue Road, only $299,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

GLEN PARK — 40 X 131 FT. LOT FOR SALE

Fab. location close to many new homes! Permits + plans available for new home to be built, 3,400 sq. ft. (approx.) + bsmt., asking $279,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / SHEPPARD

Charming 3+1 bdrm. bungalow, huge 63' lot, renovated eat-in kitchen, separate entry to in-law suite, WON'T LAST at only $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN - STORE FOR SALE - REDUCED!

Popular retail strip, good opportunity for user, only $199,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE

Luxurious 5 bedroom, custom-built, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + finished basement, loaded with upgrades, main floor fam. room, library, asking $699,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK — A REAL CHARMER!

Gorgeous 3 bedroom home on 50 x 155 ft. lot, spacious deck, asking $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / HILLMOUNT — SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME!

3,700 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. Bright open concept, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, sauna, hot tub, only $449,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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BATHURST / LAWRENCE

Spacious 3 bedroom bungalow, close to all amenities, finished basement, hardwood floors, renovated kitchen. Asking $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — SPACIOUS RANCH BUNGALOW

Huge corner lot in desirable location, 54 x 138 ft., surrounded by luxury homes! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

Forest Hill

Real Estate Inc. Realtor

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CENTRAL PROPERTIES

AVENUE RD/LAWRENCE $649,000
Custom 4 bdrm, ston[SOLD]3000 sq. ft. Sammy Roth** 488-2875

YONGE/MARLBOROUGH - TOWNHOUSE
Quality and desi[SOLD]! Bonnie Singer** 488-2875

SIX PLEX ON FRASERWOOD
Great buy! Rose Simon* 226-1987

PRIME ALLENBY - $499,000
Stunning w/ open co[SOLD]build. Sammy Roth** 488-2875

MAGNIFICENT 4 BDRM EXEC. HOME
Bathurst/Sheppard. P. Altman*/S. Gruestein* 226-1987

WALK TO SHEPPARD SUBWAY
5 yr. new quality custom huge kit. & mstr $449,000. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

ARMOUR HEIGHTS
Huge 5 bdrm addition backs onto 175' ravine set lot $449,000. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

PALM DRIVE
9 rm split 50'x146' lot, new kit. Central air. Rose Simon* 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
Lot 100'x250' $1,595,000 build your dream. Mark Cowan* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

SKYMARK I
Furnished 2 bdrm., $262,000, large unit, perfect "10". Call Mark Cowan* 226-1987

OUTSTANDING BEDFORD GLEN
2 bdrm, superb uni[SOLD]last! Bonnie Singer**488-2875

RICHMOND HILL
Lge 2 bdrm, 5 appl., move-in cond., solarium. Call MarkCowan* 226-1987

BUSINESS PROPERTIES

3 PLEX BATHURST & ST. CLAIR
Steps to trans., Mansion! Ideal owner user. O. Guvenal* 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

GREAT BUY IN BELLE EWART!
5 bdrm cottage near everything. Rose Simon* 226-1987

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

Paul Slavens

REAL ESTATE INC. REALTOR

RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS

483-4337

FINE HOMES

OVERLOOKING CASA LOMA - $649,000.
Spectacular & unique townhome with attached garage. Centre hall plan. Private elevator, spacious principal rms. 4+ bdrms. + lower level family room.*Carol Cotton.

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE GATE- $399,500.
Large corner unit features 2 bdrms., 2 baths, huge ensuite, open balcony & treetop [SOLD]car pkg. Wheelchair access. Steps to fine shops, restaurants & subway. *Elaine Pike.

• • •

RIDLEY BLVD. - $210,000.
Lovely suite features 2 br, 2 baths, stunning eat-in kitchen, large separate dining rm., neutral decor, insuite laundry. Pkg. Building offers fabulous amenities. *Edie Winberg.

• • •

MINUTES TO DOWNTOWN - $289,000.
Two storey, 2 bdrm. condo townhome in exclusive complex. Marble foyer, kitchen floor & fireplace. CAC. w/o to patio. Walk to TTC, shops & restaurants. *Barbara Kaplan.

• • •

HEATHDALE/HARRISON
Beautifully reno'd 4 bdrm. ranch bungalow. Generous principal rms., family room. Private landscaped garden w/pool. 100' x 125' grounds. *Leslie Dennis

• • •

STUNNING RENOVATION
Breathtaking home set in park-like setting 4+ BR's. Outstanding master. State of the art kitchen. Main fl. den + family rm. Fin. l/lvl. w/rec. rm. + games rm. + nanny's rm. *Eleanor Stanton.

• • •

BRIDLE PATH BUNGALOW
Spectacular home. Marble foyer. Den + family room. 4+ BRs. Master w/dressing rm. Sunrm o/looks inground pool & cabana. Fin. l/lvl. with extra bdrm., kitchen, party rm., sauna ++. *Edie Winberg.

• • •

"SKYVIEW" CONDO - $256,500.
Stunning suite with spacious, elegant layout. Huge solarium. Exceptional kitchen. Former model suite. Building offers all amenities. *Heather Sherman.

• • •

WANLESS PARK - $439,000.
Spacious 3+ bdrm. townho[SOLD] baths, skylight, 2 fireplaces, central air. Fin. l/lvl. Priva[SOLD]& garage. *Leslie Dennis.

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LAKE SIMCOE - AWARD WINNING!
Camp Arrowhead, 4 bdrms., 3 baths, fireplace, private lot 100'x150', backs onto golf course. **Carole Lazer***

LAKE SIMCOE - YEAR ROUND RETREAT!
Nestled on private road, sandy beach. 4+loft, 3 baths, 2 FP's, skylites, deck + + + $459,900. Must view! **Carole Lazer***

1ST AD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
115 MacPherson! $695K! Reno 3+1 br., 4 bth., o/l's pool!!

1ST AD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
109 York Downs! $338K! Fab. 3+1 Br. Mn. Fam. + nanny ste!

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NEW LISTING – 389 CORTLEIGH BLVD.

$1,045,000 - EXQUISITE CUSTOM HOME - 1 YR. NEW

This 4 bedroom home features all the bells & whistles - 10' ceilings, cornice moldings, hardwood floors, columns, limestone, main floor family room, + + + . Steps to synagogues & schools. Please call . . .

DELLA FULGOSI - 966-0300
Sutton Group Assoc. Realty Inc.

BATHURST/MIRANDA
Executive home - a real gem! 4,300 sq. ft. sheer beauty.

• • • • •

BATHURST-CENTRE
Ask $219,900 - 3 bedroom, 3 baths, close to Promenade Mall, synagogue, schools. Sally Rosen

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BATHURST/CLARK!
East side of Bathurst. Modern, 4 bdrm., combined liv./din., professionally fin. bsmt., upgrades galore, short walk to synagogues, schools, parks. Bus to subway.
ANNA BENCHIMOL or
ROCHELLE COVANT
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REAL ESTATE Section

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

BLUE FOREST AREA
Spac. 5 bdrms + fam. rm., L-shaped liv & din, w/out to deck, kit w/built-in appls, fin. bsmnt, dble drive, gar.

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES
4 bdrm., 3 bths., mod kit., good size liv & din., 3 w/outs, fin. bsmnt, steps to all.

• • •

SHEPPARD-WILMINGTON
Store & apt, ideal for many uses, well maint. building, great buy & location.

• • •

ALLEN RD.-LAWRENCE
Tri-plex, fully rented, 2-3 bdrm + 1-1 bdrm, balcs, bths. ens, steps to subway, don't miss!

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Lawr,55',spac lrg 3 bdrm bung,bright,upgrades,new deck & kit,fin bsmt. **Private** . 782-1984

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

BATHURST/DREWRY CONDO
3 BDRM. 2 full baths. Large corner unit. Ensuite Laundry & Locker. Sabbath elevator. South-east exposure. Move-in condition. $173,900.
Michael J. Sapeira
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Santee Realty Inc.
(416)
441-2003
(24 hrs.)

VENDOR RELOCATING
Bathurst/Clark. 2 bdrm., split layout, white kit. with window, 2x4 pc. baths, only $179,900.
ROCHELLE COVANT
Century 21 Heritage Group Ltd.
(905) 764-7111

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Bath/Finch Savoy, lux 2 bd, 2 bth, prkg. $1300. incl. 630-9449

55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Shabbas apt req'd, Bath./Glencairn area. 416-567-4365.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Steeles, room in bsmt apt, cac, lndry, cable, pkg, part. furn, $350./mo. inclus., n/smkr. 905-707-8515 (evgs.).

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

A beautiful 1 bdrm. bsmnt. apt., furn., pkg., sep. entr., near shul & TTC. For a middle-aged Jewish couple or a student, n/smkrs, n/pets. 789-5980.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Eldorado, 2500 Bathurst, lux 3 bdrm + den apt, immed. 787-9451.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Boca Lago, 2 bdrm + den, fab. view, upgraded, 2 golf courses. $140K U.S. 561-482-1099.

Fab. 2 stry det. home, fully furn in excl country club comm in **Boca Raton**. 3 bdrms, 3 bths, pool, $349K U.S. 416-927-1773

Palm Aire-Oaks Circle, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, furn, Indry enste, encl Fla. rm, adj. to pool. 223-9424.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Century Village, spotless 1 bdrm, 1 bth, mn flr, fully furn & equip. 905-625-3189.

N. Miami Beach, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, unique layout, white kosher kit. Showing up 'til Sept. 12th. 416-861-4595 or 305-940-2001.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

West Palm Beach
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT
Large selection of 1,2, and 3 bedroom condos, townhomes and villas.
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(305) 978-8300

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Century, West Palm, req. 1 bdrm, lower, for 3 mos., from Jan. 416-782-7400.

Clean & ress. furn, 1 & 1 1/2 condo, with cac, in **Century Village, West Palm Beach,** from Dec. 1 - April 1. 416-224-5970.

Quadomain or nr it, in Hollywood, 1 bdrm or conv, for Jan. & Feb. or Jan. & Mar. 221-2446

150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION

Wanted: reliable driver to deliver lux. car to Fla. end of Nov. N/smkr, refs. 905-881-8011.

180 OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

Ottawa, Nepean, exec. 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bths, fin bsmt, swimming pl., 2 blks from syn., walking dist. to schools, $245K. Call 613-726-1341 (evgs.)

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Canvassers to call on householders for retailer. Car req'd. Evgs. 6-9, Mon.-Thurs., $13./hr. 416-512-8876.

Driver needed 4 kids, from Bialik to Bayview, 2 afts./wk., reliable, likes children, refs. Contact Andrea, 315-3735.

Mature telephone canvassers req'd for fundraising org. Work from home on escalating comm. basis. Exp. pref. Call (416) 787-7565 or fax: (416) 787-8457.

247 DAY CARE

Day Care - I Care, Thornhill, more for your money. Personal care. Loving, safe & educational environment in home pre-school. In operation since 1988 with ECE teacher, over 15 yrs. exp., limited space, full or part time. Refs., receipts. 905-764-6936.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

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APPLE DOMESTICS
• No Fee to Employer
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• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
(416) 730-0127

Cleaning lady avail. with refs. 782-7592 (early evg.).

Exp. cleaning lady seeks job, houses/apts., refs. 249-8619.

Exper. lady seeks days work, office cleaning or housekeeping, live-out. Call 244-3564.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

MARLA'S DOMESTICS
RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

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People you trust taking care of people you love.
We have live-in and live-out caregivers. We specialize in helping seniors, and people afflicted with Stroke, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
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High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I will keep your home clean & tidy on a regular basis (small offices also) at reas. rates. Call Angie 780-9874, after 5 pm.

Lady will babysit in your home or mine, exper, refs. Call Liana, 631-0399.

Loving & energetic. A babysitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee for the Sponsor. **Excellent Placement Agency, 222-4912.**

Polish Cleaning Service for homes/apts. Call 398-6454.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

An exper. p/t babysitter/hskpr., 2 school-age children, n/smkr., refs. req'd. Ave. Rd./Egl. area. 488-2087, evgs.

Hskpr/nanny, live-out, Mon-Fri, 12 noon - 10 pm, Bath./Sheppard area. Contact Valerie, 416-631-9395.

Live-in nanny/hskpr., 3 kids, n/smkr, min. wage, exper., refs req'd, kosher home. 787-6446.

Nanny wanted to share, 1-3x/wk.,Bath./Centre 905-764-1353.

Part-time Nanny needed, 3 days per wk., own car is an asset, refs. needed. Call 416-492-8626.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Exper. HCA seeks job taking care of elderly, refs. 252-9883.

RN's, RPN's seek jobs in priv. homes, to offer quality nursing care, foot care & palliative care. Affordable Rates. Call 391-0582

A certif HCA seeks job with elderly or disabled,car. 498-0000

259 SENIORS

Driver/Attend./Companion, exper., refs. Chaim, 512-6525.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

***Soulmates Worldwide Jewish Introduction Service!** The last Service you'll ever need! Hundreds of upscale clients.
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SIZEABLE ENCOUNTERS FINALLY! A dating service for above-average sized singles and their admirers. **NO FEAR OF REJECTION! NO RISK!** Call (905) 731-1366.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

SZPIRO-WASSERMAN
Marcel and Janet Szpiro, Jack Wasserman and **Malcolm and Sheila Holtzberg** are delighted to announce the engagement of their children, **Sheryl Rebecca** to **Marc Steven**. Proud grandparents are Regina Newman, Philip Rosenberg, Brenda Wasserman & Sam Holtzberg. Fondly remembered grandparents are Anna Rosenberg, Harry and Sadie Mandel, Sol Wasserman & Shirley Holtzberg

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

Attr, personable prof. male, seeks soulmate. 633-1728.

Attr. widow (in the U.S.) in her 50's wishes to meet a widower from 50 to 70. 716-833-2411.

Educ. prof. male with a good heart looking for an educ. attr, female, 22-25, to live & love life. Lve. msq. 416-576-1266.

PRETENTIOUS? Not me - a widow, 50, (reform) from Hamilton. Instead of the tangibles, I treasure family, loyal friends, compassion & integrity. I'm a nurturer, free-spirited, slightly off the wall & benignly eccentric. If you think you may be my Jewish male counterpart, please elaborate when responding to CJN Box 6963.

Supportive gentleman in his 60's, who thinks he is in his 50's, would be pleased to meet a unique lady in her 50's, who thinks that she is still in her 40's. A close, warm, loving relationship is desired. CJN Box 6960.

Warm, honest, 31 yr old SJM, seeking a meaningful relationship with a SJF. CJN Box 6964

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:
Box # _____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

330 OBITUARIES

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

SJM, attr., late 40's, prof., enjoys tennis, would like to meet a prof. SJF, 35-45, intell., attr., n/smkr., **believes in Jewish values**, enjoys life & is serious about a relationship. Photo if poss. CJN Box 6957.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Are you an ORT Graduate? Do you know anyone who is an ORT Graduate? If so, please call 416-787-0339.Toronto ORT is planning an event to celebrate Israel's and ORT's 50th Anniversary. We'd like to include you.

312 BRIDAL

FOREVER YOURS
Canada's Premiere Bridal Gown Preservation
(416) 703-GOWN

330 OBITUARIES

SONE, Saul - on Aug. 16, 1997, late of 4003 Bayview Ave., #515.
DUSANG, Elaine - on Aug. 20, 1997, late of 73 Thornway Ave.
GINSBERG, Harold - on Aug. 20, 1997, late of 10 Brownstone Circle.
GREENSPOON, Bill - on Aug. 21, 1997, late of 180 Torresdale Ave.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

KIMEL, Rebecca - on Aug.17, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
ROBINSON, Netta - on Aug. 19, 1997, late of 6200 Bathurst St.
LETOFSKY, Louis - on Aug. 20, 1997.
LEV, Jacob - on Aug. 20, 1997, late of 120 Shelborne Ave.
KATHNELSON, Ruth - on Aug. 22, 1997, late of 7 Townsgate Dr.
KORNBLAU, Rose - on Aug. 22, 1997, late of 135 Viewmount Ave.
DAVIDOVA, Anna - on Aug.23, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KOHN, Walter Joseph - on Aug.23, 1997, late of 4 Sunnycrest Rd.
BOOKLISS, Victor - on Aug. 24, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KOPMAN, Yevgenia - on Aug. 24, 1997, late of 130 Shaftesbury Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

ICRF
Israel Cancer Research Fund
Your help will find a cure for cancer!
Donation cards for all occasions
Phone: (416) 487-5246
Rosh Hashanah cards available

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Annie Shore** will take place on **Sunday, Sept. 7/97** at **Dawes Road Cemetery**, Beth Tzedec Section, at 11:45 am. Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
PINCHAS FRIMERMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, 1:00 p.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Slipia Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Rebecca (Becky) Bergstein ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, at 12 noon
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Grand Order of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
CLARA COOPER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stashover Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Harry Gruenstein ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7, 12:30 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Chenstochover Aid Society
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MOISHE GELMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, at 11:30 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Palmerston Avenue Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Mollie Hoffman ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, 11:00 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
3169 St. Clair Avenue East
Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ADAM KONECKI ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, at 10:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HELEN KRONE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, at 10:45 a.m.
Lambton Cemetery
Ostrovtzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
DORA KUMER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, 11:00 a.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
(986 Wilson Avenue)
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
PAUL PINCHAS KURC ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 7th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn
Piotitomash Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Edward Isaac Lipton ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Sholom Cemetery
Grand Order of Israel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
IRVINE HABER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 7th at 12:30 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth Radom Congregation Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BEN ATKINS ז"ל
father of Helen Futerman and Judi Berger
will take place
Sunday, September 7th at 1:00 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Lebovitzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JACK PRICE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7, 12:00 noon
Lambton Mills Cemetery
(Royal York Rd. between Eglinton & Dundas)
Lagover Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ROSE SWARTZ (KANTOR) ז"ל
beloved wife, mother, grandmother
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, at 12:30 p.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Anshei Keltz Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ZEKE SHEINE ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, at 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Judean Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HENRY ZYSHOLZ ז"ל
beloved husband, father & grandfather
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 7th, at 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stashover Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

UNVEILINGS for SUNDAY, SEPT. 7

Yad Vashem Monuments

ISAAC **BENATAR** ז"ל	Bathurst Lawn Cemetery Blue Star Lodge Section (52) 10:30 a.m.
ANDY **KLEIN** ז"ל	Bathurst Lawn Cemetery Beth Emeth Section (3) 12:00 noon
STANLEY **RAKOWSKY** ז"ל	Mount Sinai Cemetery Shaarei Tefillah Section 11:45 a.m.
ALFRED **RICHARDS** ז"ל	Pardes Shalom Cemetery T.H.B.A. Section (P) 12:00 noon
ZOLTAN **VITRIOL** ז"ל	Bathurst Lawn Cemetery Agudas Yisroel Section (17) 10:00 a.m.

UNVEILINGS for SUNDAY, SEPT. 14

MARY **BOWMILE** ז"ל	Mount Sinai Cemetery Pride of Israel Section 11:00 a.m.
TERRY FLO **FISCHER** ז"ל	Beth Tzedec Cemetery Section 9 10:00 a.m.
IZZY **TREFLER** ז"ל	Dawes Road Cemetery Apter Section 10:00 a.m.

(416) 782-8995
Serving Your Community For Over 18 Years

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HENRY KANAREK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 7th at 9:45 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Cemetery
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5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT-TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
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California dreamin' a tough grind for rider

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When Steve Harris does his California dreamin', it isn't thoughts of suntanning and surfing that come to mind.

Instead, he ponders an intricate balancing act that combines studying for an engineering degree, running a horse stable and competing in show jumping events.

The way he has it figured, in the morning he'll attend classes at the University of California at San Diego and in the afternoon he'll head back to his farm home, clean and groom his horses and then ride them around the obstacle course in the back yard. In the evening, he'll prepare for the next day's classes at university.

It's a tough grind, but he's got the energy and ambition to do it. After all, he did it all last year and beginning in mid to late September, Harris, 22, will resume that daunting lifestyle.

A native of California who grew up in Montreal, Harris has caught the equestrian bug. He's had it since he was 12, living with his parents, Gordon and Phylis, in Qualicum Beach on Vancouver Island. One summer back then, he spotted a riding stable and was immediately drawn to it. He wanted to try horseback riding and his parents agreed to take him to the stable. It turned out the stable was for finely tuned show-jumpers, not trail horses, but after boarding one of the beasts, Harris was hooked.

Up and over. Rider and mount easily clear this training hurdle.

"That was it," he recalled. "It was my parents' biggest mistake."

Perhaps, but it can also be seen as Harris' first step in the world of competitive horse jumping. By age 17, he was so involved in the sport that he purchased, with his parents' help, two 5-year-old warmbloods, Lancaster and Giacomo.

"I got them with the idea of bringing them along as young horses and competing with them or selling them," he said.

Four summers ago, Harris and his steeds entered the Canadian jumping circuit in Quebec "to see what I could do. In that year, I placed in pretty much every grand prix. I finished fourth in one, fifth and sixth in others...It was all new to me." But it reinforced his desire to stay in the sport, he said.

His second year was even better. He won the grand prix at Palgrave, finished fourth in Bromont and fifth in Quebec City. He was also getting more consistent in his performances.

Harris' jump up the equestrian ladder got him noticed by the powers that be in the Canadian horse-jumping community. He was approached by the Canadian Equestrian Team and invited to join, which he gladly did. His first international event was the Washington International Horse Show, where he rode as part of Canada's Nations Cup team.

With international competition under his belt, Harris was ready for the Olympic trials, or so he thought. Unfortunately, on day one of the trials, when the obstacles are the easiest, Lancaster clipped a few rails. Even though they bounced back later in the competition, "that was it. I was very upset that I made mistakes, but because the sport was much bigger, better and more developed in Europe, I decided to take Lancaster and go there."

By then, Harris had made contacts in the equestrian world and he received a job offer from John Whittaker, an Englishman who ranks as one of the premier riders in the world. For six months, Harris worked for Whittaker, training horses and competing in equestrian events. Even though the European competitions are more difficult than those in North America, with bigger and broader hurdles, he and Lancaster finished second in the Wales Derby. They went on to a sixth place finish in a class in Linz, Austria as well as 10th in the grand prix (where the hurdles are most difficult), out of 150 European entries.

From England, Harris moved to Belgium where he again trained others' horses. Riding Atilas d'Autan, he finished second in one grand prix and followed that up with fifth and sixth place finishes.

"I brought along a lot of young horses that the breeder sold and I learned an incredible amount. So did Lancaster."

But by then he was riding others' horses more often than his own and he felt it was time to return to Canada.

This past summer, living and working at a farm near Terra Cotta, 90 kilometres northwest of Toronto, Harris participated in several show jumping competitions. The season was something of a disappointment as both Lancaster and Giacomo were recovering from minor injuries that hampered their effectiveness, but which should pose no long-term health effects.

Most recently, at the Halton Hills Horse Show, riding Lancaster, Harris finished 10th in the grand prix event.

The week before at Collingwood, Lancaster was clean in the grand prix, but because Lancaster has been lame much of the summer, Harris didn't enter him in other "trials."

Earlier, his other horse, Giacomo, was second in his open class at the Palgrave show in Quebec.

The horses' showing this summer disappointed Harris, who knows they can do much better. He believes that with continual improvement, he and Lancaster will rejoin the Canadian team and compete in the Olympics.

In the meantime, he's got to make do with modest pay days, which makes life tough for someone with limited means.

"This is a rich man's sport and I'm no rich man," he says.

Harris is constantly on the lookout for corporate or individual sponsors or for horse-owners looking for someone to train their mounts. He's had lots of experience improving the value of jumpers, he points out.

To contact Harris in California (after Sept. 22), call 619-759-1613. Prior to that, he can be reached in Ontario at either 519-833-7095 or 519-833-2230.

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Steve Harris and his horse Giacomo. (Paul Lungen photos)

The Inside Back

Herzl: Man of vision and dreams

By PETER EPHROSS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Zionism at 100

NEW YORK — Even the most casual student of Zionism learns the story of how Theodor Herzl was willing to accept Uganda as the future homeland of the Jewish people.

As is often the case, however, the reality behind this fact about the founder of modern political Zionism is somewhat more complicated than it would appear.

Herzl first became interested in the Jewish question while studying law in the early 1880s. But it wasn't until 1895, when as a journalist from Vienna he witnessed the anti-Semitism surrounding the trial of French Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, that he became convinced of the need for a Jewish homeland.

The following year, he published his famous manifesto *Der Judenstaat* (The Jewish State). In it, Herzl wrote that the Jews' future homeland could be anywhere the Jewish people wanted it to be – but he preferred it to be in the historic land of Israel.

Herzl's ideas did not come out of a vacuum. They emerged from the zeitgeist of nationalism that had swept across Europe in the 19th century.

But if Herzl was a practical man, he was also a visionary. In a later novel titled *Altneuland* (Old-New Land), he wrote about a Palestine in which men and women, Arab and Jew, have equal rights.

He concluded the novel with what became a famous Zionist slogan: "If you will it, it is no dream."

In 1897, he convened the First Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland, the first international gathering of nationalist Jews. The congress adopted what came to be known as the Basel Program, which stated, in part, that Zionism seeks to establish a home for the Jewish people in Palestine secured under public law."

In the following years, as president of the World Zionist Organization, Herzl devoted himself to earning international recognition of Jewish national legitimacy.

When Herzl presented the "Uganda scheme" to the Sixth Zionist Congress in August 1903, therefore, it seemed he did so mainly as a tactical manoeuvre.

He had already realized that support from Britain, then the world's greatest power, was a necessary prerequisite for the Jews to achieve a homeland. Indeed, this was why the Jewish National Fund was incorporated as a British company and why the Fourth Zionist Congress was convened in London.

In June 1902, Herzl travelled to London where he declared that while the Zionist movement was committed to settling in Eretz Yisrael, it would consider plans to alleviate the plight of Jews by any method possible. He later explained that he was specifically referring to Cyprus and the Sinai Peninsula.

Later that year, British Colonial Secretary Joseph Chamberlain rejected the idea of Cyprus, but was intrigued by the Sinai proposal. A commission was formed to study the idea, but when the Egyptian government withdrew its support, so too did Britain.

In April 1903 Chamberlain first raised the possibility of Jewish settlement in British East Africa in an area that is today part of Kenya. Herzl rejected it.

Only after Chamberlain reiterated the idea to the journalist L. J. Greenberg did Herzl begin to see its value. He not only wanted to maintain warm relations between the Zionist movement and Britain, he also apparently believed that the granting of an autonomous Jewish settlement in East Africa might serve as the first step toward the political recognition of the Jewish nation.

It is not clear if Herzl's move won him any diplomatic points.

It certainly didn't among the Zionist delegates from Russia at the Sixth Zionist Congress, some of whom walked out when the Uganda plan was discussed. Herzl attempted to win them back by declaring at the congress' final session the words of the famous Psalm 137, "If I forget thee O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its cunning."

He managed to convince the Zionist Greater Council in Vienna in 1904 of the sincerity of his intentions to establish a Jewish state in Eretz Yisrael.

The story provides a window through which to see the founder of modern political Zionism: pragmatic, unafraid of controversy and above all, dedicated to giving his life for the creation of a homeland for the Jewish people.

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PEACH NOODLE KUGEL

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2 cups cottage cheese
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup whiskey
12 oz. wide flat egg noodles
1/4 lb. butter or margarine, melted
4 large eggs, lightly beaten
2 tbsp. cinnamon
4 medium peaches, diced
1 cup raisins
1 cup brown sugar

In large pot of salted boiling water, cook noodles about 10 minutes. Drain in a colander.

In a large mixing bowl, combine all ingredients except brown sugar. Fold well.

Bake in a 375°F oven for 25 minutes. Sprinkle the brown sugar generously to cover the top. Bake another 10 minutes. Serves: 10.

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

I haven't held a job since my first child was born 11 years ago. I can type, file, answer phones and use a computer. I used to be a secretary but I've heard there aren't jobs for secretaries anymore. Maybe that's why I'm not getting any job offers. Maybe my resume is all wrong.

Dear Reader,

Today many businesspeople have learned to work without secretarial or administrative assistance yet these types of jobs are still the most widely available jobs in the market. Women and men who perform this type of work have modernized themselves to become office service coordinators or business assistants.

When you prepare your resume, says Rachel Lefkowitz in *Wow! Resumes for Administrative Careers (McGraw-Hill 1997)*, "you're free to create new titles for yourself if your jobs justifiably deserve them." But be careful she cautions. "Make sure it's a reasonable title that your previous employer would agree with. The last thing you want is for a prospective employer to get contradicting information when following up on employer references."

The other suggestion she makes is to focus your resume on your skills and strengths by using a functional style resume.

Wow! Resumes for Administrative Careers can provide an easy method for developing the resume that will get the attention you want.

Finally, while it is still acceptable to mail your resume and cover letter in a white, 9x12 inch envelope, don't be afraid of sending it by fax.

Job Search is a monthly column by career educator Lisa Galet Klug. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

YOU CAN NOW SEND YOUR LETTERS BY E-MAIL
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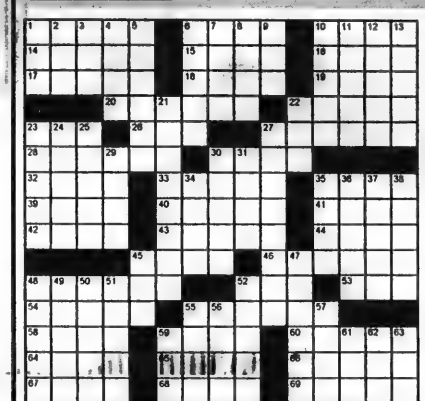
CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Offerings often
6. Chagall
10. Lot's wife
14. Ta'am (Eng)
15. Sabin vaccine
16. "Day" Writer
17. Bimah
18. Days of Chanukah
19. Seder action
20. Abraham's son
22. Hebrew month
23. Methuselah
26. Solomon's mine product
27. Bigthana's cohort
28. Adloyadah
30. Gangster "Dandy __"
32. Mountain
33. Comic Soupy
35. Pierced as sign of bondsman
39. Barrett
40. Defeat
41. Ribicoff and Geiger
42. Torah holders
43. Amulet
44. Kamen or Freidman
45. King and queen
46. Fourth plague?
48. Kol Nidre chanter
52. Prayer for dew
53. Ashdod to Be'ersheba dir.
54. Rothstein nickname
55. Hamlisch
58. Make aliyah
59. Adam's apple
60. Swallowed by a whale
64. Eve's boy
65. Minor Prophet
66. Say the Viddui
67. Mishmash (Eng)
68. Ramat Gan specialty
69. Comdian Youngman

Down

1. Depot (abbr)
2. "Barney Miller" __ Linden
3. Hester Street time zone
4. Village of Simeon
5. Hellenistic or Byzantine
6. De Mille specialty
7. Richard Tucker solo
8. Shemini Atzeret hope
9. 151
10. Pesach dinner
11. Breathing
12. Speech in Simon production
13. Dentures
21. "The Nanny" star
22. __ Aviv
23. Sills specialty
24. Bitter work
25. Acted the shikker
27. Fastday
29. Oy Vey!
30. Sukkah decorations
31. Myra, pianist
34. Israeli city
35. Jacob after the angel
36. Death notices
37. Finial additions
38. Lauder
45. Joe's Bro
47. Passover guest?
48. Abraham once
49. Asherites or Gadites
50. Desert cool spots
51. Bohr
52. Samson's strength
55. Marceau
56. Bohr research
57. Teruah
59. Tallis holder
61. Not: comb. form
62. Columnist Landers
63. Dreidel letter

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 54.)

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'Mo-om this doesn't fit me anymore'

Shop for kids the easy way

By SHERYL HALPERN
Special to The CJN

Summer must be just about over. The back to school clothing sales are everywhere. Time to put down the iced tea and the mystery novel and think about school outfits.

I find that if I do my homework, the process of organizing school wardrobes can be almost painless (no last-minute shopping marathons, some last-minute name-taping).

How to begin? Empty the closets of all last year's school clothes (whether mix and match coordinates or standard-issue uniforms) and get everyone to try everything on – gym pants, tunics, dresses, turtlenecks. Make it a (slightly weird) fashion show. Find out what's been outgrown since June (lots). Make lists of what you need.

Keep it simple. Plan ahead for those grim mornings when nobody seems to get dressed on time by making sure that everything that gets pulled out of the closet matches. Buy in batches (three identical pairs of trousers or joggers, two identical jumpers or skirts, six identical pairs of socks) in colors that coordinate.

The kids will find this "boring." Boring is good. (Buy that one must-have pair of painter pants or that special sweater, and you'll live to regret it. It will (a) get torn (b) be in the wash or (c) be impossible to find when its owner wants it at 7:30 in the morning.)

If you find real bargains, buy them in the right size *and* one size larger, so that you're prepared for the mid-year growth spurt ("Mo-om! This doesn't fit me any more!"). This goes for "school shoes," too – which seem to go on sale only at back to school time. (Buy dark-toned shoes. Kids always scuff their way home.)

Don't worry about versatility. It would be nice if school clothes could double as play and party clothes – but that could only happen in a world where all students were *extremely neat* and schools did not feature hot pizza days and didn't teach writing (ink and marker stains) or art (poster paint stains – my favorite).

My daughter's closet has three strictly segregated wardrobes: school, play and "good wear." I'd hang the clothes on different-colored hangers (the experts say this helps) but I'm not *that* organized.

One word: Laundry. How many trips to the washing machine do you want to make? When I can, I try to get enough T-shirts, turtlenecks and socks or tights to last a full school week — and get good quality pants, tunics and sweaters in dark, hide-the-dirt shades.

Gym clothes are a special case, since they *always* need to go straight into the wash (sometimes they jog there on their own). I've learned to buy as many gym outfits as there are gym days.

Three words: Lost and found. Try to keep all that new school clothing out of that bin at the end of the hallway by labeling everything that could get tossed into a locker or onto a bench, from hats and sweaters to shoes. (Remember, though, that you're basically doing damage control. Somehow, a few meticulously labeled items will get lost.)

You can do it the easy way – mark names on the clothing care tags with an indelible pen (but be aware that tags tear off easily.) You can do it the hard way – with sew-on or iron-on (my choice) nametapes. Try not to do it at the last moment. (Somehow I always end up nametaping madly at 1 a.m. But I wouldn't recommend it.)

Finish this particular school assignment, and you can settle down – by, say, late September – to fairly easy to manage mornings. (Now, if I could work on my husband's "casual Friday" outfits...)

On the cover:

True Temptation! Mondi explodes for Fall with their new modern direction and luxury fabrics

For those who like to play it casually cool: Mondi black pinstriped pant suit with polo sweater (jacket $595; pants $295; sweater $275)

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Fall Fashion

Isa Designs provide stylish snoods

Isa Designs' new line of headwear in 40 styles and a variety of colors, with patented extensions in 21 shades, are designed to add confidence and dignity by enhancing the appearance of women who wear them.

Isa Lefkowitz credits her exposure to Orthodox Judaism for the original idea for her business.

Lefkowitz became religious while travelling in Israel eight years ago. She immediately noticed that the traditional snoods worn by married Orthodox women lacked style.

She desinged an elegant, appliqued, black velvet snood and presented it to her rabbi's wife whose friends clamored for more. Probably never before has the snood received such imaginative treatment. Lefkowitz's business was off and running.

It didn't immediately occur to her that the needs of Orthodox Jewish wives were nearly identical to those of women experiencing hair loss. That notion came to her while she was volunteering at a hospital, working with cancer patients. Lefkowitz brought in some of her designs and saw how they brightened the looks and attitudes of those women who wore them.

"Many women feel that the loss of hair from chemotherapy or from alopecia areata (an illness that causes permanent hair loss) and other diseases is worse than the disease itself," says Lefkowitz, who won an international design competition that vaulted her to positions at Guess Jeans and Beverly Hills Polo Club. "My clients tell me they've never felt so good as when they're wearing my designs and that positive attitude really helps their healing process."

"Isa is so in tune with what these women are going through and her hats make them feel wonderful," says Renee Blatt who works with women who are undergoing chemotherapy at Torrence (CA) Memorial Medical Centre in San Diego, where Isa Designs is based.

Starting in her parents' home, Isa Designs now has a factory in downtown San Diego where she produces and ships hundreds of hats each week. She can hardly keep up with the demand as her own catalog customers join those referred by support groups, hospitals, wig boutiques, hair replacment establishments and cancerr survivor's catalogues.

Lefkowitz's new catalogue is available in slightly different versions for each of her markets.

"From the outside, I am marketing to totally different groups," she says. "But really, their needs are the same. Whether Orthodox wives or women with hair loss, these women want to cover their heads in a way that looks totally natural and makes them feel wonderful about the way they look."

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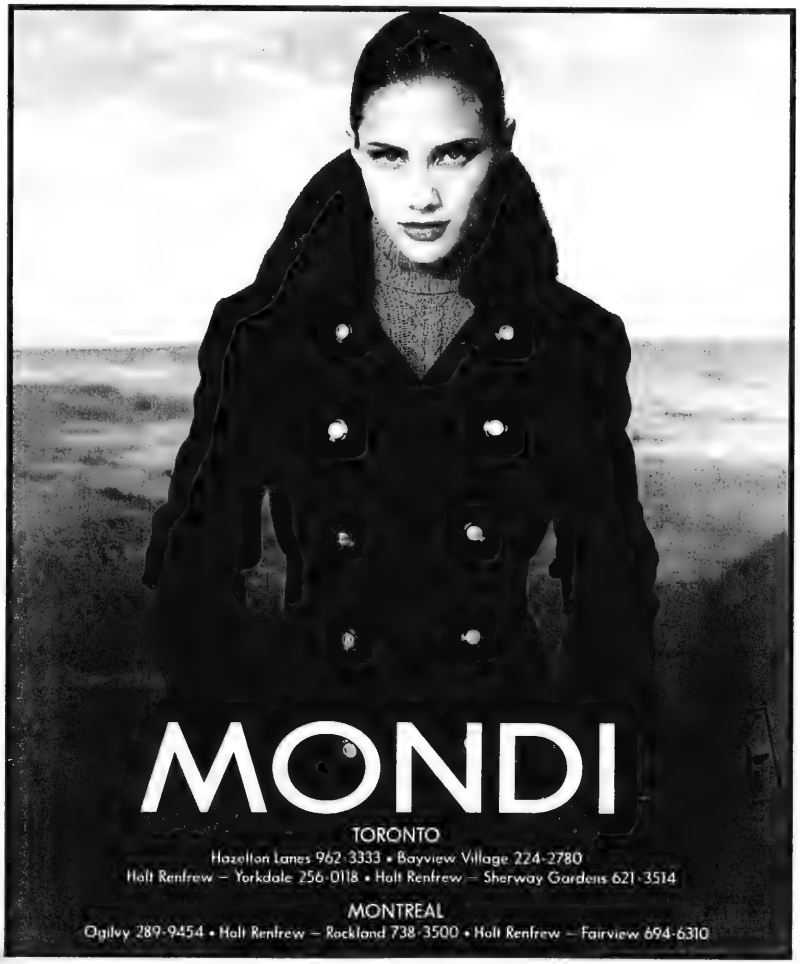

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The fountain of youth?

By CAROL BIRKEN-WISE
Special to The CJN

Cellex-C, is likely the most exciting, non-prescription skin care product available today and could possibly be the answer to our universal obsession with aging.

The true science behind Cellex-C is that, unlike other vitamin C skin care products, only Cellex-C incorporates L-Ascorbic acid (vitamin C), zinc sulphate, and L-tyrosine that work synergistically to provide astounding results. Simply, a unique cocktail that claims to retard the aging process.

Thanks to breakthrough vitamin C research and a formula developed by Loraine Faxon Meisner, chief of preventive medicine at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, a stabilized form of L-ascorbic acid that can be absorbed into skin has been developed.

L-ascorbic acid is the only form of vitamin C the body can recognize and utilize to stimulate collagen synthesis. It is essential for the growth and maintenance of connective tissue, thus, vitamin C promotes the appearance of smoother, firmer more youthful looking skin.

Cellex-C was created through a desire to formulate a product that worked proactively rather than re-actively. Alpha hydroxy acids and vitamin A derivatives are reactive. They produce skin-smoothing effects by causing a slight irritation which results in skin peeling. This, in turn, causes skin cells to divide more rapidly to make up for loss of cells from the protective outer layer.

Cellex-C achieves its results by helping to reinforce the outer layer of the skin's natural defence against oxy radical attack (a chemical reaction to environmental conditions such as sunlight, smoking and pollution that cause skin aging). Cellex-C actually neutralizes the oxy radical before the damage begins.

The company promotes its results with untouched before and after photos. Expression lines are minimized, as well as discoloration and crows feet around the eye area. It takes approximately six to eight months of using Cellex-C daily to achieve full results.

Although many cosmetic products contain vitamin C derivatives, they do not produce the same visible skin-enhancing effects as Cellex-C. The reason — not only must vitamin C be in the form of L-ascorbic acid, it must also be in a specific concentration to allow absorption by the skin. Cellex-C is sold through dermatologists, plastic surgeons and licensed skin care professionals. The product is also available at The Anti Aging Shop in Toronto.

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RELANCE LINE AWAKENS DESIRE
New this Fall from Relance is its Desire/Pleasure line which invites women to discover the pleasure of dressing like a dandy or Jane Austen. Pictured here is a minidress in plum mottled pane.

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Fall Fashion

Mirabelli seduces

For Fall '97, Franco Mirabelli seduces. With body-hugging knits and stretchy fabrics, the Franco Mirabelli collection has taken on a new edge.

The line between the signature collection and the M line has blurred. The new power suit is the basis of the collection, but the attitude is sexy, with stretchy pieces mixed into every fabric group.

The latest high-tech fabrics add a twist to Mirabelli's long lean suiting. Lycra fabrics are the truning point, with rib knits and stretch pieces adding flexibility ot day dressing.

The newest silhouettes: maxi coats, form-fitting dresses, belted knit jackets, flare leg pants, ankle-length skirts and super-short mini skirts.

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Cutting-edge designs at ready-to-wear show

Designers Ontario recently announced the lineup for the 1998 Spring/Summer Matinée Fashion Ready-To-Wear show Oct.28 and 29 at The Docks, 11 Polson St. Toronto.

The 16 designers are Jean Airoldi, Brian Bailey, Mimi Bizjak, Marilyn Brooks, Misura by Joeffer Caoc, Simon Chang, Christian Chenail for Muse, Michel Desjardins, David Dixon, Patricia Fieldwalker, Ron Leal, Dina Merulla for Boz International, Franco Mirabelli, Roots by Michael Budman & Don Green, Crystal Siemens and Feizal Virani.

The show will include a new labels segment featuring: Noel Crisotomo, Majak & Staffiere by Ewa Majak and Anna Staffiere, Serena DeParis and Zrihen & Chun by David Zrihen and Lawrence Wong.

"With this roster, the Matinée Fashion Ready-To-Wear will not only have great representation from new and established designers across the country," says Franco Mirabelli, president of Designers Ontario, "but cutting edge collections that will help make the event world class.

The Matinée Fashion Foundation is a granting body set up to assist talented Canadian fashion designers to reach the next level of their career. Comprised of knowledgeable retail and fashion industry individuals, the Matinée Fashion Foundation aims to enhance Canada's fashion industry.

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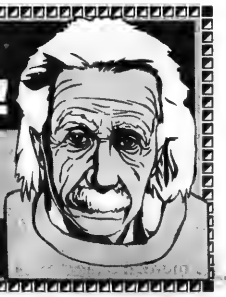

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Give clothes new lease on life

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

Re-dressings can give clothing that no longer fits or is out of date a new lease on life.

A clothing design company run by designer Krysta Siuda, Re-dressings transforms old clothing into new wearable items.

Many people have special items in their closet that they can't wear because they've changed sizes or the clothing in no longer fashionable, Siuda said. "We rework existing clothing into new styles and designs."

She has converted jackets into vests, and created dresses out of two skirts, she said. "There are unlimited possibilities. A person can bring any fabric item [from] their own wardrobe. Anything is workable."

She said her design service appeals to people who want high quality, well-fitting, individualized items of clothing. "The focus for me is on quality and creativity rather than uniformity and high volume production."

Re-dressing is a home service and Siuda offers wardrobe consultations, clothing redesign and design, as well as alteration and repairs, all in her clients' homes.

She can incorporate other fabrics into the reworked clothing as well, she said, noting that she prefers using natural fibers such as linen, cotton, silk and hemp.

Siuda who has been sewing for 30 years, has studied tailoring, drafting, patterning and draping at George Brown College and Ryerson Polytechnic University. Initially she worked in theatre, designing costumes, because she was interested in creating "one-of-a-kind unique pieces," she said.

At one community theatre the costume budget was so low she had to create new costumes out of old ones, she said. "We could make our limited budget go very far."

This experience led her to offer a similar service to private clients, she explained. "The theatre awakened me to the potential of the kind of work that could be done with reworking existing clothing into new designs."

Many people don't enjoy shopping and her service offers them an alternative which saves them both time and money, and provides them with a better fitting garment than something off the rack, Siuda said.

"In most cases a re-dressing costs significantly less than buying a new item of comparable quality... It will end up being made for you and your contours."

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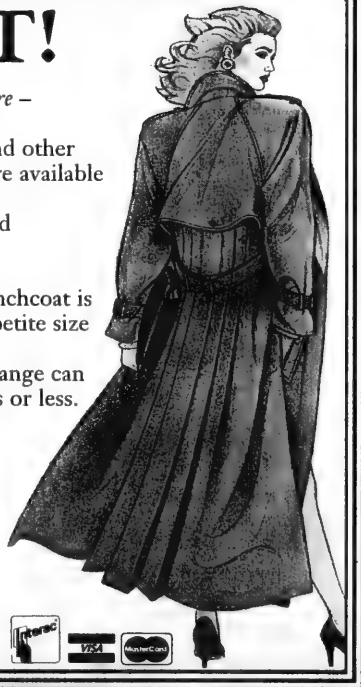

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Fall Fashion

Hairstylist livens up out-of-style hairpieces

By REVA KAISER
Student Intern

Among the fashionable boutiques and trendy cafes lining the busy streets of Yorkville, one storefront salon is becoming increasingly popular with Orthodox women.

Frank and Claudio Pascuzzo, the owners of Fratelli (Italian for brothers), have been operating their hair salon on Cumberland Street for seven years, giving high-end haircuts to clients who appreciate their skill and experience, and can afford the pricier cut.

But in recent years, Frank Pascuzzo has seen an increase in his Orthodox clientele, who come to his salon to have their wigs styled and cut.

"If you take a wig that may not be a high-end wig and give it a high-end haircut," says Pascuzzo, "you'd be surprised with what you can get out of it."

About 15 percent of this year's clientele are women who wear wigs. Pascuzzo attributes the recent increase of these patrons to both word of mouth, as well as an awareness in the Orthodox community that there are different things one can do with a wig; many new, fashionable styles can liven up any hairpiece.

Five years ago, Madelaine Greenberg was the first Orthodox woman to bring her wig to Pascuzzo, after being impressed and satisfied with the haircuts he gave her children.

Madelaine Greenberg was the first to bring her wig to Pascuzzo.

"The idea of going to a stylist," she says, "is that he's more creative, more in tune with trying to achieve your look." Greenberg praises not only his creative talent and expertise, but also his sensitivity to Orthodox Judaism.

"Frank has an honest-to-goodness love for his craft and enjoys making you look great. You know you're getting 150 percent from him — in effort, energy and interest."

Pascuzzo does not find much difference between hair still attached to the scalp and hair made into a wig, except the need to consider the added bulk of hair tied up under the wig.

Whether he's cutting hair or a wig, Pascuzzo first sits the client in the consultation chair and works with the client to figure out what style will look best. He takes into consideration such features as profile and height in designing a style, because they all contribute to the final look.

After the consultation, Pascuzzo spray-wets the hair (most clients bring in their wigs clean, but if necessary, they can be cleaned on the premises) and generally cuts and styles it while on the client, realizing, of course, that many of these clients need a style that they can wear many different ways.

The whole strength is coming up with the style, Pascuzzo says. "We sit together and work together — a true professional works that way."

Trained in a Toronto hairdressing school, he worked part time while in school, and then returned to the salon after-hours to work for free because he enjoyed it so much. Then, a year-and-a-half after graduation, he opened up his first salon. That was 22 years ago.

Pascuzzo's specialty had always been fine, problem hair, and because of that, he had a lot of cancer patients coming to him. That led to the occasional wig which some cancer patients wear because of severe hair loss.

Working with a wig and making the client happy is a challenge. Many of his colleagues do not work with wigs, since they find the patrons fussy, Pascuzzo says, but he loves it. "That makes me a better hairdresser." Fussy clients don't really scare him. "I'm sure of what I'm doing — even if I do a major cut and I'm terrified, I don't let it show."

After the cut, Claudio Pascuzzo does the coloring, if the client wants. He's had 19 years experience in coloring, and is an expert in matching skin tones and eye color, which is very important in getting the color to look natural. As opposed to sitting in a salon for hours, a wig makes life a little easier, because the wig can be left in the salon for the treatment and then picked up a few days later.

Frank Pascuzzo is proud of the wide range of his clientele — he can have three generations in the same family as clients at one time — because it demonstrates his flexibility and ability to work with anyone and any kind of hair.

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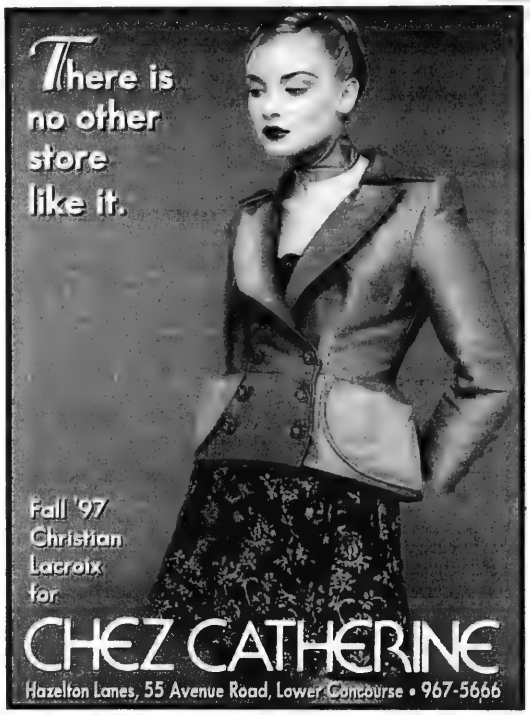
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The Hockey Sweater:

My kids *choose* to wear uniforms

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

My sons will need some new clothes for school – every pair of pants they own is missing the knees. And I'd love to outfit them with a smart new wardrobe.

But you won't find me browsing in Gap Kids or any other children's clothing stores. There's no point checking out the latest back-to-school fashions.

My kids wear uniforms.

Not the private school variety with the grey flannel pants and the jackets with the school crests. We're talking about a self-imposed dress code. My 10- and 7-year-old sons have their own self-styled uniforms. They basically wear the same thing every day.

How ironic. Growing up in Montreal I had to wear a school uniform and I hated it. Public or private school, just about every girl in the city donned the same dreadful navy tunic – box pleated or V-neck with a sash. I wore pretty well the same outfit day in and day out for 12 long years ad nauseam.

But monotony is what my sons want. Almost everything they wear is black or navy blue and, most important of all, every item of clothing – T-shirts, shorts and sweats – has the emblem of the Toronto Blue Jays, Maple Leafs or Raptors. No logo no go.

Evan, 7, and Matthew, 5, are happy in their new uniforms. [Barbara Silverstein photo].

Needless to say, I do a lot of one-stop shopping for them and I buy in bulk. Not that my kids would mind wearing the same pants or shirt for a week or two. Clean shmean. It's cool that counts for them.

And in the hierarchy of cool in my home, the Raptors rank higher than the Blue Jays. But the Toronto Maple Leafs rule. Which is a killer for this former Montrealer. I never switched allegiance from the Montreal Canadians.

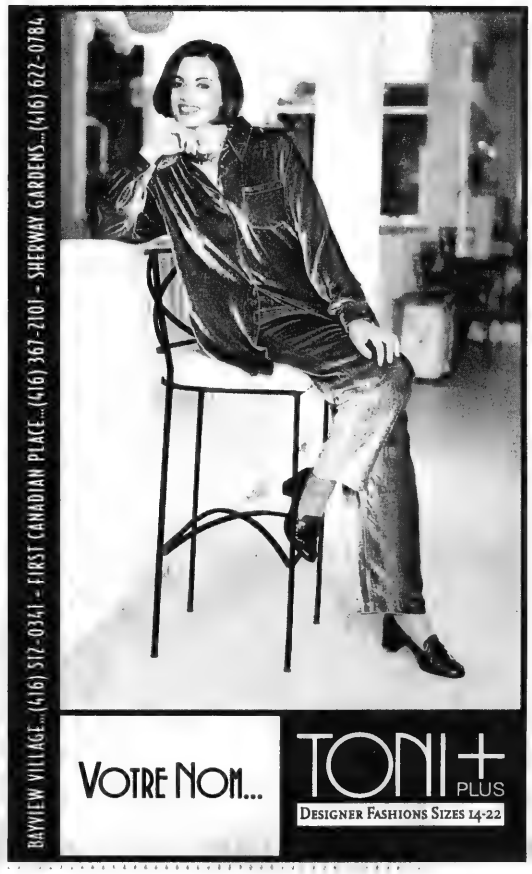
Supporting the Leafs, historically the Habs' arch rivals, completely rubs against the grain of my upbringing. Of all the NHL teams, the Leafs were the most hated when I was growing up.

I confess that when my kids started lobbying for the licensed sports clothing a couple of years ago, I stocked up on Raptors and Blue Jays stuff, but I went easy on the Leaf items. Very easy. And that turned out to be disastrous last year.

Despite his lineage, my oldest son Leigh has become an ardent Leafs fan. He quietly began hoarding whatever Leaf clothing was available, though there wasn't much. This did not go unnoticed by my middle son Evan. He looks up to his older brother, the authority on cool in our house, and copies him at every opportunity.

Naturally Evan wanted to wear the Leaf stuff too. The boys started fighting over these clothes because they were in such short supply. Every

[Cont'd. on page B9]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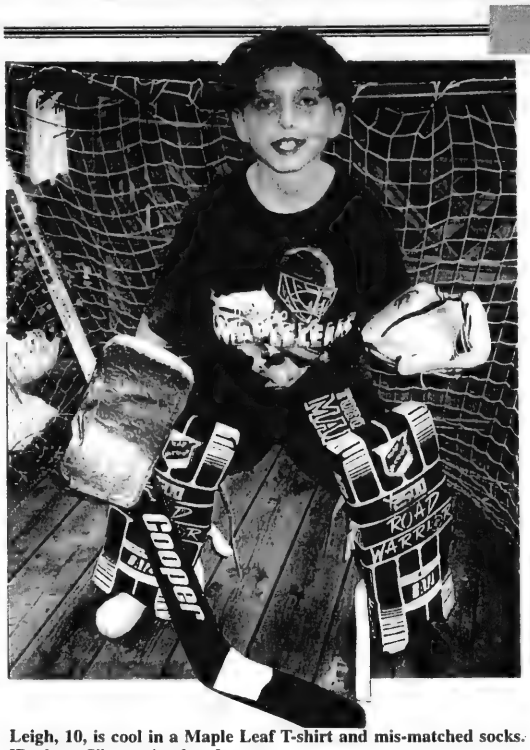

Leigh, 10, is cool in a Maple Leaf T-shirt and mis-matched socks. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Self-styled uniforms

[Cont'd. from page B8]

morning I would find myself breaking up a tug of war – or worse – over a pair of sweat pants or a T-shirt.

I knew there was no way I was going through that nonsense again this school season and there was only one solution. When I went out to replenish the supply of sweat pants last week, I stuck to one color and one logo.

No self-respecting Montrealer should ever do this, but I swallowed my pride and in the name of family harmony, I bought 15 pairs of sweat pants with the Maple Leafs' logo and 10 matching T-shirts, enough for every day of the week in case I get behind with the laundry.

Of course with the kids wearing the same thing every day, the teachers will probably think I never do laundry. They'll probably do regular lice checks on the kids.

I also bought some pants for my youngest son Matthew, 5. With two older brothers, he mainly wears hand-me-downs, but lately he's been clamoring for Maple Leaf stuff too.

This might sound a little bit devious and calculating, but I'm really hoping my kids will grow so sick and tired of their Maple leaf "uniforms" – familiarity breeds contempt so to speak – that one day they'll beg to wear something different.

When the back-to-school shopping season rolls around next year, you may just find me in the children's clothing shops checking out the latest children's fashions.

But I'm not holding my breath. In all likelihood I'll be back at the same checkout with my pile of Maple Leafs logo clothing, mumbling to myself, "Next year at the Gap."

Tommy Hilfiger

The hottest name for kids

By ANITA SZABADI-GOTTESMAN
Special to The CJN

Oh Tommy can you hear me? Tommy can you see me? Who is Tommy any way?

I think we all know him by now. His first name is Tommy, not Thomas, and he has a pretty funky, foreign-sounding surname — Hilfiger. He doesn't vary much in his color scheme — mainly navy blue, white, red and a medium grey. Tommy is a sportsman with a line of Tommy Sport, and a patriot, often incorporating the Canadian and American flags in his work.

Tommy Hilfiger has emerged as the season's hottest name brand. Long gone is the discrete Pierre Cardin or Leo Chevalier logo of my day — the biggest logo was a two-inch by two-inch leather belt loop softly proclaiming Howick jeans. Enter the six-inch high letters spread across Tommy Hilfiger items.

I wonder what the fascination of wearing someone else's name is all about. Teenagers and 30-somethings alike seem to have caught the bug. From T-shirts to sweatshirts to gym bags and footwear, Tommy stalks us everywhere. While retail price points are high, according to my teenage son, the quality and styling is there. He is quick to point out that there is a complete denim collection including jeans and chambray shirts with small logos on breast and back pockets.

Tommy's own scent

Tommy has his own scent as well. It is packaged in a signature square bottle with a silver cap, and wrapped, of course, in the mandatory red, blue and white box. The scent is light and slightly fruity. It is a men's cologne or after shave, which was a point of interest to me when my son (who does not as yet shave) wanted to take his hard earned babysitting money and buy himself a bottle to go with his Tommy T-shirt. (That's as far as I've been willing to contribute — he has now started saving for Tommy jeans).

He slapped some cologne on his neck, consulted with the chatty salesperson and carefully counted out close to $50. Not much change was returned.

His life was complete as she slipped his purchase into a mini Tommy shopping bag. Several applications later, I must say I enjoy the fragrance which permeates the house long after he has left for school.

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Lea's Skin Care Clinic:

Taking care of your skin

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

The owner of Lea's Skin Care Clinic goes to great lengths to make her clients feel comfortable at the salon. "I want them to feel at home," she says.

Lea Stern — she prefers to be called Lea — recently relocated her clinic from Centrepoint mall to more spacious quarters at 390 Steeles Ave. W.

The carpeted waiting room, with its wall-to-wall pictures and television, looks like a living room. And that's by design Lea says. "I treat my clients like friends not numbers."

The salon is open every day to accommodate clients who come from as far as Buffalo.

With two assistants on hand, Lea's Skin Care Clinic offers full cosmetic care which includes body waxing, electrolysis, facials, manicures and pedicures.

She prides herself on the cleanliness of the salon. "I am a fanatic about hygiene. I even take the towels home every night and wash them myself because I don't trust a laundry service."

Lea, who has been practising cosmetology in the Toronto area for 25 years, says she is always taking workshops to upgrade her skills and to learn the newest techniques.

Keep those wrinkles away as long as you can

Lea Stern

"In this business there are lots of changes. I owe it to clients to get the best training possible."

She studied cosmetic chemistry in Italy, where she learned to formulate natural moisturizers and other creams made of fruits, herbs and oils.

Lea advises people to have a facial, which she calls deep cleaning, with every change of season. Four times a year, she says, is the minimal number, and she recommends that those who can afford it should have facials more often.

She also uses glycolic acid for skin peelings, which are carried out over five to six sessions. This treatment removes dead cells, leaving "beautiful clear new skin."

Lea says people should refrain from using soap which dries out the natural oils of the skin. Moisturizers need not be expensive, she says, noting that despite the hype there are no miracle creams.

She stresses that the most important way of preserving the skin is deep cleaning because the skin gets clogged from the dirt in the air, and without proper cleaning it accelerates the wrinkling of the skin.

Proper skin hygiene can postpone the onset of wrinkles Lea says.

"We're all going to get old. We're all going to get wrinkles. But we don't have to get them sooner than we should."

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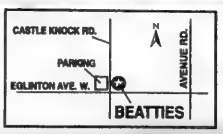

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Fall Fashion

Beauty SHOP

By Carol Birken-Wise

Get into the swing of fall with bold new colors. Make a statement – there is nothing wishy washy about this season. Eyes will be sultry and yes, very sexy. Full provocative lips shimmer and shine, while nails are covered by anything with a metallic edge and invite you to be daring and try a little sparkle.

Follow some serious deep cleansing regimes, because your pores are likely clogged from the humidity of the summer months. You might also want to choose a more richly formulated moisturizer if your skin is beginning to feel dry. Continue to wear sun block as the UV rays are still damaging.

Keep up your diet and exercise routines, even though you are not wearing revealing clothing – you want to stay healthy and keep your skin looking vibrant. Drink at least eight glasses of water a day, it really makes a difference.

Carol's Tips

Skin Care — Prevent your skin from feeling dry and tight by starting your fall cleansing regime early. Lack of humidity in the air will cause dryness. Replace the lack of moisture with silky, skin-nutritious creams. Exfoliate to help remove the dead cells on the surface of your skin. Do this once a week and if your budget allows, treat yourself to a professional facial.

Chanel's vitamin rich Hydra Serum will revitalize your skin and provide instant, long-lasting hydration. Its oil free, non-greasy formula is designed to combat dehydration caused by harsh weather, sun, stress or air travel. Ultima II launches Vital Radiance, a unique skin perfecting treatment. This nourishing moisturizer helps improve the condition of your skin. It softens lines and will restore your skin to a radiant healthy glow. Available in October at all Ultima II counters. Biotherm introduces Biosource, an instant cleansing foam that works for all skin types and quickly eliminates all impurities in one quick step.

Foundation — The foundation you choose should make your skin look flawless and the color should blend with your natural skin tone. Apply it sparingly and blend well. Christian Dior's new Smoothing Creme-to-Powder Compact Foundation is great for touch ups and full coverage – it's your choice. Its texture is rich as creme, yet velvety as powder. It is easy to apply and travels well. It even absorbs excess oil to help prevent shine. For those long days, try L'Oreal's new Color Endure; it gives great coverage and is touch up free.

Lancome's Eau De Teint water based formula provides an ultra-natural youthful look. Fresh, light weight coverage, all in one little bottle. The new computerized Elizabeth Arden Custom Color technology will not only identify and match your perfect color right before your eyes, but will also save shade information for future purchases. This amazing service will be available mid-August at The Bay, Fairview, with staggered openings at five other Bay locations this Fall.

Cheek Color — From Elizabeth Arden comes a cool new compact in 10 gorgeous shades. Non-streaking, fade-proof colors blend beautifully to give your face a healthy glow. Don't miss great new shades from Lancome's Blush Subtil (oil-free powder) and Pommette (silky creme). Dust or blend high on your cheekbone and remember the golden rule – less is more.

Eyes — This season, eyes have a certain mystery. Create your own sultry look with exquisite new shades of the season. Lancome brings us Creme Powder Eye Color Duo in four spectacular shades and Le Stylo Waterproof – an eyeliner that really stays on! Chanel intrigues us with its fabulous Basic Eye Color compact. Create a smoky mauve eye brightened with silvery metallic accents. For thick movie star lashes, try Chanel's Double Lash Mascara — two dramatic cake mascaras of black and white. The white acts as a primer that plumbs and thickens lashes and the black provides definition and curl. The result is simply amazing!

Lips — Lips will return to classic shades ranging from soft and feminine to bold and bright. Chanel's "nude" liner will add definition to any color choice and top up all shades with their Black and White lip gloss compact, black to add intensity and white to soften – great fun. Crayon Grande is a fabulous new lipstick from L'Oreal. Beautiful colors and perfect for a quick touch up.

Hair — Hair shines with rich shades of brown while bangs are the main ingredient for your exciting fall face, says stylish designer, Daniel at Salon Daniel (25 Bellair). Hair Mascara by Dior, presents three new shades, fresh green, garnet red and ebony – what a smile maker. L'Oreal introduces Studio Line Senses to enhance the feel, look and scent of your tresses.The Feel – better texture, The Look – liquid shine and hold, The Scent – hair freshness.

Nails — Your nails will look their best well manicured with tips slightly squared. Choose from a variety of strong thrilling colors from Lancome, grey, steel, and khaki dipped in mother-of-pearl, just to name a few. Be wild and whimsical, make your nails your best fashion accessory. Revlon introduces a progressive line of nail care products called Nail Builders. No matter what condition your nails are in, splitting, breaking, peeling, this collection can restore them to a strong healthy state.

Fragrance — Fragrance will always enhance. Choose a light fresh scent to romance your favorite sweetie. This season, there are two particularly delicious scents for your special guy. Christian Dior introduces Dune for men. This green, oceanic and woody fragrance takes its cue from sap of trees — yes, back to nature. It's available in aftershave lotion and aftershave balm. Chanel's Pour Monsieur is discreetly elegant with its fresh and spirited citrus composition. It is perfect for the man who enjoys a light yet long-lasting scent.

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Brian Bailey long, wing collar strip jacket and black Venitian slim pant (right) and Emanuel Ungaro stretch three button jacket with flat front trouser and soft leopard print vest (below.)

Votre Nom- Paris exclusive in plus sizes to Toni Plus (left) and from Ellen Tracy Company a sepia pea coat with sepia plaid cuffed trouser (below.)

Browns are in for Fall '97

For the Fall '97 season, the main decision everyone will be making is how they prefer their coffee!

The fashion palette for the early part of the season looks like a coffee house menu with every type of coffee shade shown from cafe latte, cappucino, mochaccino to espresso, complete with sprinklings of cinammon.

To complement this theme, Toni Plus introduces new line Ellen Tracy Company and Emmanuel Ungaro Liberti to its currently carried plus size collections from Brian Bailey, Ellen Tracy and Nygard Signature Collection.

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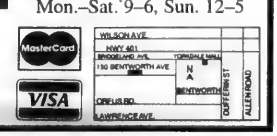

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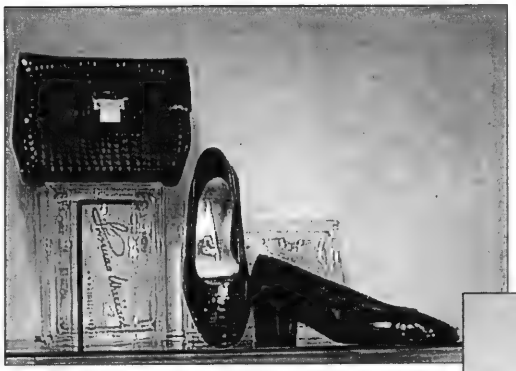
Marquis Shoes Toronto's "best kept secret" . . . for how long?



With very little fanfare, a small ladies' shoe store on Yonge Street is quietly celebrating its 10th anniversary. The "quiet" part is just fine with owner Howard Share — as long as his clients "quietly" tell their friends.

Invariably they do. Entering its eleventh year, Marquis has become the prime destination of women who want up-to-date, extremely fashionable footwear but need a "comfort fit" that many shoe stores can't provide.

"There are a lot of beautiful shoes out there that fit Cinderella just perfectly," says Share. In the real world, however, women who shoehorn their way into glass slippers usually wind up at the podiatrist.

Wide range of sizes

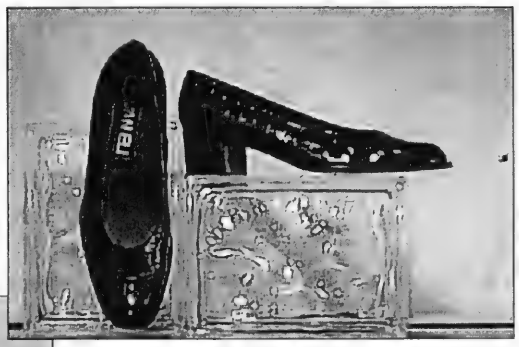
Share's "secret" to good fitting is to offer the latest styles in a wide range of sizes: 4 1/2 to 11B, 7 1/2 to 11AA, and 6 1/2 to 10C and D. It's a formula that works: no ritz and glitz, just fashion forward footwear at very down-to-earth prices.

For fall '97, Marquis is offering a splendid new assortment of Italian classics from Rangoni, Sesto Meucci, Van Eli, and Nickels; Stuart Weitzman, Mr. Seymour and Marinelli from Spain; and Thomas Wallace and La Vallée from Canada. A highlight is La Vallée's winter dress boot that is guaranteed waterproof and salt stain proof (far better than water and stain *resistant*, which is about as guaranteed as your child's resistance to the cookie jar). Marquis also carries a selection of causal boots, including the tried-and-true, indefatigable Kauffman Sorels — the best on the market, according to Share.

For the High Holidays and other special occasions, you'll find many dignified styles that will carry beautifully to future seasons. For your more casual needs, there are several selections from the ever-popular Naot line from Israel. The Ecco line from Denmark, which has taken Canada by storm with its comfort and styling, is also well-represented at Marquis.

Material treatments are particularly strong this fall and are "flying out the door", according to Share. Choked-up top lines and booties have continued their emergence as mainstream footwear and are worn extensively with long skirts. Marquis' excellent selection of booties will allow you to achieve the fully coordinated look that can be so elusive when shopping for shoes. If you've ever experienced the frustration of shopping at a big store only to discover that sheer numbers of shoes don't guarantee a good selection, you'll be pleasantly surprised by the Marquis experience. Share devotes many hours to the buying process to ensure that his shop has the kind of variety his customers need. "Because we're a small store, we have to make every shoe count," he says.

Waterproof vs. water resistant



Shoes for the High Holidays

The result? Drop in to Marquis at any given time, and you're likely to find a level of activity unmatched by shoe stores several times the size. Though much of this success can be attributed to the aforementioned selection, Share says another factor is the friendly, knowledgeable service you'll receive. "Many of the lines I carry can be found at many other stores, though not necessarily in as wide a size range," he says. "But the feedback I get from women is that they feel comfortable shopping here." Share's clientele includes numerous regulars that are the cornerstone of his business. He rewards their loyalty with personal service and by not sharing his mailing list with other businesses. As in any small business, the owner's in the store; no need to call or write head office.

Give Marquis a try if you're looking for great shoes that fit the bill, literally and figuratively. Tell your friends — quietly. You don't want to give up Toronto's best-kept secret.

Marquis Shoes

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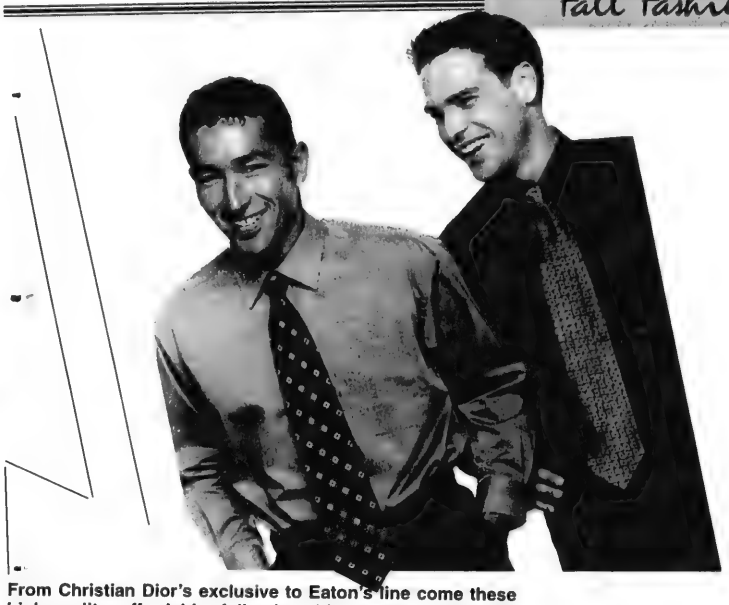
Fall Fashion

Eaton's new Fall lineup



From Christian Dior's exclusive to Eaton's line come these high-quality, affordable, full-color shirts, shown here with spread collar.

Eaton's has launched its new Fall fashion lineup for men and women.

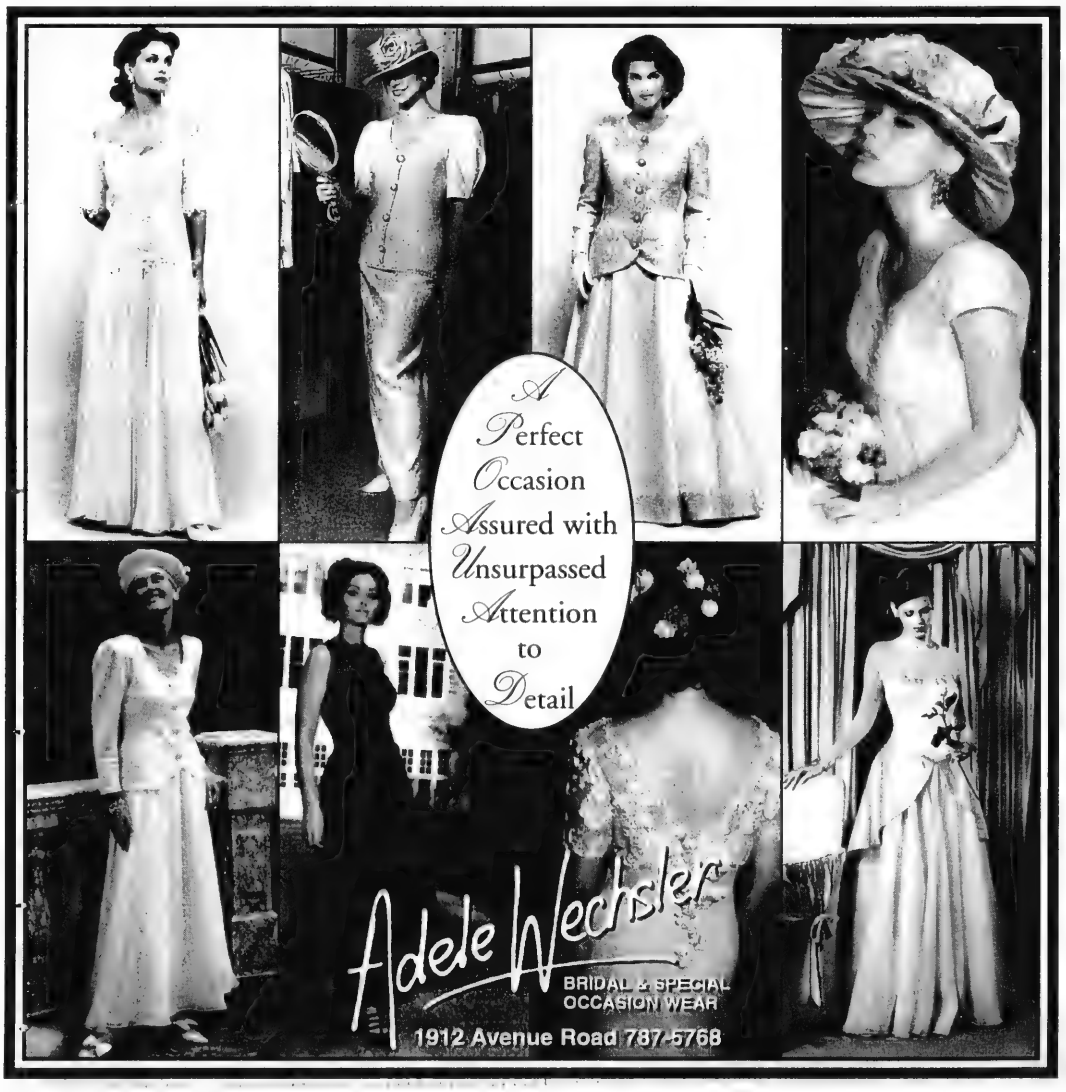
All of the latest styles from Eaton's own brands, the top designers and famous national brands. Eatons also introduces 13 new designer lines and new collections from such names as Lauren by Ralph Lauren, Tommy Hillfiger for women, Liz Clairborne and Jones New York.

For men, tailored clothing is regaining prominence and Eaton's own Distinction offers the essentials of business attire.

Retreat is Eaton's casual line of menswear. Find great basics – chinos in flat front and pleated styles, wide-wale cords and wrinkle-free pants. Top them off with a huge selection of sweaters in lambswool or pure Shetland wool.

Tommy Hilfiger footwear is new this fall. Tommy's signature style is now available in footwear designed to go with clothes. Choose from cool, high tech looking athletic shoes, casual leather shoes or leather dress shoes.

A wool/ cashmere moufion jacket, merino wool, short sleeve turtle neck, slim front seam pant with belt and pony skin/ leather are part of the Casual Connection at Eaton's.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Fall Fashion

Getting turned on by a pair of shoes

By PHYLLIS FELDMAN
Special to The CJN

Some women are attracted by a man's eyes, others by a head of thick curly hair; but when a man turns and walks away, that's when I really get to check them out, because nothing turns me on like a great pair of shoes.

No, not the size – all that we can really surmise from the size of a man's shoes, is that at his age, his father probably wore the same size.

The style, and most importantly, the condition of the shoes, is what I look at. By the way, you can tell a great deal about a man by his shoe choices (right down to what kind of underwear he buys).

Chances are if he takes good care of his shoes and chooses attractive and appropriate styles, your man also pays attention to detail and does many things well. Ladies, if this is important to you, you might want to let your eyes wander downward.

Personally, I love cowboy boots – possibly a little bit of the home on the range fantasy there. Also anything resembling new-wave, such as buckles to one side, has an attraction for me. But I am brought right back and over to the other side when I see a beautiful pair of Brogues draped under the pleating of a well-cut European suit.

Shoes are an accessory that can make or break an outfit. They might whisper efficient, executive, worldly, exciting – or they might just as easily scream geek, bumpkin or wuss. Men, to keep you footloose and in the running, here are some suggestions:

- Never wear dress shoes with jeans. Cowboy boots, or any type of Doc Martins look best.
- The soft boot may score high on the comfort scale but definitely not on a hot date.
- Unless you are a senior citizen retiring to Miami or Palm Springs, do not under any circumstances consider buying a pair of white shiny shoes. (Sorry, Dad)
- Laceups and tassel loafers look best with suits.
- Brogues, like kilts, can actually be quite intriguing.
- If you're planning a vacation to a warm climate this one is very important: Never wear socks with your sandals – unless of course you plan to be wearing your *lederhosen* with them.

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FASHION WITH A FLAIR

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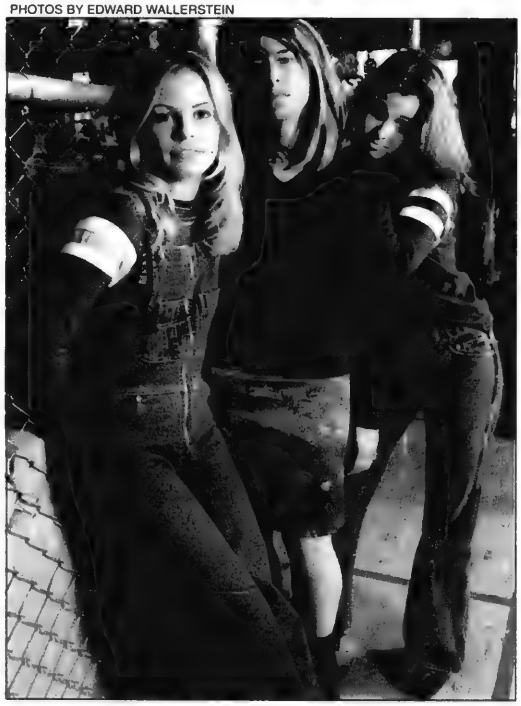
Lunatic Fringe captures hearts, minds of teen and preteen fashion mavens

On that fine November morning in '95 when the residents of Forest Hill awoke to find the northeast corner of Avenue Road and Eglinton engulfed in an explosion of colour, opinion was divided. Depending on who you talked to, the madcap swirls of yellow, green, blue and burnt orange that enveloped the formerly staid CIBC building were either the work of an artistic genius or the perpetration of some lunatic fringe.

Clearly, they're both. Some two years later, **Lunatic Fringe** is the consensus favourite of teens citywide who come here to shop, to hang out, and to soak up the atmosphere of Toronto's most unique retail environment.

PHOTOS BY EDWARD WALLERSTEIN



Jean prices always sharp in Toronto's most unique retail environment

What owners Allison Liss and Katy Korman find more gratifying than the financial success, however, is the degree to which the store has been embraced by Toronto's youthful population, so much so that it enjoys an almost cult-like following.

The stunning transformation of the premises at 306 Eglinton Avenue West was merely the title page of a revolutionary new chapter in Canadian retailing. In every aspect of the operation — from merchandising to decor to customer service — this store locks convention in the closet and throws away the key. While Lunatic Fringe's psychedelic facade, deliciously gritty industrial decor and in-store basketball court — where free jeans or some other valuable item goes up for grabs in a daily free throw competition — clearly sets it apart from other stores, the real difference is that this is a store for teens, by teens and of teens. "We don't decide what's cool; they decide," says Liss.

Nor are those decisions limited to the teenage set. Though most customers are age 13 to 18, Lilliputian fashion mavens as young as 9 or 10 have also come to enjoy the Lunatic Fringe experience. Facilitating their fashion odyssey, the store's recent Back to School selection has been expanded to include sizes 7 to 14, everything from the funky to the Mommy-approved clothes for the High Holidays.

The wonderfully hip jeans, tops, dresses and accessories for both guys and girls that check out of "The Fringe" almost as soon as they check in are, in the most part, selected by the teenagers who work here. Many of the labels the shop carries exclusively are sought out in New York and L.A., then submitted to the staff for piece-by-piece dissection and, ultimately, a yea or nay. To ensure that Lunatic Fringe is not only user-friendly but also pocketbook-friendly, the owners and their staff shop the city daily, keeping an eye on prices and setting or lowering theirs accordingly. The high-quality casual clothing Lunatic Fringe carries isn't cheap, but for $10 or less, you can find plenty of treasures here, like the costume jewellery ("a great Bar or Bat mitzvah gift") to neat *chatchkes* like candles and lava lamps.

Fashion and fun share top billing at Lunatic Fringe

From its reading area featuring teen magazines like *Seventeen* and really nifty retro cards that Liss hand picks, to its comfy couches and sprawling dungeon-doored dressing rooms, Lunatic Fringe is a compellingly self-indulgent Lunatic Fringe, *informal. "Those whose zeal, in some causes, movement, or ism, goes beyond reasonable limits." At 306 Eglinton West, following the fashion dictates of Noah Webster's definition comes naturally.*

It pays to know where the hoop is when a free item of clothing goes up for grabs daily

mix of fashion, fantasy, and fun that mirrors the exuberance of its clientele. Ironically, however, it's the parents who pay the Fringe its most fitting tribute. They clearly enjoy being here with their children, and vice versa; for a few magical moments, the generation gap narrows to nothingness, and "older" people are young again. You can see it in their eyes; and, if you look closely, you can see it in their feet, surreptitiously tapping to the music as their children boogie.

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This Week
Greater Toronto Area

Ashkenaz parade caps off successful event. *Page 3*

Fierce opposition mounting to new messianic "synagogue." *Page 5*

On Campus

Jewish student press celebrates its 50th anniversary. *Page 28*

International

Vancouver dentist, 27, injured in Ben Yehuda Street bombings. *Page 39*

Arts

Michael Erdos' experimental series on display at Holy Blossom Temple. *Page 48*

Sports

Junior Maccabi athletes return to Toronto with 101 medals – 52 of them gold. *Page 54*

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
On Campus 28
Coast to Coast 29
Yiddish Corner 31
What's New 34
Health 36
International 37
Travel, Arts & Business 46
Classified 50
Sports 54
Ask Ella 55
Crossword 55

Shabbat: Ki Tetze
Candlelighting: 7:14
Elul 10, 5757
Havdalah: 8:19

Arafat must choose: PM

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's most important contribution to the Middle East peace process would be to convince the Palestinian Authority (PA) of the need for genuine and effective action against the terrorist infrastructure within its domain, said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a recent interview.

Without that, he said, it will be impossible to implement the further redeployments stipulated in the Oslo Accords and subsequent Hebron agreement.

> ***'Looking for PA to dismantle terrorist infrastructure'***

"The jmmediate thing we're looking for is the Palestinians' fulfilment of the obligations [specified in the Oslo text] to fight terrorism and dismantle the terrorist infrastructure, commitments that have not been fulfilled so far," he said. "If the secretary's trip advances that [goal], it will be an important contribution to peace."

The prime minister said the PA's attitude toward the suppression of terrorism was a grave deviation from the Oslo spirit and intent.

"In effect, the one structural flaw in Oslo is the failure of the Palestinian Authority and of [Chairman Yasser] Arafat to live up to the commitment he gave to prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, namely, 'You give us territory, we'll fight terrorism from that territory.'

"That simply has not happened. The opposite has. We have had an explosive growth of terrorism in the four years of Oslo...Hamas and Islamic Jihad have built terrorist bases and enjoy terrorist safe havens five minutes away from our major cities.

"That has caused the death of 250 Israelis in the first 2½ years [after Oslo], a situation no government can endure, that peace cannot endure. Arafat cannot escape the choice he must make between peace with Hamas and peace with Israel."

Netanyahu then turned to Iran's ballistic missile buildup, in which Russian experts are actively involved. He outlined the possible consequences if the Russian government does not stop the flow of its extensive technological know-how and the export of vital components to the Islamic republic.

"It could change the balance of power in the Middle East," Netanyahu said. "It could [negatively] affect the peace agreements" already existing in the Middle East

Continued on page 39

Young soldier comforts one of the brothers of Smadar Elhanon who was buried last week, one of the four Israeli victims killed by Hamas terrorists in Jerusalem. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Levy opens Sephardi centre

Israel's Foreign Minister David Levy (left) presents a ceremonial plate to Jacques Benquesus last week at the opening of the Sephardic Kehila Centre in Thornhill, Ont. *[Ron Csillag photo]*

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN, Ont. — North America's largest Sephardi centre opened here last week amid ululating, cheers, prayers and a vow of eventual Middle East peace from Israel's foreign minister.

The grand opening of the $16-million Sephardic Kehila Centre, just north of Metro Toronto, lived up to the promise of being one of the biggest, most festive events in the Jewish community in a long time. David Levy, Israel's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, joined in the celebration. In the middle of a huge throng, a beaming Levy helped carry one of the sifrai Torah from a small, nearby congregation to the new centre.

Hailed as unique, the 93,000-square-foot building will house Or Haemet Sephardic School, a sanctuary that seats 620, a banquet hall, a swimming pool, underground parking, a mikvah, offices and other amenities. It fulfils the dream of Toronto's approximately 15,000-strong Sephardi community of bringing all its services under one roof, and follows the northward migration of the Jewish community in the Greater Toronto Area.

Continued on page 25

INSIDE

IDF soul-searching after costly raid.
Please see page 37.

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The News in Brief

CANADA

Stern Concerns CJC

MONTREAL — Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region, has expressed concern over "distasteful and discriminatory" comments made by syndicated radio talkshow host Howard Stern.

Stern's morning program made its Canadian debut in Montreal and Toronto last week. During a press conference with the Montreal media, Stern used profanity to describe both individuals and groups.

Conference on Holocaust

EDMONTON — An international conference and art exhibition relating to the Holocaust will be held here in late October.

The conference on human rights and social justice is being sponsored by the University of Alberta's faculties of law and education, the Office of Human Rights, the Centre for Constitutional Studies and the Office of the President of the University of Alberta.

The conference will address legal, moral, political, cultural and esthetic meanings of the Holocaust and their continuing significance to contemporary social and intellectual life.

ISRAEL

Israelis Convicted

JERUSALEM — Two members of the right-wing organization Zo Artzeinu (This Is Our Land) were convicted last week in connection with a series of anti-government protests they led during the summer and fall of 1995.

During that period, activists in the group blocked traffic along major roads across the country, in a series of protests against the peace policies of then prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Moshe Feiglin and Shmuel Sackett were convicted of sedition and distributing publications calling for sedition during those protests.

But the Jerusalem Magistrates Court acquitted the two on seven separate charges of incitement. Sentencing of the two will take place at a later date.

WORLD

Hotel Gaza

WASHINGTON — The largest Arab American lobby group is urging a boycott of the Days Inn hotel chain to protest the opening of a resort hotel in an Israeli settlement.

The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee has expressed "grave concern" about the location of a Days Inn franchise in Gush Katif in the Gaza Strip.

The heavily fortified settlement bloc, which is the largest part of Gaza still under Israeli control, has been a source of tension between Israelis and Palestinians.

German-Iranian Ties

FRANKFURT — Germany has announced that it wants to re-establish ties with Iran.

The announcement came as Russia categorically denied media reports in Israel that it is helping Iran develop ballistic missiles.

Statements by top German officials came in response to an offer last week by Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi to reopen contacts with the European Union.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl told reporters the changes going on in Tehran could not be ignored.

Orthodox Convention

SPRING GLEN, N.Y. — Leaders and members of 22 major Orthodox Jewish organizations in North America will convene Nov. 27 to 30 at the Homowack Resort Hotel in Spring Glen to address current challenges faced by rabbinic, educational and lay organizations.

The Conference of the World Council of Orthodox Leadership (North American Section) and the World Council for Torah Education will focus on the theme Translating Vision into Reality.

Gay Shul Gets First Rabbi

CHICAGO — Twenty-two years after it was founded, Congregation Or Chadash, Chicago's only gay and lesbian congregation, has hired its first permanent rabbi.

The Reform-affiliated temple named Rabbi Suzanne Griffel, 35, to head its 120-member congregation. The members wanted a rabbi who would focus on outreach and growth, Griffel said.

Discovery at Buchenwald

FRANKFURT — Hundreds of unknown victims of the Buchenwald concentration camp have finally found a resting place.

More than 700 urns containing human ashes were found in May by carpenters working on the roof of the crematorium at the camp, located on a mountain near Weimar, about 125 miles southwest of Berlin.

The ashes were buried late last month in a cemetery for victims of Buchenwald during an ecumenical ceremony led by Frankfurt Rabbi Menachem Klein.

Manuscript Competition

NEW JERSEY — The Association of Jewish Libraries has launched the 13th annual Sydney Taylor Manuscript Competition for aspiring authors of Jewish books.

A cash award of $1,000 will be given for the best fiction manuscript appropriate for readers ages eight to 11, written by an unpublished author. For entry forms and rules, contact Paula Sandfelder, coordinator, 1327 Wyntercreek Lane, Dunwoody, Ga. 30338.

Back to School?

JERUSALEM — Firebombings of Jewish schools occasionally occur in Europe.

But no one expected kindergarten children in Israel looking forward to their first day of school to be affected by such an attack.

Late on Sunday night, Aug. 31, a firebomb was thrown through the window of a kindergarten operated by the Reform movement in Mevasseret Zion, a suburb of Jerusalem.

Police said they have not yet found any suspects.

The attack took place at a time of heightened religious tensions in Israel, where the non-Orthodox movements have been seeking an increased role in the country's religious life, which until now has been under the sole control of the Orthodox.

The private school, which is located in a rented apartment, was almost completely destroyed. It serves about 40 children between the ages of three and five, and had been scheduled to open its doors Sept. 1, the first day of Israel's new school year.

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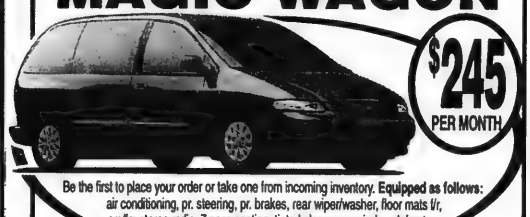

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Lively parade recreated spirit of Kensington

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — You didn't have to be Jewish to enjoy the recent Ashkenaz parade which began in Kensington Market and wound its way down Spadina Avenue to Harbourfront Centre, the main venue of Ashkenaz, the festival of new Yiddish culture.

Many of the parade spectators were shoppers and retailers from the Chinese community. Chinese merchants are now located in many of the retail spaces occupied by Jewish shop keepers in the early decades of this century.

Before the parade, some 600 people gathered in Bellevue Square Park in Kensington Market. They donned cardboard and plastic headgear, including menorahs, sewing machines and musical instruments, and collected banners with the names of businesses such as Tip Top Tailors Sherman's Hardware, and Silverstein's Bakery – all in the Kensington Market-Spadina Avenue area, the hub of Toronto Jewish life from the 1920s until the end of the 1940s.

Theatre artist Ann Barber, director and choreographer of the Ashkenaz parade, told *The CJN* the parade theme was the early roots of the Toronto Jewish community during the colorful immigrant era when eastern European shtetl life was transplanted to Canada.

Festival draws record crowd

See page 46

The parade was designed "to recreate the spirit of the old Kensington market," she said. "We wanted to try to jolt people's memory of it."

She said her husband, theatre artist Brad Harley, spent weeks researching the various businesses and history of the old neighborhood and based the art work of the parade – banners, masks, 15-foot puppets – on nostalgic images of the era.

The husband and wife and five other local artists worked full time for a month at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, where they were assisted by volunteers to create the puppets and other art work.

The seven 15-foot puppets with four-foot high papier-mache heads represented elements of Jewish life: a bearded rabbi, klezmer musicians and a bubbie carrying a bowl of chicken soup. There was even a puppet with the likeness of Francis Lenzer, known as the button waitress, who worked at The Bagel on College Street for 32 years.

[Cont'd. on page 6]

A colorful float in the Ashkenaz parade in Kensington Market. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Last Pesach, "Elana" wanted to do something special for her three children. She learned that Jewish Family and Child Service, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, also supported by UJA Federation, was conducting a Seder, so she called to get tickets. That call changed her life.

A DIFFICULT PAST

The past few years have been tough for Elana's family. After divorcing her husband, Elana needed support to get her life together for her three children. "It is very difficult to be a single parent," Elana notes. "It's hard when you are not able to provide for your children. Every penny counts and even that is not nearly enough."

Elana went to many other agencies for support without receiving any significant results. Only Simon Kalkstein, the downtown supervisor at JF & CS, "made a difference," says Elana.

A NEW BEGINNING

Elana's daughter, "Leah", 16, believes that a 'guardian angel' has been sent to watch over her family. "Simon has helped us so much. He is in a way, like a father figure for us. He's always there when we need him, even if it's just to say hi."

Leah's brothers "Joseph," 13, and "Ben," 9 have been able to go to camp this year because of UJA funding through Jewish Family and Child Service. "The three weeks that I was at camp were amazing. I did things that I never thought I would, like waterskiing. It was awesome!," says Joseph.

Today Elana is studying philosophy at the University of Toronto in hope of pursuing a criminology career. "I am very optimistic about our future – I feel that Simon has rescued us."

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A revealing silence on Algerian murders

Last week in this column, I wrote about the carnage and grisly slaughter presently ongoing in Algeria.

Without meaning to be lurid, but in order to convey an understanding of the nature of the horror unfolding there, I included brief excerpts of the sketchy accounts of the massacres that are being reported in the western media.

It appears the slaying pace has picked up considerably.

Between the writing of that column and the appearance of last week's paper, more massacres took place.

The following Associated Press report appeared in the *Globe and Mail* of Aug. 30: "Hooded men armed with axes descended on an isolated farm village (Rais) before dawn yesterday, slitting the throats of sleeping residents or decapitating them. Villagers and hospital workers said more than 300 people were killed.

"The attack appeared to be the worst carnage since Algeria's Islamic insurgency began five years ago, although it was not clear who carried it out."

The *Daily Telegraph* of London reported that up to 1,000 people were killed in Algeria during the week that ended on Aug. 30. The extent of the outrage finally evoked a response from UN Secretary General Kofi Anan, who said: "The world cannot stand by and let this happen."

Even the Pope was finally moved to comment two Sundays ago, saying that he was appalled by the bloodletting. And the Vatican's newspaper denounced the "ice-cold indifference" by the international community to the violence.

But the murders continue.

Between the appearance of last week's issue of *The CJN* and the writing of this column, the following Associated Press report appeared in the *Toronto Star* on Sept. 7:

"Hatchet-swinging attackers 'howling like jackals' descended on a secluded neighborhood outside Algiers (Beni Messous), kicking open doors and slitting the throats of entire families.

"At least 87 died in the nighttime massacre."

The sheer magnitude and frequency of the outrages have meant that the western media can no longer ignore what has been happening during these past five years in Algeria. And indeed, if the past two weeks are any indication, more and more stories about the war seem to be creeping into the news. However, it is still true to say, as I did, that "very little of the war's dirty, repulsive details" ever make whether by scimitar or by civility, would pose significant threats to the governments in neighboring Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco and even Jordan, it to the west.

The reasons are manifold.

One of them is simply due to the fact that journalists and reporters have been targeted for death. At first, the harassment and persecutions were carried out by the military regime. When democratic process was suspended in 1992, the generals made certain to mute the sounds of the keyboards clicking their stories, mostly critical, to other parts of the world.

The Islamic militants however, quickly took over the persecutions from the government.

According to Anna Husarska in an article that appeared in the *New Republic* last year, Reporters sans frontieres had reported that 61 journalists had been killed by July 1996 by the Islamic militants. Hundreds have left the country as a result.

"Most journalists," she wrote, "are killed outside their homes when, as they do from time to time, especially on religious holidays, they venture out of their fortresses to visit parents, go see their kids or their spouses. The guidelines are strict; never stay more than thirty minutes, or the terrorists will have time to mobilize their gunmen.

French economic interests

"The Groupe Islamique Arme (GIA) has made its policy clear: those who fight with their pens will die by the sword."

Given the frightening ruthlessness aimed at journalists in Algeria, it is indeed quite remarkable and quite heroic, that any stories are being written and filed in Algeria.

But if Algeria itself is a "difficult" forum from which to publicize the five-year reign of wanton butchery, one might assume that at least the General Assembly or the Security Council might be a reasonable forum from which to urgently bring the matter to the attention of the wider, western world.

But that too has not happened. In contrast to the way in which the General Assembly and the Security Council quickly mobilize to sit in predetermined judgement over virtually every aspect of Israel's behavior, they have yet to convene either in plenary or in committee, to consider how to stop the slaughter in Algeria.

Simply put, too many governments – in Africa, the Middle East, and in Europe – do not want the civil war to receive too high a profile.

The government of Algeria wants to find the balance between shedding sufficient light on the atrocities, so as to gain the sympathy of the world, and maintaining sufficient shadow over its own role in the atrocities.

The overthrow of the Algerian government by the fundamentalists, all of whom worry about sizable local followings of their indigenous Muslim militants.

These governments are wary lest they are perceived by their respective peoples as too "pro-western." At the same time they are also wary of the rise of fanatic fundamentalism. The rise of militant Islam would predictably result in a large outflow of people from these countries. Most of them would head to western Europe.

But western Europe at this time, would be a most inhospitable place for them. And hence, the relative silence from them too. Right wing governments or vocal oppositions in England, Germany and especially France, have already aroused the prejudices and suspicions of local populations against a high-profile Muslim presence.

Between 10 and 13 million Muslims live in western Europe. The largest group, five million, live in France. Therefore it is clearly in these countries and especially France's interest to adopt low profile policies on Algeria's "internal" situation.

According to a *New York Times* report in October 1995, France is Algeria's largest creditor, providing about $1 billion worth of loans and grants. France also imported about $1 billion worth of Algerian natural gas. It therefore cannot risk its economic interests in Algeria. The overthrow of the current secular government in Algeria would certainly threaten French interests.

On the other hand, for the sake of maintaining good relations with fundamentalist Muslim elements within its own borders, neither can it appear to be endorsing hard-line tactics against the hoodlums, villains and thugs in Algeria whose ideology many of the militants in France share

It is apparent, and has ever been, that Israel's conflicts with its neighbors are much more palatable "proofs" of the collective conscience of the members of the European Union, and in particular that of France, than are the conflicts among or within Muslim states.

The Europeans do not lobby the Arab governments as forcefully as they do Israel. They are clearly more comfortable hectoring Israel because it stands them in greater stead with larger portions of their local populations Regular turns at keeping a judicious silence on certain matters while "bashing" the Jewish state on other matters makes for good domestic politics. *MBD*

Opposition mounting to new messianic 'synagogue'

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — Fierce opposition is mounting to a new messianic "synagogue" in the heart of Jewish Thornhill, with area merchants, Jewish groups and a city councillor cranking up the rhetoric.

The presence of the City of David Messianic Synagogue in the Main Exchange strip mall at Bathurst Street and Steeles Avenue is "an affront" to the Jewish community, says Thornhill Ward 5 councillor Bernie Green.

Green told *The CJN* he will "look into what actions can be taken" against the congregation, but stressed that the City of Vaughan can't get involved officially because the facility "seems to comply" with zoning and planning regulations.

"I don't believe it should be there," Green added. "It's reaching out just to the Jewish community."

Last Friday, about a dozen demonstrators – mainly Orthodox students and people once affiliated with the Jewish Defence League – staged a protest outside the congregation, with placards denouncing it as a deceptive device to lure Jews. Despite some angry words exchanged with passers-by, they promised regular protests to "shut the place down," in the words of one demonstrator.

The congregation, with its dominating outdoor sign, is part of the growing so-called messianic Jewish movement, which teaches that Jews should accept Jesus as their messiah [*CJN*, Sept. 4].

Jewish groups are outraged at the congregation's location, saying it's in a heavily Jewish area. They fear that as similar groups have done, it will target vulnerable Jews, such as recent immigrants and the young, for conversion to Christianity.

The congregation shares a parking lot with kosher shops, an Israel-style restaurant and the office of the National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY). It's also near the newly opened Sephardic Kehila Centre, and in an area with a large population of Russian-Jewish immigrants.

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and Jews for Judaism, the counter-missionary group, have slammed City of David as an evangelical church masquerading as a synagogue, especially since it has Hebrew on its sign, uses Jewish symbols and touts services for Jewish holidays. They're promising a rough ride for the congregation.

CJC's Ontario region has written the plaza's property manager, Mount Batten Properties, claiming the congregation is "a Christian proselytizing group" and stating that Congress has received "a rash of complaints" about it.

More protests, like this one last Friday, are promised outside the City of David Messianic Synagogue. [Ron Csillag photo]

CJC says the property manager "may have some legal recourse in cancelling" the congregation's recently-signed six-year lease.

Jews for Judaism, in its letter to the property manager, says City of David "is absolutely not a synagogue but an evangelical Protestant church," and notes that Toronto's Jewish community "is exceedingly upset for being so blatantly targeted for conversion."

Jews for Judaism plans to hold a town hall meeting at the end of this month to air the community's concerns over City of David.

Rabbi Glenn Black, regional director of NCSY, says the community needs to be "mobilized" against the congregation, and he's calling on other Jewish youth groups for help with future action.

He says messianic flyers have been distributed to merchants in the plaza.

"When that happened, it really hit home," he said.

"They're not stupid," Rabbi Black said of the congregation. "They know where they are, and why. This is very much an 'us versus them' problem."

He says he's received "tons of complaints" from his members and the public and that there is "tremendous tension" among merchants in the plaza.

The rabbi has combed through his group's lease and found a clause prohibiting tenants from engaging in deceptive advertising or selling. He says that may form a basis for a complaint, since it's "reasonable" to say the group is not a synagogue.

"If they called themselves a church, that would be more honest," Rabbi Black says.

The manager of Goodfield's Meats, a kosher-style butcher and food shop right next to the congregation, says most of his customers are not happy about City of David. "It's not good for anybody, but there's nothing we can do about it."

Azim Wali, owner of the kosher Not Just Yogurt shop, also next door to the congregation, says City of David is having an adverse effect on his business. He says he's seeing fewer children in the store, likely because parents are keeping them away.

City of David's spiritual leader, Jeff Forman, a self-described "messianic rabbi," says "some people" are "uptight" about his congregation, but he's unfazed by accusations that it's deceptive.

"We are Jewish people who believe in Jesus," he said. "Our motives are pure."

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Ashkenaz gets off to festive start

Around the Ashkenaz parade. [photos Barry Shainbaum]

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Thursday & Friday	8 a.m.-10 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sunday	9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Parade procession spans generations

[Cont'd. from page 3]

Lenzer herself wore a kiss-my-bagel button. She said she was thrilled that the parade organizers had singled her out for this special honor.

Other puppets included a bride and groom carried in a mock wedding procession under a chupah.

There were other large-scale cardboard and papier mache items associated with Jewish life in this era – a huge platter of corn beef on rye sandwiches, three-foot hats from the late colorful hatter, Sammy Taft, and a giant Singer sewing machine.

Parade participants spanned three generations. Decked out in costumes and carrying banners, they walked, roller-bladed or rolled along in strollers, accompanied by an assortment of klezmer musicians led by David Buchbinder, artistic director of Ashkenaz.

Stretching two blocks, the colorful procession made its way through Kensington Market, and when it reached the Minsker Shul on St. Andrew Street, a 10-foot blue angel puppet called the Naivelt (New World) Angel emerged from the shul to greet the marchers.

They spontaneously began dancing and clapping to the klezmer music for 15 minutes and then enthusiastically headed down Spadina Avenue, much to the pleasure of hundreds of bystanders lining the street.

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Greater Toronto Area

Toronto nightclub to be used for holiday services

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — One of midtown Toronto's trendiest nightspots will be transformed into a temporary house of worship during the High Holy Days.

Berlin Restaurant and Nightclub, better known for its dining and dancing, will give itself over to prayer for the two days of Rosh Hashanah. Yom Kippur services will be held at the nearby North Toronto Collegiate Institute on Roehampton Avenue.

The Village Shul, in cooperation with Aish Hatorah, is promoting the unique venues as a way of reaching out to young people in the Yonge and Eglinton area.

Rhonda Halpern, a spokesperson for the pilot project, said "we wanted a hip location. We're providing a traditional service at a very unconventional location."

"We're offering a traditional service for non-traditional Jews," said Rabbi Yakov Palatnik, spiritual leader at the Village Shul on Eglinton Avenue. "We want to get to people who are not comfortable in a traditional large synagogue setting and to attract people looking for something different and something educational."

With that in mind, the Village Shul and its volunteer helpers are planning a two-pronged approach to High Holy Day services. In the main dance floor/sanctuary area of the "Yonge Shul," a traditional service will be offered, officiated by knowledgeable volunteers who will make sure the congregants keep up with the proceedings, Halpern said.

Special classes

Meanwhile, in other areas of the club (and later at the school), "the main attraction" of the days' events will be special classes on various aspects of Judaism. Topics include the soul in the afterlife, the seduction of Adam and Eve, the true meaning of Rosh Hashanah and how to get prayers answered.

The one-hour classes will run concurrently with the traditional services, she said. They'll be taught by rabbis, rebbetzins and learned lay people and it's expected people will shift between the classes and the services throughout the day.

Those wishing to take a break from prayer or study can pick up a book and read at the impromptu library that will be set up at the sanctuary's periphery, Halpern added.

In addition to the Village Shul and now the "Yonge Shul," Aish Hatorah will run services in its main site on Clark Street in Thornhill as well as at the "Country Shul" in Richmond Hill and at the "Uptown Shul," (located downstairs at the Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue). In addition, Aish Hatorah will provide educational classes at the Beth Jacob Synagogue, Magen David Sephardic Congregation and at the Sephardic Kehilla Centre.

While operating prayer and educational programs in unconventional settings is nothing new for the Village Shul or Aish Hatorah (spillover from the Village Shul has been held in a local Chinese restaurant for years), doing so in a nightclub is something of a departure for the two groups. Aish Hatorah volunteer Cindy Himelstein was the mastermind behind the project and the person whose hard work turned the concept into reality, Halpern said.

About 200 people are expected to attend the services. Tickets are priced at $75 and a tax receipt will be issued. Free babysitting will be offered as well as youth programs for children eight to 12. For more information, call 416-787-2444.

Meanwhile, an Eglinton Avenue tradition will return during the High Holy Days as the Village Shul will host an outdoor High Holy Day kiddush. In the past, about 300 people have attended the sidewalk event. This year, it will be held at 10:30 a.m. on both days of Rosh Hashanah, Rabbi Palatnik said.

ISRAEL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

JEWISH CONTINUITY GRANTS

FALL 1997

The Action Committee for Jewish Continuity (ACJC) of UJA Federation is pleased to announce its Fall 1997 grant round.

Successful grant submissions must focus on continuity, outreach and ISRAEL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY.

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NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 31 at 4:00 p.m.
There will be NO exceptions to the date and time.

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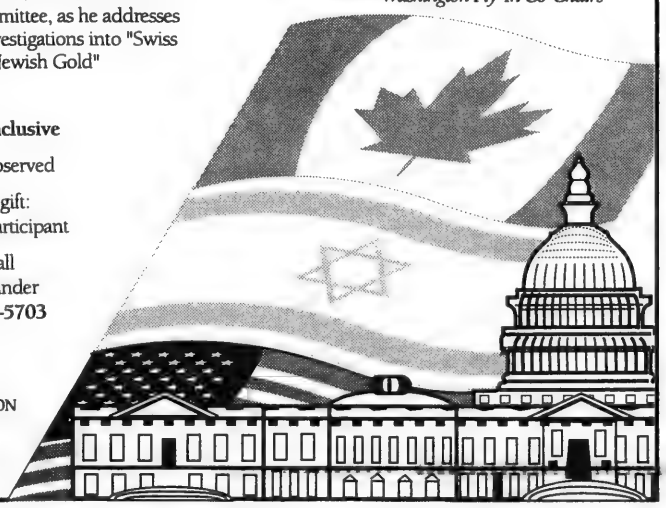

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Death's straight line

In the double-speak language of the insincere world of the prevaricating leader of the Palestinian Authority (PA), the hastily assembled meeting last weekend in Cairo with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein was yet the latest example of a show without content, of a posture without spine, of deliverance without rescue.

The three men dutifully embraced and held their positions long enough for the cameras to flash and for their images to be sent all over the world. But it was all a pose, the suggestion of solidarity among the Arab seekers of peace, a boost-by-association with the "moderates" for the PA chairman's credibility as he prepares to meet Madeleine Albright, making her first visit to the region as U.S. secretary of state, later this week.

But the pose is now tedious; and the main poseur, Yasser Arafat, a pretentious, pitiful pretender.

As reported by the CBC, the trio issued a press communique that apparently called upon Israel "to refrain from actions alien to the spirit of peace."

Presumably they had in mind the closure of the territories to Palestinian workers, the increased number of arrests of known or suspected Hamas members, and the other heightened security measures Israel has implemented in the aftermath of the triple bombings on Ben Yehuda last week.

Presumably they did not have in mind the highly-demonstrative, grotesque, public two-day clasp by Arafat two weeks earlier, of the most notorious haters and murderers among his Palestinian colleagues. Nor was it likely they had in mind the succinct, unambiguous clarion to his people by Arafat that "all options were open" in the struggle against Israel.

There is a straight line, easily drawn in the minds of decent people, between Arafat's kiss on Hamas leader al-Rantisi's cheeks, and the deaths of young innocents on the streets of Jerusalem, only five weeks after the Hamas-engineered Machane Yehuda bombings.

Even if Israelis concede that Arafat cannot reign in all the terror cells intent on killing Jews, they cannot and will not concede to him the propriety, for any purpose, of embracing Hamas and effectively approving their subsequent mission of murder.

When she arrives in the region, Albright will have a very difficult, if not impossible, task. She must persuade Israel that Arafat is a reliable peace partner. Under present circumstances, having regard to the company Arafat keeps and to the pronouncements he makes, her chances of success are quite slim.

And the world mourned

The outpouring of worldwide affection for the late Princess of Wales was startling. Nothing in her life foretold the depth of the emotion that ordinary folk around the world felt for her. She led a Hollywood life and met a Hollywood end. Ironically, this was inadvertently confirmed through the elegiac song by Elton John that was her eulogy. Alas, it was a sad Hollywood ending and the world mourned a life cut short.

By contrast, everything in the life of Mother Teresa did foretell the outpouring of love and affection that accompanied her death. She was a rare individual, selflessly, totally dedicated to the welfare of the poorest and most needy of her fellow human beings, an example of unparalleled human goodness.

And the world mourned a life that lived to its final full exhaustion.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"The emancipated Jews no longer possess the belief which gives the patience necessary to bear sufferings because they see in them the will of a punishing but not a loving God."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

Dry Bones

SOLOMON MY KING..
...I'VE GOT GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS ABOUT ARAFAT.
THE GOOD NEWS IS HE'S AGREED TO ENTER THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM.
AND THE BAD NEWS?
...HE'S ENTERING ON THE OTHER SIDE.

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Sept. 12, 1848, to pay tribute to the memory of Benjamin Hart, all Jewishly-owned stores and businesses in Montreal are closed during his funeral *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Bombers will pay for their crimes

Throughout history, we as Jews have scratched out an existence for ourselves without really learning the bitter lessons of the past. How many times must we be faced with the kind of antagonism and impairment that we are facing now in Israel, only to react with approbation instead of with swift and lasting results?

Too many times we have bowed to the pressures put upon us by the international community, while UN aid and sympathy continue to pour in to the "besieged" Palestinian people, only to watch them exploit this valuable commodity so that they may continue to exercise their covenant against the Jews, a covenant that regurgitates hatred and breeds martyrs with an insatiable appetite for blowing up innocent people, whose only crime it was to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Moral justice cries out for retribution against any nation that would seek the destruction of the Jewish people. Those that would test our wills and challenge our patience by harming the children of Israel should know that there isn't any corner of the world small enough for them to hide in before paying for their crimes.

Instead of fighting amongst ourselves over religious freedoms, the proponents of Israel should take seriously the business of self-preservation. Otherwise, we only lend support to our enemies by doing to ourselves what they have tried so long to do. Will we learn the lessons of the past in time or will the answers be too little and arrive many Jewish lives too late?

Bob K. Hundert
Toronto

Wagner debases all Jews, not only survivors

Rabbi Gunther Plaut's feelings and conclusions in The Wagner Controversy (*CJN*, Aug. 28), in which he quotes an article by Lili Eylon, was written with deep understanding and sensitivity of Wagner's anti-Jewish sentiments.

But Eylon, in her writing is naive when she states that the argument for playing Wagner in Israel "does not centre around the quality of his music...nor is the argument about how deep-seated was his anti-Semitism really relevant."

Richard Wagner started from two premises in his treatises: that Jews were alien in thought and feeling, and therefore could not express themselves in German art; and that even if Jews thought and felt like Germans, they would have succeeded no better.

Wagner maintained that "it is necessary for us to explain the involuntary repugnance we possess for the nature and personality of the Jews." He proceeded to castigate the Jews' outward appearance, "which has something disagreeably foreign about it" and Jewish speech in which "our attention dwells involuntarily on its repulsiveness."

Therefore, Wagner concluded that the Jew is incapable of giving artistic enunciation to his feelings through talk, and it is even more difficult for Jews to enunciate through song, for "song is talk aroused to the highest passion, and music is the speech of passion."

This philosophy is further exhibited in his operas, such as *Das Rheingold*. There, the evil, ugly, hook dwarf Albrecht appears, and from him emanates grotesque sounds and grunts in the Wagnerian styled "Jewish inflections."

In the 1869 version of *Judaism in Music*, Wagner states that the alternative to Jews casting aside their racial heritage would simply be "the uprooting, expulsion or destruction of these people." The closing sentence of this essay suggests the solution of *der untergang*, meaning "going under," or more accurately, "annihilation."

When Wagner applied anti-Semitism to the structure of German nationalism, he swept along the millions of Germans predisposed to the hatred of Jews. Wagner's contribution was "proof" that Jewish blood was incapable of producing creative work.

It is therefore not only to "Jewish survivors of the Nazi horror that Wagner's music represents a vivid reminder of that regime," as Eylon writes. It is a reminder to all of us who value decency, respect and integrity.

Judy Feld Carr, Mus. M., Mus. Bac.
Toronto

Klein is reigning Jewish poet

Harry Heft's article on the 25th anniversary of A.M. Klein's death (*CJN*, Aug. 28), leaves one thinking about the following lines from Irving Layton's poem *Requiem For A. M. Klein*: "And the sentimentality each clever Jew/ Misconstrues for sensitivity:/ Fool's gold which you, O alchemist,/ Changed into precious metal, solid and true."

The emphasis will always be on what Klein wrote and not on what he didn't write. Few if any have equalled his literary achievements and he is still the reigning Jewish poet in this country. Like all great artists, Klein continues to live through his work.

Rafi Aaron
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Jerusalem mall a scene of carnage, death

By MICHAEL S. ARNOLD
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Dan Vered had planned a nice Thursday evening in downtown Jerusalem: a meal at his favorite restaurant one block from Ben Yehuda Street, a cigar from a nearby tobacconist and then a stroll up and down the pedestrian mall that is the heart of the city's commercial area.

Vered's evening did not turn out as pleasantly as he had planned.

A trio of suicide bombers, standing roughly 11 yards apart in the shape of a triangle, had turned "the salon of Jerusalem" into a scene of carnage and destruction.

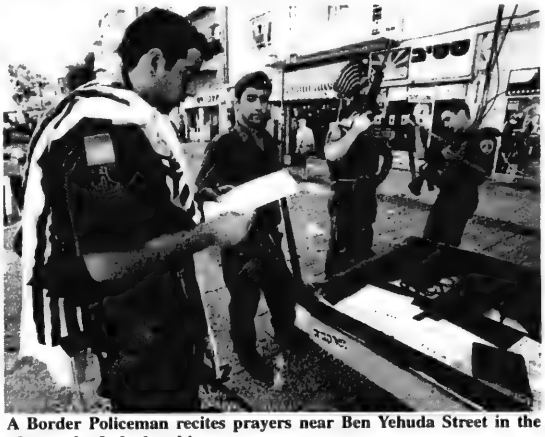
As the casualty toll reached at least seven dead, including the suspected bombers – and more than 180 injured – residents, shopkeepers and spectators on the scene tried to make sense of the bombing as they watched police and burial-society workers clean glass, charred flesh and bits of merchandise from the street.

Teenage girls sat on doorstoops, crying and consoling one another. A group of Orthodox Jews stepped off a bus near downtown and began praying.

Stunned civilians walked aimlessly, hands pressed to their chests. And shopkeepers on the streets adjacent to Ben Yehuda engaged in heated arguments about the political process.

"If the Israeli powers don't go inside to the territories, there will be no peace in this country," said Efi Hasut, standing in the doorway of his Charisma hair salon 30 feet from the site of the bombing.

"If they don't kick Arafat out of the country, it will be a disaster for this generation and the next generation."



A Border Policeman recites prayers near Ben Yehuda Street in the aftermath of the bombings.

Outside Hasut's shop, nervous spectators strained from behind police barricades to catch a glimpse of Ben Yehuda Street, which was littered with overturned cafe tables and chairs, broken glass and random pieces of clothing.

Workers from the chevrah kadishah, the religious burial society, picked remains of human flesh from sewer grates, iron grills and tree branches.

Police gingerly cut a green shirt from the torso of one of the alleged suicide bombers, pulling back an orange sheet to reveal the man's black curly hair and a face half blown away by the powerful bomb.

Policemen occasionally stooped to pick up two-inch nails, packed inside the bombs, from the sidewalk.

"Who did we make peace with? With garbage, with the devil," said taxi driver Yoav Zaken, gesturing animatedly to his friend Itzhak Shabbat.

Asking Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to provide security for Israelis, he said, "is like asking the cat to guard the milk."

"This will never end," Shabbat responded. "They don't want us here in this land."

Hours after the bombing, police still were working to clean up as a crowd of people stared dumbfounded at the area.

Normally bustling in the evening hours with families strolling and tourists sipping cappuccino, Ben Yehuda on Thursday night was lit up by television spotlights and the sound of glass crunching underfoot.

"For hours afterward, I couldn't get out of my chair. I was shaking – like this," a woman who identified herself only as Yaffa said, fluttering her hands. "My heart is broken."

Yaffa's friend Aviva Shako sat in her jewelry store, three shopfronts from the deadly intersection, and pointed out objects broken in the blast.

A broken bronze menorah lay at her feet. The ground outside her store had been littered with severed body parts, Shako said, shuddering at the memory.

Across the street, Sam Henke continued serving a trickle of customers at his sweets and tobacco shop.

In the minutes after the blasts, Henke said, dazed victims had flooded into his store, ducking behind counters, seeking any kind of shelter. He had dispensed water and food to calm them and was now trying to come to terms with the catastrophe himself.

"We're still in shock. We're still not thinking straight," Henke said, pointing out a dark stain on the sidewalk that he said had come from a chunk of bloody flesh that landed outside his store.

"Business will suffer a lot, but we'll stay open; if we close, they win."

Outside the store, Vered, a regular customer, said he would follow through with as much of his evening plan, dinner and a cigar, as he could.

"This is my lawyer's office here, this is my bank, this is where I sit and drink coffee and read the paper. This is really my area," Vered said. "The reason I came down here is to prove that they're not going to kill Jerusalem. They can't kill our plans, that's the bottom line."

Others, however, said the psychological fallout from the attack was more severe.

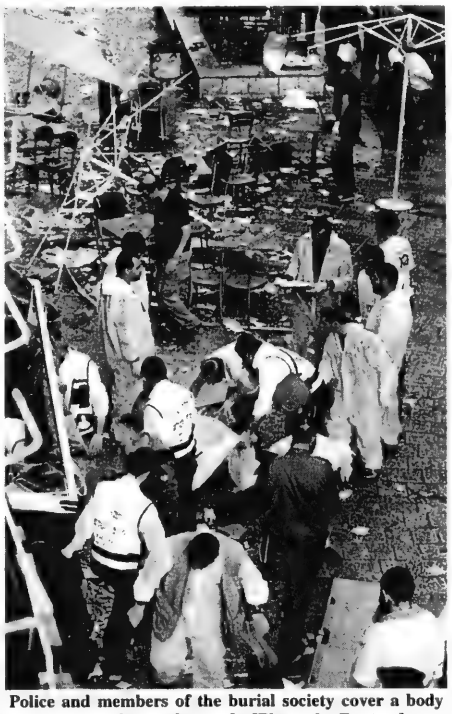
American Leah Colmer, who was eating lunch a few blocks from Ben Yehuda and reached the scene just after the bombings, said she would never be able to look at the area in the same way.

"I said to myself, this is happening, this is really happening. I couldn't pretend that I was living at Disneyland just because I have an American passport," said Colmer, who had rushed to Ben Yehuda, where she helped comfort dazed survivors.

To walk down the lively pedestrian mall "usually is a fun and social scene," she said. "Today it wasn't, it was a life and death experience. It cost people their lives."

A teenager weeps while holding a prayer book at a candle memorial near Ben Yehuda Street.

Members of the burial society scrape up bits of flesh.



Police and members of the burial society cover a body next to a popular outdoor cafe. [Photos by Reuters]

Opinions

Water still a fundamental issue

Most people think that our disagreements with the Palestinians are about land: Who occupies and controls which land? That may be true superficially, but fundamentally the clash is over water. In the history of civilization, empires have risen and fallen in the struggle for control of the precious water sources without which no nation can live.

By Carl Alpert in Haifa

Israel is today engaged in a life and death battle, not over a street in Hebron or a colony on the Golan, but over control of the sources of this life-giving element, without which agriculture, industry and the human population itself can not subsist. Experts have raised the warning cry almost since the creation of the state, but successive governments have been criminally derelict in virtually neglecting the problem. A couple of years of drought – and Israel has had several such periods – have stimulated the beginnings of some action, but an ensuing few years of ample rainfall seemed to solve the problem and the emergency was all but forgotten.

The crisis still exists. The other day Israel's Water Commissioner, Meir Ben-Meir, sounded the alarm that within the coming decade, there would not be enough water for the needs of agriculture and the water taps in private homes would run dry. His warning barely rated a few paragraphs in the press. The public has become accustomed to periodic alarms on the subject.

In 1991, in the midst of a drought, State comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat stated that as a result of 25 years of irresponsible mismanagement, Israel faced a water catastrophe. That made headlines, but a year of heavy rainfalls thereafter allayed fears.

One-third of Israel's water supply comes from underground aquifers which are fed from the hills in the West Bank. Giving a Palestinian entity exclusive control over this area means that they would be able to drill and divert these waters away from Israel, or even, because of faulty or careless management, bring about pollution of these sources.

Another major source of Israel's supply comes from the headwaters which feed the Jordan River and the Sea of Galilee, in effect our only sizeable reservoir. More than 30 years ago, Syria began to construct dams to divert these waters away from Israel. The Syrian program was disrupted by Israeli tanks and planes, which put an effective end to these efforts three years before the occupation of the Golan Heights.

In the glow of then-premier Shimon Peres' call for a new Middle East, an agreement was signed with the Palestinians, not only calling for sharing of the water, but also giving them a degree of control. One senior Israeli involved in the negotiations privately warned that "what we are doing now is not shooting ourselves in the foot, but shooting ourselves in the head."

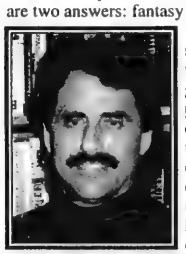
The last few years have brought relatively ample rainfall. Is there assurance that next year will be the same? In the meantime, Israel's population and agricultural requirements have been growing at a rapid pace. What must be done? For a while, there was cockeyed talk of an agreement with Turkey, whereby that country would ship us water in tankers! Some reliance is being placed on recycling of sewage and some water supplies from the source are available for agriculture.

Desalination of water is technologically feasible, but still extremely expensive. Research and technical studies each year manage to bring this cost down, but not enough. Why is the government not allocating the millions, perhaps even the billions of dollars required to make desalination economically feasible? Surely, this is no less important to the survival of Israel, than all the planes and military hardware.

In the meantime, this precious commodity must be handled with care. Undoubtedly we must reach a sharing understanding with the Palestinians (an agreement to that effect was signed recently with Jordan) but on no account can we afford to yield up control of the sources to hands which are at best irresponsible, and at worst, hostile.

Lady Di, peace and the Mideast

What could the late Princess Diana, peace and the Middle East possibly have in common? Well, there are two answers: fantasy and hope.



By Martin Himel in Herzliya

For the past several days, the world has been gripped by the princess' tragic death. Why? Fantasy – her life, and death touched our dreams. That's why television networks have spent millions of dollars pumping the airwaves with unending stories of a sweet, beautiful princess who had a tragic life and a tragic end.

Only a handful of the millions who mourned her loss ever met or knew Diana. And I am sure the real Diana, Princess of Wales, was a very different woman than the immortal "Queen of Hearts" symbol, which she has become. The real Diana is irrelevant for the public. It is the metaphysical Diana that counts, because without fantasy and dreams, what are we?

Peace in the Middle East is also a Dianaesque dream, somehow out of reach, somehow perfect because it is not at hand, somehow a Utopian dream. But without that dream, without at least the chance of realizing it, there is no national soul in this country. There is no hope.

Through her death, Diana inspired the world. Remembered was her contribution to helping AIDS patients, land mine victims; forgotten was the titillating gossip about her affairs. Like Diana, when Yitzhak Rabin was felled by an assassin's bullet, he became a "Saint for Peace" in the eyes of the world and in the Jewish State. He was remembered for his bold and courageous decisions to carve a new path towards reconciliation with the Palestinians; forgotten was the heated public controversy.

Israelis want to remember the dream

Israelis, like all other human beings, want to remember the dream, the hope for peace, Rabin's efforts to reach the Utopian Holyland.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu now says forget dreams, forget a real peace with the Arabs, forget Shimon Peres' vision of a new economically linked Middle East.

Netanyahu wants us to stop dreaming, stop striving for change. He wants us to accept the bitter status quo of mutual hatred and mutual bloodshed, of living by the gun. He says he wants to shatter the Rabin-inspired illusions.

Maybe Rabin was driven by dreams, maybe he pursued mirages, maybe he aspired to something unattainable; but if we don't aspire, if humanity doesn't dream or fantasize, then we do not have the drive to change at least a little of our always tough reality.

If Theodor Herzl didn't dream, there would be no Zionism – nor Israel. Being realistic, as Netanyahu says, would never have motivated a bunch of crazy pioneers to come to what was a malaria-infested desert wasteland to build a Jewish State.

The national anthem echoes exactly what Netanyahu wants Israelis to forget. It is called Hatikvah (The Hope), the very hope this prime minister is trying to suck out of this battle-fatigued nation.

Check out the mood in Israel these days. No one is investing, no one is building, people are down, uninspired, lacking in direction. Netanyahu is definitely doing his job. His government is killing the spirit of this nation.

Without that spirit there is no will to fight, no will to sacrifice. Without the ability to hope for peace, there is no tool to aspire to a better future for our children. Netanyahu is succeeding in doing what very few Arab leaders have achieved: he is damaging the soul of this nation.

Without Dianaesque dreams, what do we really have? Only our grim reality.

Russian Jews in Germany

Only a few years ago, the idea that any Jew would voluntarily choose to live in Germany seemed impossible. When World War II was over, there were still more than 100,000 of our people in the country, but when the majority had left, only some 20,000 remained – Jews who had been imported by the Nazis as slave laborers from Eastern Europe. They were, on the whole, a dispirited lot, waiting to leave and settle elsewhere. Most former German Jews – of whom there were some 600,000 when I was young – never did return, and those now in the country considered themselves "Jews in Germany" but not "German Jews."

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

All this changed slowly in the decades to follow. Some Jews arrived from Iraq, others from Israel and assorted places in Europe – all of them attracted by the sudden *Wirtschaftswunder*, the German economic miracle. About 10 years ago, their number had swelled to 30,000 and the majority, if they were asked where they wanted to live, would have said, "not here."

But no longer. Inter Nationes, a German government agency that promotes visits to Germany, has published a special survey written by Susan Stern, entitled *Jews in Germany Today – Dynamic Growth, Dramatic Change*. It indicates that 60,000 Jewish immigrants have come from the former Soviet Union, swelling the Jewish population to 100,000 or more. It is anticipated that in another few years, with Russian Jews arriving at the rate of 700 a month, two-thirds or more of all Jews living in the country will formerly have been resident in Russia.

Why, asks Stern, do these Jews choose to emigrate to Germany rather than to Israel or elsewhere? The short answer is: Germany is seen as a land of opportunity; it is part of Central Europe and not as far away or culturally "foreign" as Israel.

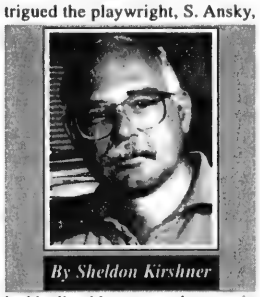
"Foreign?" Because to many of the Russian immigrants who sail under the Jewish banner and are therefore not refused admission, Israel, Judaism and Jewish history are unknown, and in addition, a good many of them have intermarried.

The older Jewish community in Germany is uncertain what to do with all the newcomers, of whom only a minority take an interest in the established Jewish organizations. The earlier residents want to integrate them, but at the same time, are afraid of domination by the newcomers. Still, sooner or later, the former Russians will indeed become the dominant element if they continue to identify as Jews. They are, to a large degree, well educated, have marketable skills, and it will not take them too long to integrate into the German economy – but the degree to which they will be part of Germany's Jews remains to be seen.

Thus, the wheel of history has taken a strange and unpredictable turn. Two generations ago, "Russian" and "German" Jews were terms that did not mix – culturally, religiously or socially. Tomorrow's Jews in Germany will be mostly Russians – if they are Jews at all – and it would take the gift of prophecy to foresee what the Jewish community in Europe's heartland will be like.

The Kirshner File

Polish director interprets *The Dybbuk*



By Sheldon Kirshner

The adaptation of *The Dybbuk* by Poland's Teatr Wierszalin would have intrigued the playwright, S. Ansky, had he lived long enough to see it.

Considered one of the jewels in the crown of Yiddish theatre, *The Dybbuk* was written in 1897. Infused with Jewish folk tales and legends, the haunting play unfolds against the backdrop of two doomed lovers. When their marriage is thwarted, the aspiring groom dies of heartbreak and his soul becomes a dybbuk, a demon which invades the living body of the bride.

As interpreted by the Bialystok-based Teatr Wiersazlin, *The Dybbuk* is true to Ansky's mystical vision, being full of sound and fury signifying torment. The visually stunning and powerfully acted version, presented by director Piotr Tomaszuk at the Ashkenaz Festival of New Jewish Culture in Toronto late last month, breaks new ground, as Ansky probably would have recognized. It is delivered in English, with a sprinkling of Yiddish and Hebrew. The actors are Polish Catholics. There is fleeting nudity. In short, it blends the old with the new.

Tomaszuk, a 36-year-old award-winning director, was attracted to *The Dybbuk* because he views it as a gateway to Jewish culture, which has interested him for more than 10 years.

Born in Bialystok, an eastern Polish city whose Jewish population was decimated in Treblinka and Majdanek, Tomaszuk was raised in a Catholic home, though he suspects that his great-grandmother was a Ukrainian Jew.

Since Bialystok was all but bereft of Jews when he was a youth, Tomaszuk's first encounter with Jewish culture did not occur until he was a student at the Zelwerowicz State Theatre Academy in Warsaw. Several of his professors there were well acquainted with the subject and were his guides to the lost world of Polish Jewry.

Inspired by their enthusiasm, he visited the ruins of Jewish cemeteries and synagogues around Bialystok, which was half-Jewish on the eve of the Holocaust, and made a special trip to Prague to see its famous Jewish sites.

As he immersed himself in Jewish history and folklore, Tomaszuk – who founded the Teatr Wierszalin in 1991 – discovered that Polish culture, particularly in the eastern part of the country, had been affected by Jewish influences. "The spirit of it is in our blood, you understand," he told me.

So, of course, Tomaszuk jumped at the chance to do *The Dybbuk*. His touring company has staged Ansky's classic throughout Poland and the response has been encouraging. "We have been warmly received," said Tomaszuk. In the main, his audiences usually consist of young people.

To critical acclaim, Teatr Wierszalin has performed *The Dybbuk* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. After Toronto, Tomaszuk and his director, Michael Griggs, took it to Chicago. From there, Teatr Wierszalin returns to Poland before embarking on a tour of Holland and Germany.

Tomaszuk believes that Jewish culture is enjoying something of a renaissance in Poland, if only on a superficial nostalgic level. Yet anti-Semitism persists, fed by xenophobia and deep-seated myths about Jews, he acknowledged.

Anti-Semitism exists on both the grassroots and political levels. Tomaszuk has heard shoppers in stores make disparaging comments about Jews and money. And during the presidential election campaign following the collapse of Communism in 1989, the leading candidate cast aspersions on the supposed Jewish origins of his opponent.

It's a sad and disturbing commentary on Poland, but it is partially offset by Poles such as Tomaszuk, who try to preserve Jewish culture through the medium of *The Dybbuk*.

Kosinski probed limits of the human experience

Jerzy Kosinski was an innovative novelist who probed the limits of human experience. When he committed suicide in 1991, the literary world was aghast, though not surprised.

Suicide had been a recurrent motif in his works, and in this respect, his untimely death was like one of those bizarre psychodramas which informed his novels.

Kosinski, author of *The Painted Bird* and *Steps*, was a complicated personality who struggled with his identity and with his writing, James Park Sloan suggests in his splendid biography, *Jerzy Kosinski* (Penguin Books, $19.99).

A Polish Jew who masqueraded as a Polish Catholic before his reconciliation with his true self, Kosinski was a talented writer whose reliance on editorial assistants prompted charges of plagiarism.

Born in Lodz in 1933, he was the scion of a fairly assimilated family which fudged its Jewishness to survive the Holocaust. Kosinski's identity problems stemmed from this period.

He studied history, political science and sociology in Lodz, and in 1957, he went to the United States to continue his postgraduate studies at Columbia University. Despite a Ford Foundation Fellowship, he took odd jobs as a chauffeur, truck driver, car parker and paint scraper. Within eight months of his arrival in New York City, he managed to produce *The Future Is Ours, Comrade*, a scathing indictment of the Soviet Union and Communism, under the pseudonym of Joseph Novak.

Sloan is astonished by this feat of authorship, given Kosinski's imperfect command of English. The question would arise again, even after he had achieved fame as a writer and a celebrity. As Sloan puts it: "...Kosinski had to protect a terrible secret: He could not write competently in the language in which he was published."

To be more specific, Sloan claims that Kosinski could not have written *Steps* — which won the National Book Award — without the help of an editor named Peter Skinner. Kosinski, he explains, provided the ideas, while Skinner "contributed much to the craft and attention to detail."

Kosinski's modus operandi was challenged by the *Village Voice* in 1982, and the critique devastated him. On this issue, Sloan adopts a measured approach. As he observes, Kosinski was not the stylist he was credited with being, but neither was he a fraud. "He was, if nothing else, a great storyteller."

In his early years in America, Kosinski passed as a Catholic, moving easily in Polish emigre circles. Kosinski also deliberately preserved the ambiguity that he might be a Gypsy. But after the publication of *Being There* and *Blind Date* in the 1970s, he openly acknowledged his Jewishness, and gradually became recognized as a Jewish writer.

Once that matter was cleared up, Kosinski labored to work out a reconciliation between Jews and Poles. He associated himself with the Oxford Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies and became the president of its American branch.

In 1988, Kosinski visited Poland and his homecoming was a triumph. *The Painted Bird*, a classic of Holocaust literature, had made him a persona non grata in Poland. But now he was a hero, the politics of the past having been shelved.

With regard to Poland, Kosinski advised Jews to place less emphasis on the Holocaust and to celebrate the thousand years of Jewish accomplishment in Poland. Detractors interpreted his plea as an apologia for Polish anti-Semitism. But the criticism did not affect Kosinski's views of this sensitive matter. He was a non-conformist to the end.

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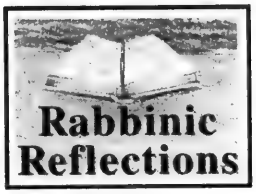

Take time to reflect on life's changes

By RABBI MORDECAI E. ZEITZ

George Bernard Shaw once remarked that the only intelligent man he knew was his tailor, who would take a new measure of him every time he ordered a new suit, and would not assume that he always remained the same.

There is no doubt we live in an age of change. The marketplace has changed, family structures are constantly changing, we live amidst changing politics, even the weather has changed. In order to survive we have learned to cope with change. We are no longer intimidated by change and we have learned to adapt to an ever changing society.

It is rather amazing that with so much change all about us — so much about ourselves remains the same. As we anticipate the change of the year, as we enter a new year, we stop to ask ourselves what has really changed? What changes are a result of outside influences — beyond my control? What changes have been brought about by my own choice, through my own decision-making?

A friend sometimes says: "I have decided to take my health seriously. I have stopped smoking. I have changed my diet! I have become serious about exercise." We all know someone who has done one or all of the above. But all too often it was because of serious illness or a stern warning from their doctor. Yes, they change, but not by choice, but by chance happenings, which left them little choice.

In renewing the state of our spiritual health we have similar circumstances. Some have gained greater sensitivity towards Jewish identity and Jewish practice — most commendable. But all too often it was because of outside changes in their lives, the death of a loved one, a disability or misfortune. Positive spiritual and religious change could also come from within, when I choose to fill the void with something significant and meaningful such as a step up in practice, exposure or Jewish study. These choices are mine to make and Rosh Hashanah, the change in the year, is my window of opportunity.

It seems so obvious. The challenge appears so simple. I am constantly stymied as to why we wait for change to be imposed from the outside as opposed to opting to do it on our own, at our choosing, at our own timing. What is it that inhibits our ability to really change? What is the real obstacle preventing honest tshuvah? Perhaps the following will give us some food for thought.

A peasant from a small shtetl came to the city for the very first time. He was impressed with the beautiful display of new clothing. He decided that it was time for a change. He bought a new suit. He could hardly wait until he got home so that he could show off his new suit. To his astonishment and embarrassment, now it didn't fit. He complained about this to his close friends, until one pointed out, "Of course it does not fit!" You put on your new suit right over your old clothes. You have to take off the old before you can put on the new."

To effect change something has to give. I must be prepared to give up something so as to gain something else. Yes, old habits are hard to break, but ironically, those old habits are broken so easily in times of adversity and crisis. We hope that the coming year will bring to each of us much good health and good fortune. Let's start by discarding the mundane and the unnecessary so as to make room for a few changes which can add meaning and satisfaction to our lives and our relationships. May we be the master of change and growth in the year 5758.

Rabbi Mordecai Zeitz is spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Tikvah in Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Que.

Diplomatically Speaking
By JEHUDI KINAR

Centres' openings reflect new dynamism

This week saw two milestones in the Canadian Jewish community: the opening of multi-faceted community complexes in Toronto and Winnipeg. In Toronto, the opening ceremony of the Sephardic Kehilla Centre was attended by more than 2,000 people. Israel's Foreign Minister David Levy flew in for the inaugural ceremony where he addressed the community.

The Kehilla Centre houses the Or Haemet Sephardic School and a sanctuary, and is designed to provide the Sephardic community with a religious, cultural and educational centre. This is a significant achievement for the Canadian Jewish community in general and the Sephardi community in particular. While there are many Sephardi synagogues in Canada, the establishment of Canada's largest Sephardi cultural centre represents an especially proud moment for a vital and culturally-rich community. Canada's Sephardi community is — much like Canada — a mosaic of cultures and encompasses Jews of varying religious, social and ethnic backgrounds from such places as Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Yemen, Iraq, Iran, Bulgaria, Egypt and a host of other countries. Each of these distinct communities brings with it its own distinct history, customs and rituals. It is this distinctiveness of the Sephardi tradition which will be the focus of the Or Haemet School. Thus the presence of a Sephardi educational institution is an important addition to a city already rich with Jewish educational facilities.

In western Canada, the new Asper Jewish Community Campus in Winnipeg which celebrated its official opening Sept. 7 (which I had the pleasure of attending), houses a school (the Gray Academy of Education); a YMHA community centre (named the Rose and Max Rady Jewish Community Centre); and other community offices and facilities. Most impressive is the new Marion and Ed Vickar Jewish Museum of Western Canada and Holocaust Education Centre. Plans for some exciting art exhibits are already underway as the community prepares to join in the celebrations of Israel's 50th anniversary.

The opening of this new and reinvigorated centre is a testimony to the dynamism of the Winnipeg Jewish community which historically has contributed significantly to the strength of the Canadian Jewish community as well as the Canadian presence in Israel.

The establishment of these two centres reflects a new dynamism which seems to be emerging on the Canadian Jewish scene. The enthusiastic response of Canadian Jews to these and other institutions, to events like Ashkenaz (the Festival of Yiddish Culture which enjoyed a successful second year in Toronto this summer), and the numerous Jewish film festivals across the country is all evidence of the vigor of our shared culture. As an Israeli, I take pleasure in participating in these cultural events, and in seeing the continued connection between Israel and the Diaspora. The presence of Foreign Minister David Levy at the opening in Toronto and my own participation at the opening in Winnipeg are, I hope, reflections of a reciprocal commitment between Israeli and Diaspora Jewry.

Jewish Life

Books

By Bernard Baskin

***The Puttermesser Papers*, by Cynthia Ozick (Random House, $32).**

The five beautifully crafted stories that make up this book comprise the biography of a remarkable character.

Ruth Puttermesser (butter-knife) is a worldly, formidably intelligent realist who is also an ever-hopeful romantic. Ozick sympathetically portrays her in a series of fantasy roles or incarnations: youthful attorney for the city of New York's Department of Receipts and Disbursements; mayor of the City of New York through the help of Xanthippe, the erotic female golem (Frankenstein-like figure) she creates; in love at 50 with a young painter whom she introduces to the works of George Eliot – viewing herself as the 19th-century novelist and seeing him as George Lewes, her paramour; sponsor of the immigration to the United States of an overbearing and unappreciative Russian cousin; and finally, as a resident of paradise after she has been murdered.

Each segment of Puttermesser's life affords Ozick the opportunity to elaborate on a variety of themes. What emerges is an amalgam of truth and illusion, reality and fantasy, hope and disappointment – all of it successfully sustained by her high humor, impressive learning and gift for language.

These loosely connected stories meant to be slowly savored are filled with good things by a gifted and wise author.

* * *

***The Project*, by Zev Chafets (Warner Books, $29.95)**

The first Jewish president of the United States turns out to be Dewey Goldberg, a Democrat from the State of Michigan. He attains this exalted office when the incumbent president and vice-president are killed in a tragic boating accident.

After 11 months in the Oval Office, the well-meaning, inexperienced, cautious, canny, former speaker of the House of Representatives is confronted with an upcoming election.

In order to win, he needs the solid backing of his fellow Jews – especially in key states. But to his surprise and dismay, he discovers that he is being undermined by the prime minister of Israel who, inexplicably, is supporting his opponent, an ultra-conservative apocalypse-minded fundamentalist Christian.

Goldberg sends Charlie Walker, his advisor and confidant and a prize winning journalist, to Tel Aviv to investigate. Walker learns a great deal about the elusive Barzel: bachelor, one-time Nazi hunter, crafty politician and wealthy entrepreneur.

Fortunately, Walker uncovers an astonishing dark secret out of Barzel's past that brings Goldberg and the prime minister together for a pragmatic and satisfactory deal. The danger has been averted; Goldberg's victory is assured.

The Project is unfailingly entertaining, an ideal choice for summer reading.

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Kotel Kam keeps an eye on Jerusalem's Western Wall

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Last week, I pointed out the best starting points for finding links to the thousands of Jewish and Israeli stops on the Jewish Highway. Today, I continue my (very subjective) look at some of the very best sites.

Although it is just over a year old, Virtual Jerusalem **[http://www.jer1.co.il]** has distinguished itself as one of the best Jewish sites on the Internet. This massive site has a wealth of information about news, politics, religion and just about any other issue affecting Jews. Plus, they are always looking for novel ways to use new technologies.

Can't attend your cousin's bar mitzvah at the Kotel? Well, you can virtually be there by checking out The Kotel Kam **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/kotel/kam/index.htm]**. You can even send your own note to be placed in the Kotel **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/prayer/]**. My one criticism of Virtual Jerusalem is that the home page takes a long time to download.

I like The Jewish Communication Network (JCN) **[http://www.jcn18.com]** because it is informative, thought-provoking and cheeky. Some recent articles from the New York City-based site include Forum Follies: Arabs and Jews Mix it up Online and Bone of My Bones and Flesh of My Flesh: The Cloning of Sheep and Humans. An added bonus: the folks at JCN also scour the Internet for Cool Jewish Sites **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=549]**.

Again, there's quite a variety here with recent choices like Welcome to Satmar; Bat Kol: A Feminist House of Study; and the Jewish Jugglers Home Page.

Another important site belongs to Shamash — The Jewish Internet Consortium **[http://www.shamash.org/]**. Although the graphics on this Brookline, Massachusetts-based Web site may not be as zippy as those found at Virtual Jerusalem or the Jewish Communication Network, Shamash provides a home for the Web sites of many Jewish organizations **[http://shamash.org/members.html]** and over 150 e-mail lists **[http://shamash.org/help/listoflists.html]**.

Many newspapers on the Internet present only a summary of that day's news online and then charge a fee for further information or for the ability to search back issues. Not so at the *Jerusalem Post* **[http://www.jpost.com]** which offers a generous selection of current articles as well as the ability to search the archives. Although the *Jerusalem Report* **[http://www.virtual.co.il/news/news/j_report]** does not reprint its entire contents on the Web, it does post some very interesting in-depth articles on a regular basis.

If you prefer to listen to the news rather than read it, then go to Attificia **[http://www.artificia.com/]**. This is the home of Kol Yisrael broadcasts from Israel in both Hebrew and English. You can register for free for a basic selection of newscasts or you can subscribe for a much larger selection. Also, the folks at Artificia are experimenting with video. Those newscasts are quite jerky but it is still amazing to be able to watch excerpts of Israeli television right on your computer monitor.

A while back, I did a couple of columns on a topic which generated more feedback than any other. Jewish Genealogy is certainly a hot topic and thankfully, there is a site like JewishGen: The Official Home of Jewish Genealogy **[http://www.jewishgen.org]**. Although JewishGen is extremely detailed and can address the problems encountered by people who have spent years researching their roots, it is still an excellent starting point for others who are just beginning to investigate their family tree.

Since the Jewish Highway is so vast, I can only mention a handful of sites each week from the thousands out there. Do you have a favorite Web site, usenet newsgroup or e-mail list that deserves recognition?

Send me its name, address and why you like it – and I'll credit you for your find in a future column.

Next week, some choice religious sites as we approach the High Holidays.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net

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Princess Diana and the right to privacy

By RABBI CHAIM STEINMETZ

The tragic death of Princess Diana, whose car crashed while trying to evade newspaper photographers, shocked the world.

Comparative Law

Her brother, Earl Spencer, blamed her death on tabloid newspapers that pay large sums to publish pictures of celebrities. The tabloids' interest in these pictures is fuelled by public demand. A picture taken of Princess Diana and Dodi Al Fayed kissing boosted the daily circulation of the British newspaper the *Mirror* by 300,000 copies. Clearly, the general public is very interested in details of Diana's private life. But is this invasion of privacy immoral?

Confidentiality is an important concern in Halachah. The Talmud (Yoma 4b) tells us that everything a person relates to a friend is assumed to be confidential unless he specifically states otherwise. Similarly, there is a ban, enacted by Rabbi Gershom of Mainz (960-1028) on reading another person's mail without their consent (Shiltei Gibborim Shavuot, chapter 5; Be'er HoGolah Yoreh Deah 334).

Talmud forbids peeping Toms

To disrupt another person's privacy is forbidden as well. The Talmud (Bava Batra 2a) considers the ability for someone to look into his neighbor's yard to be a form of injury known as "damage by sight". The concept of "damage by sight" means that it is forbidden to be a peeping Tom, and look at another person during moments of privacy (Ramban, Bava Batra 59a; cf. Even HaAzel Hilchot Shechenim 2:16). Damage by sight is considered a personal injury because of humiliation and loss of privacy it creates. Because of damage by sight, a person can force his neighbor to share in the expenses of a fence between their two properties, so that both parties are ensured of their privacy. (Shulchan Aruch Choshen Mishpat 157:1). Similarly, one may not open a window facing his neighbor's house without his neighbor's permission (Shulchan Aruch 154:3). To snoop around another person's property and photograph them while they are in their bathing suits is a violation of this law.

Publicizing the private lives of other people is forbidden as well.

"Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people" (Leviticus 19:16) is understood as a prohibition against telling negative gossip about other people. Gossip can cause irreparable damage to someone's reputation. In addition, the Talmud notes (Eruchin 15b) that the retelling of gossip can destroy friendships and cause social disruption.

It is important to note that the prohibition against gossip includes listening to gossip (Pesachim 118a). The obligation to prevent gossip belongs both to the person who speaks gossip and the person who listens to gossip. Readers have a responsibility to buy newspapers that do not engage in frivolous gossip.

This does not mean that newspapers can never report on public figures.

In fact, there are instances where gossip is not only permitted, but even an obligation. It is obligatory to warn someone about her boyfriend's dark past, or to warn someone about a prospective employee's unreliability (Sefer Chofetz Chaim 1:4 and 1:6). Similarly, to report on a politician's private dealings, if it sheds significant light on his character, may be acceptable. This is because knowledge of the politician's character helps voters make an informed decision at re-election time. However, a celebrity's private life, which is of no importance to the public, cannot be reported on, and should not be read about. These rules strike a balance between the needs of the public, which needs to be informed about matters of public concern, and the individual's right to privacy.

Halachah takes personal privacy very seriously. To report on (and read about) the private lives of public figures is unethical, unless these reports are important for the preservation of public welfare. The media's hounding of Princess Diana is a sad example of unethical behavior.

Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz is spiritual leader of Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem in Quebec

Greater Toronto Area

Prutschi takes on new job with Sephardic groups

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Manuel Prutschi, 49, executive director of the Ontario Region, Canadian Jewish Congress, has been named the chief executive of Canada's two major Sephardi organizations, effective Oct. 1.

"It is an exciting opportunity to promote unity in the Jewish community between its Ashkenazi and Sephardic elements," Prutschi told *The CJN*. He was recruited for the job by Jacques Benquesus, a Toronto businessman and philanthropist, the chief contributor and moving spirit behind the new Sephardic Kehila Centre.

Prutschi will move into an office at the new Sephardic Kehila Centre as executive vice-president of the Sephardic Educational Foundation and of the World Sephardic Educational Centre, Jerusalem. The latter position, Prutschi noted, will entail travel in Latin America, the United States, France Spain, and to Jerusalem.

The Foundation is a private one, headed by Benquesus, who, according to Prutschi has three goals in life, "love of God, love of Torah and love of the Jewish people," to complement his desire to build a vibrant, active Sephardic community.

"The Sephardic community is greatly underestimated in Canada and elsewhere and it has come to the point where it is asking for its rightful place," said Prutschi.

The largely post-World War II Sephardic population has grown to 30,000 in Montreal and 15,000 in Toronto, and world-wide is now 3½ million, or 25 per cent of the total Jewish population of approximately 13 million. Some demographers even estimate that the number of Sephardi Jews in Israel is larger than the Ashkenazi, although the question is unresolved in light of the massive aliyah from the former Soviet Union over the last decade, most of whom are Ashkenazi.

Manuel Prutschi

Prutschi, an Ashkenazi born in Ecuador, whose mother tongue is Spanish, sees his new posting as a means of bringing Ashkenazi and Sephardi together.

"We must educate and sensitize the Ashkenazi community about the Sephardic one and vice versa," he said.In a way his new job is like coming home because he studied the Spanish and French Jewish communities at university.

After 13 years in the employ of the Canadian Jewish Congress, five of them in the top job in Ontario, Prutschi leaves his post with the feeling he has accomplished what he set out to do.

Prutschi came to Montreal from Ecuador as a teenager, attended high school and McGill University there as an undergraduate and completed a master's degree in Sephardic history at University of Western Ontario. He had also completed all his necessary academic work for a doctorate degree in the same subject except for his dissertation.

His wife, Sara, was born in Israel and raised in Colombia, and they have two children, Edward, 23, and Tamara, 18, both attending university.

A new Caplan in Oriole

TORONTO — Queen's Park will have another Jewish MPP, as David Caplan easily won last week's provincial byelection in the riding of Oriole.

Caplan, 32, polled 9,954 votes to defeat his Tory opponent Barbara Green, who received 5,163 votes. The NDP's James Kafieh placed a distant third, with 1,700 votes.

His mother, Elinor Caplan, resigned the seat to run successfully in the federal riding of Thornhill.

David Caplan

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SUNDAY, SUPER SUNDAY

Hundreds of community members have signed up to raise thousands of dollars on behalf of Jews in need at UJA Federation's largest one-day fundraising event.

On Super Sunday, September 14, from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m., hundreds of volunteers will contact thousands of community members to enlist their support for the 1998 campaign.

UJA Federation's annual campaign, which reached $35.5 million last year, supports an extensive network of programs and services including financial assistance for the poor, subsidized Jewish education and hot kosher meals for the elderly and the rescue of Jews from unstable regions.

Last year, more than 700 community campaigners raised $2.5 million on Super Sunday and during Super Week, a series of evening telethons which followed.

"It's a wonderful effort by the community for the community," says Vicki Campbell, former Chair of UJA Federation's Women's Campaign, who is co-chairing the telethon blitz with Jeff Cohen.

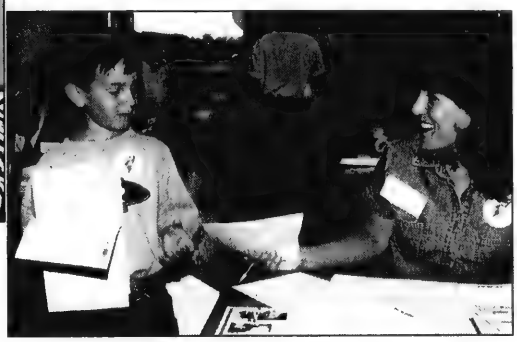
Super Sunday kicks off the month long Super September which includes Super Week, with nightly telethons from September 15 – 18 and New Gifts Sunday, September 28.

To encourage community members to pitch in during Super September, UJA Federation has introduced its own Frequent Flyer Program. Volunteers can collect points for each telethon they attend, making them eligible to enter a draw in which they could win free seats on UJA Federation missions, including the Washington Fly-In, the Ottawa Fly-In and even Mission '98 - Israel at 50.

Family members are welcome to help out. "It's a great way for the entire family to get involved with the community and for newcomers to get a taste of what UJA Federation is all about," explains Jeff Cohen, who plans to bring wife Laurie and their two children.

If you're interested in being a Super Hero on behalf of the community and would like to sign up for one of four shifts on Super Sunday or during Super Week, please call Silvia Astrug at (416) 635-2883 ext. 115.

Above: Moselle Berger happily takes a pledge from a contributor.



Right: Super Sunday brings out volunteers of all ages to raise money for Jews in need.

UJA Federation's Campaign Matchmakers

Michael Daren and Lionel Robins have no qualms about using personal connections to help raise funds for UJA Federation. In fact, they believe that finding the right match between campaigner and contributor can often make all the difference.

The two veteran volunteers are heading UJA Federation's King David's Circle, a division that encourages and recognizes leadership within the community, as well as high levels of commitment to the campaign.

Michael Daren

Lionel Robins

Last year, under the chairmanship of Leo Goldhar, UJA Federation's current Campaign Chairman, and several leading campaign supporters, $450,000 was raised among King David's Circle members.

But this year, the team of Daren, who is a partner in the accounting firm of Daren, Martenfeld, Carr, Testa and Company, and Robins, Managing Director of Cedarpoint Investments, is focusing on reaching those who have never contributed to the campaign before, or have stopped doing so.

"There are potential donors out there who represent millions of dollars," estimates Robins, who is convinced it is simply a matter of providing them with the right information about UJA Federation's vital role in the community.

"We must take the time to meet with these people, one on one, and answer their concerns or questions," emphasizes Daren. "It's really an exercise in education and enlightenment."

"It's also about getting the right person to make the contact," says Robins. "That's why we rely heavily on consultations with some of our most experienced donors."

"The value of getting these people back," adds Robins, "is more than their annual gift. It's keeping them on board for many years to come."

Jews for Judaism fights back

The head of Toronto's only counter-missionary group, Jews for Judaism, hopes to hold a special town hall meeting to brief community members about the tactics of Jews for Jesus. Julius Ciss wants the gathering to be held before the High Holidays.

Ciss believes educating community members is the only way to ward off the threat posed by the presence of a new messianic synagogue in Thornhill.

The City of David Synagogue, located in a shopping plaza at the corner of Bathurst and Steeles, is one of six messianic congregations in the Metro Toronto Area attempting to convert Jews to Christianity.

Ciss, Executive Director of Jews for Judaism, which received seed money from UJA Federation when it began its activities in 1989, called the opening of the congregation, located in Canada's fastest growing Jewish community, the most "provocative" move made by the group in recent years.

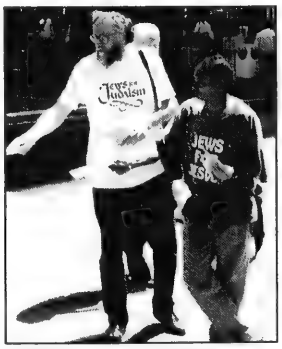
Jews for Judaism and Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, have received hundreds of calls from concerned Jews living in the area and have written letters of complaint to the plaza's property managers.

Rabbi Glenn Black of NCSY, a Jewish youth organization located in the same plaza as the City of David congregation, was deeply distressed recently when City of David leaflets were passed out to young members of his group as they prepared to leave from the plaza parking lot for a weekend retreat.

"We have tons of kids hanging out here all the time," he says, "and that frightens me."

In addition to producing published materials, Ciss also plans to offer community members who might be lured into the City of David's free High Holiday services, alternatives for worship within the Jewish community.

"Our best weapon against these missionaries is public education," insists Ciss.



JEWS FOR JUDAISM's Executive Director Julius Ciss (left) on duty in front of Old City Hall in Toronto, working opposite a Jews for Jesus missionary.

RECORD GIFT FOR UJA FEDERATION LEGACY CAMPAIGN

UJA Federation has received an unprecedented donation of stocks.

Allan Silber, Edward Sonshine and Morris Perlis, the Chairman and CEO, Vice-Chairman, and President of Counsel Corporation, collectively donated $10 million in publicly traded stock toward UJA Federation's Legacy Campaign, which is seeking to raise $150 million in endowments and capital contributions.

Last February, the federal budget offered financial incentives for contributors to donate stocks to organizations such as UJA Federation. "We hope that others will take advantage of this unique opportunity given to us by the federal government," said Sonshine. "The donation permits us to set up a permanent fund and to ensure better returns," he added. "It also allows our children to get involved and give back to the community."

All three men grew up in environments that instilled in them a responsibility to help Jews in need anywhere in the world. "The importance of Jewish heritage and continuity is integral to the philosophy of our lives," Silber stressed.

"Because of our common philosophies, the sense of belonging to a vibrant, thriving Jewish community is something that has always been very important to us," observed Perlis.

"Rarely does any one person have the opportunity to be in the position we have been blessed with," claimed Silber. "Collectively, we have never felt as good as we do today in being able to provide this kind of gift to Toronto's Jewish community."

Counsel Corporation executives Edward Sonshine (l), Allan Silber (centre) and Morris Perlis.

Mission '98 excitement mounts

Nearly 300 people were ready for takeoff last week even though Israel 50-Mission '98 is still five months away.

Many of those already registered for UJA Federation's upcoming trip to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary, and would-be participants, attended *Imagine a Mission* - a promotional night for the mega-mission. The evening was sponsored by UJA Federation, United Israel Appeal of Canada (UIA), the Israel Government Tourist Office, El Al Israel Airlines, Unitours and Aufgang Travel, with T-shirts from Eilat's Princess Hotel and snacks from Billy Bee Honey. UJA Federation and UIA expect 1,500 Canadians to take the tour. Last year, Mission '96, coinciding with Jerusalem's 3000th birthday, attracted 1,200 Canadians, making it the largest mission to Israel in Canadian history.

Israel 50-Mission '98 Chair Sandra Brown noted the number of previous participants who have already registered for next year's journey. "The fact that we have so many repeaters indicates something about the missions we take," she said.

UJA Federation missions, according to Brown, are the only way in which she travels to Israel. "I no longer feel like a visitor in Israel," she admitted. "I feel like we're part of a family."

Mission participant Cheryl Jackson brought her niece Carly to check out the action.

Mission '96 member Brenda Kamen, who is returning next year, said the super-tour "left a lasting impression on us."

Estelle Daniels, another Mission '96 participant made a commitment to the 1998 trip as soon as she returned from Israel last year.

Israel's Consul General Jehudi Kinar claimed that Mission '96 even opened his eyes to scenery he had never seen and people he had never met. "For those who do not join us, you will have to wait another 50 years," he jokingly warned.

UIA of Canada Executive Vice President Steve Ain promised an itinerary concentrating on sites that contributed to Israel's creation. "We will visit Latrun, now the museum of the armored corps," he said. "We will also see a museum dedicated to the armaments of 1948 - a remarkable tribute to the heroism of Israel's fighters."

Ain described Israel 50-Mission '98 as a trip combining the "benefits of a large group and individual buses with their own itineraries and identities."

For UJA Federation's Director of Continuity, Susan Jackson, Israel 50-Mission '98 is a link to Jewish roots. "We will discover the stories of every single stone in the country and, guess what, they're our stones."

Israel-50 Mission '98 will run from February 23-March 4, 1998 at an all inclusive price of $2,498, with a minimum campaign gift of $250 per person for each of the next two years.

For more information, call the Mission '98 Hotline at (416) 631-5698.

Brenda Kamen (l) and Estelle Daniels can't wait to return to Israel on Mission '98.

Detailed Information on Synagogue seating for the High Holidays is now available on UJA Federation's *Jewish Toronto* Web Site: www.feduja.org

UJA Washington Fly-in to visit Jordanian Embassy

For the first time ever, participants on UJA Federation's popular one day mission to Washington, D.C. will be welcomed into the Jordanian Embassy.

The special invitation came just as the itinerary for UJA Federation's Washington Fly-In, September 25, which includes a visit to the world renowned Holocaust Museum, was being finalized.

The Embassy visit will include briefings by top Jordanian diplomats.

Other highlights of the mission include meetings with Gregg Rickman, Project Director for the United States Banking Committee's inquiry into the Swiss banking affair and Steve Roberts, syndicated columnist and former Washington Bureau Chief for the Washington Post.

The price of the mission is $525 with a minimum $1,000 campaign contribution. For more information call Marc Bookbinder at (416) 631-5703.

Greater Toronto Area

BJE says goodbye to respected community leader...

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — After 27 years at the helm of the Board of Jewish Education (BJE) of Metropolitan Toronto as its executive director, Rabbi Irwin Witty, the charismatic community leader has officially stepped down. His resignation took effect on June 30.

Rabbi Witty is considered to have been one of the architects of the greater Toronto Jewish educational system, which is widely recognized as one of the strongest and most diverse in the Diaspora.

Along with his position at the BJE, Rabbi Witty was dean and lecturer at the Toronto Jewish Teachers' Seminary (Midrasha L'Morim). He has also been actively involved in York University's program in Jewish Teacher-Training Education and for 17 years, was an adjunct lecturer at York.

Before joining the BJE, Rabbi Witty was principal of Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate in Winnipeg, where he was also the director of Maimonides College.

He accepted the position with the BJE in 1968 following a speaking engagement at Toronto's Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, where he sufficiently impressed the local leadership that the offer to relocate to Toronto was soon forthcoming.

As part of his formal education, Rabbi Witty studied rabbinics at the Mirrer Yeshivah in Brooklyn, earned a master's degree in history at Columbia University and received his smichah at Yeshiva University.

During his almost three-decade tenure at the BJE, the day school population here grew from 3,200 students to more than 10,000, and the number of programs increased from 10 elementary and high schools to 27 in 35 locations, with several more in formation.

Rabbi Witty believes in Jewish education without regard to ideology, without concern for internecine differences that may exist.

"Our greatest enemy is Jewish ignorance," he told *The CJN*. "I believe firmly in what our sages taught – that study brings action, Jewish learning leads to the fulfilment of mitzvot." He adds that Jewish continuity is dependent more on a wide base of learned laity and professionals than on an undefined and unarticulated commitment to a Jewish future."

To encourage parents to seek Jewish education for their children, Rabbi Witty frequently speaks to audiences at private meetings, synagogues and social gatherings.

One of his major goals has been to upgrade the level Jewish education. "If you offer quality education, you will find buyers." To accomplish this he has spearheaded teacher training programs, seminars and services, and consultations to assist teachers.

Rabbi Irwin Witty

Teacher training program has benefitted community

He says the Jewish teacher training program has been of great benefit to the community. "It has attracted some of our finest young men and women who are graduates of our local Jewish educational institutions and it has been an exciting adventure for all those involved in it. It has been a source of tremendous personal fulfilment for me."

He says that although he has had moments of frustration and aggravation, "in the main, it has been a great ride. I've been blessed in the work I've chosen to do."

He recently accepted a position as director of The Coalition of Jewish Learning in Milwaukee, Wis., an arm of the federation that brings together Milwaukee's central educational agency. He explains that the newly established coalition is a seminal effort at promoting a community-wide awareness of Jewish education and providing the services and the means that will lead to cultivating lifelong learning in the community.

Rabbi Witty plans to return to Toronto in a year or two, when he has completed his assignment in Milwaukee.

On Sept. 21, the community will express its gratitude to Rabbi Witty at a tribute dinner at the Inn on the Park, sponsored by UJA Federation and its Board of Jewish Education.

Donald Carr, chair of the tribute dinner, told *The CJN*, "It was my privilege to serve, a long time ago, on a search committee for a new executive director for the Board of Jewish Education. The choice we made at that time became the embodiment of Jewish education in this city for almost three decades.

"Rabbi Witty has made an indelible mark on Toronto Jewry. He has probably done more for religious equality and Jewish continuity than any other person or group.

"Notwithstanding his own personal particular religious commitment, or perhaps, because of it, he has been the champion of every facet of genuine Jewish education, of whatever stream and at every level, from nursery to university. I hope he will continue to contribute in his very unique way."

For further information and reservations for the tribute dinner, please call the BJE at 416-633-7770.

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...Welcomes Unterman as new executive director

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — What made Rabbi Jeremiah Unterman decide to accept the position of executive director of Toronto's Board of Jewish Education (BJE) and leave a similar position as executive director of the Commission on Jewish Education in Hartford, Connecticut? He seems genuinely surprised by the question.

"Toronto has a phenomenal Jewish community," he declares, "and an educational infrastructure second in North America perhaps only to New York."

Now that Rabbi Unterman, a 50-year-old native of New Jersey, is overseeing that Jewish educational system (he took over from Rabbi Irwin Witty in July), his first priority is to familiarize himself in greater depth with Toronto's Jewish educational system. He hopes to visit every Jewish school in the Toronto area — and there are over 70 BJE affiliates, including multiple school branches — within the year.

Before moving here, the rabbi was also director of Hebrew College - Hartford, a Jewish teacher training institute. From 1983 to 1992 he was director and professor of the graduate program in Jewish Studies at Barry University in Miami. A frequent lecturer at scholarly conferences, he authored *From Repentance to Redemption*, a book on biblical prophecy, in 1987.

Rabbi Unterman is impressed by the relatively high percentage of Toronto students attending Jewish day schools. Here, approximately 60 percent of children who attend Jewish schools are day school students (roughly 10,000 out of almost 17,000), more than twice the average percentage in most American communities, he noted.

UJA Federation, through the BJE, provided over $6.5 million last year to Jewish schools. Most of the money is used to subsidize tuition for families who need a supplement (annual day school tuition ranges from $6,500 to $12,500.) A smaller percentage of the money is allocated to supplementary schools.

The rabbi, who has a PhD in Jewish studies, believes that "an excellent Jewish education" for all Jews translates into "a benefit not only to the individual Jew, that person's family and [his or her] own Jewish community but to the entire city, province and country.

Rabbi Jeremiah Unterman

"I believe completely that to be a good Jew is to be a more ethical human being," he explained.

The purpose of a Jewish education, he said, is to increase one's Jewish identity and personal commitment to Judaism.

Rabbi Unterman, who received private Orthodox smichah in Israel, where he lived for eight years, stressed he was not talking about any particular denomination of Judaism. There are many ways to express one's commitment to Judaism, he noted.

A second goal for Rabbi Unterman is to determine how best the BJE can serve the needs of the Jewish community, not only the school system, he said. Among the services offered by the BJE to its schools are consultation services, professional development programs and co-ordination of joint school projects.

"Perhaps the most important growing field in Jewish education today is family education. We are learning more and more that if one can help create a Jewish home, then parents will make sure the child has the necessary skills to become a committed Jew."

The rabbi, who is married with three school-age children, considers himself fortunate to have been raised in "a Jewish home [with] great dedication to Jewish learning [his parents helped found the day school he attended], the Jewish people and Zionism, and in which I never heard the words Orthodox, Conservative or Reform. A Jew was a Jew was a Jew. It had a great influence on me."

Coincidentally, Rabbi Unterman's father, retired attorney Theodor Herzl Unterman, was born in Toronto. His grandparents lived here briefly in the early part of the century.

Rabbi Unterman's late paternal grandfather, Rabbi Isaac Unterman, an eastern European-born scholar, educator, lawyer, Jewish newspaper publisher/editor and author of some 40 books (three of which he wrote in his early 90s), was also a strong influence on his grandson.

"He worked for the bureau of Jewish education in Miami back in the '50s and '60s," said Rabbi Unterman of his grandfather. "He wrote many books on Judaism and [had] studied with many of the great rabbis of Europe. He and my grandmother were strong Zionists. He had a significant impact on my life in terms of my interest in Judaism."

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Greater Toronto Area

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Temple Sinai gets new rabbi

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The new senior rabbi of Temple Sinai, Michael N. Dolgin, 31, deplores the divisions within the Toronto Jewish community over the proposed bill in Israel giving legal status only to Orthodox conversions.

"The word Jew means more to me than the adjectives preceding it," said Rabbi Dolgin, assistant and associate rabbi at the temple for the past five years.

"No one can ignore the difficulties of the past year. I think we should bring the community together, rather than fractionate it."

Raised in the Reform movement, the rabbi, a native of Chicago, said, "It is exciting to lead a congregation that upholds tradition but lives it in the 20th century with eyes open."

It is fortunate, he said, that Temple Sinai, the second largest Reform Temple in Canada, still has a large number of active early and founding members among its 1,700 families. All but two of its former presidents are still living. Murray Perelman is the current president. The congregation is so broadly based that no one group controls its affairs, Rabbi Dolgin said.

His credo, simply expressed, is: "It's not what you say or write, but how you live and what you do. We speak with our actions."

Rabbi Dolgin steps into the shoes of Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, the temple's founding rabbi and communal activist.

Rabbi Michael Dolgin

Installation of the new senior rabbi takes place on Sept. 19, with Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman, president of Hebrew Union College, a former Torontonian, officiating. It will include the premiere of a musical composition honoring Rabbi Dolgin by composer-in-residence Ben Steinberg, performed by Cantor Thomas Schwartz and Joan Dolgin, the rabbi's wife.

Rabbi Dolgin noted that the temple has strong ties to Israel, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, and to the international Reform movement, in which two of the temple's members, Austin Beutel and Harvey Zimmerman, holding leading posts.

Holding a master's degree in speech communication from Miami University of Ohio, Rabbi Dolgin met his wife Joan on campus and they were married 10 years ago. They spent the first year of his five-year program at Hebrew Union College in Israel.

The Dolgins (his wife holds a master's degree in special education) and their three young children, Andy, 7, Mathew, 4, and Zachary, 8 months, the last two born in Canada, have settled into a house in the Bathurst-Sheppard area.

New principal arrives at Netivot Hatorah

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The newly appointed principal of Netivot Hatorah Day School, a co-educational school that provides a full program of Judaic and general studies, brings with him more than two decades of teaching and administrative experience.

"I am excited about being in Toronto and part of the Netivot family, and hope to contribute to its future growth and success," said Raymond Stern in an interview at the school on Atkinson Avenue in Vaughan.

Born and raised in New York City's Lower East Side, Stern received an undergraduate degree in sociology at Yeshiva University and graduated from Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, in urban and regional planning.

He received a master's degree in educational administration at the University of Southern Maine, and a doctorate in educational administration from Yeshiva University.

Speaking of his move to Toronto, he says, "I wasn't looking for a position — I was looking for a special school that stresses excellence in general education, depth of Torah studies, and a school that recognizes the importance of Israel — Zionoot."

He adds that "with some 500 students...it is a unique school which meets the needs of the centrist Orthodox community which identifies with Israel, Halachah, and wants to achieve the best general education possible."

He says he's delighted that board members are interested in seeing the school expand, and that parents express enthusiasm for what the school stands for, and are ready to help in all areas.

Stern is married to Barbara Stern, a Jewish history teacher at the junior high school level. The Sterns have four children studying in New York, Israel, Chicago and Milwaukee.

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Greater Toronto Area

Lebanon security zone seen as essential

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Barring a political settlement with Syria and Lebanon, Israel has no choice but to maintain its self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon indefinitely, says Uri Lubrani, Israel's coordinator of Lebanese affairs for the past 14 years.

Israel cannot impose a military solution in Lebanon, said Lubrani in an interview conducted before last week's abortive Israeli raid into Lebanon which claimed the lives of 12 commandos. But Israel has the ability to contain Hezbollah so that Israelis in the Galilee can lead reasonably normal lives, he added.

Lubrani, here to deliver briefings about the current situation in the Middle East for the UJA Federation, believes that Israel has two options: "We can clear out of Lebanon unilaterally, or we can stick to our guns and do the best we can and deal with terrorist groups while they're not quite on our northern border."

The vast majority of Israelis favor the first option, noted Lubrani, Israel's former ambassador to Iran, Ethiopia and Uganda.

Lubrani, who reports directly to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, claimed that a unilateral withdrawal from southern Lebanon would not be in Israel's interests.

If Israel withdrew without a prior agreement with Syria and Lebanon, Hezbollah would attack Israel. Under these circumstances, Israel would have no alternative but to launch a "more elaborate" offensive against Hezbollah's bases, Lubrani said. This, in turn, would affect the overall Mideast peace process.

Lubrani, who has advised five Israeli prime ministers from Menachem Begin onward on Lebanese affairs, opposes the enlargement of Israel's security enclave, formed in the wake of the 1982 Lebanon War.

"It would not serve any purpose. It would increase the (Lebanese) population – for which we would be responsible – and would motivate and enhance Hezbollah's capability to hit at us. We would have longer lines of communication to take care of and we would have to introduce more troops, both major mistakes."

Lubrani asserted that Israel should avoid "at all costs" undertaking a massive incursion into Lebanon. "It won't achieve anything."

Responding to terrorist attacks and Katyusha rockets, Israel has carried out numerous raids, two invasions and several major bombardments of Lebanon since the late 1960s.

Lubrani said that Israel is paying a heavy toll to defend its northern border. On average, 23 to 25 soldiers have fallen in Lebanon each year since the end of the 1982 war. "This has to be regarded as the price to keep a whole area of Israel secure." In addition, since the Lebanon War, six civilians in northern Israel have been killed by Hezbollah Katyushas.

Lubrani acknowledged that Hezbollah's military capabilities are "constantly getting better."

He confirmed that Iran has supplied Hezbollah with long-range rockets capable of striking Haifa and warned Hezbollah to desist from targeting Haifa. "It would be very serious. It would force us to use methods and actions we have refrained from using until now." Lubrani declined to elaborate.

According to Lubrani, Hezbollah is financed, trained, armed and guided by the Islamic fundamentalist government in Iran. "It's an extension of Iran's foreign policy. Hezbollah has no will of its own; it follows Iranian dictates."

He said he saw no chance of a rapprochement between Israel and Iran while "the present regime is in place."

Turning to Syria's role, Lubrani said that Damascus "lets Hezbollah do its work with impunity." Syria, he declared, "can stop Hezbollah's activities at will." The Lebanese government is "totally controlled" by Syria, Lubrani said. "I mean it. They cannot take any decision without first referring to someone in Damascus."

He said that Netanyahu's 1996 Lebanon First proposal is still on the table, even though Syria and Lebanon rejected it.

Under its terms, Israel would vacate southern Lebanon if the following conditions were met: all hostilities would cease, Hezbollah would be disarmed and Israel's South Lebanese allies, principally the South Lebanon Army, would be neither penalized nor harassed.

Praising the Israeli-trained South Lebanon Army, Lubrani said it has performed effectively and saved Israel the need to augment its forces in southern Lebanon.

Lubrani said that United Nations Resolution 425, passed in the wake of Israel's first invasion of Lebanon in 1978, cannot be fully implemented unless Israel and Syria reach a global accord covering Lebanon and the Golan Heights. Resolution 425, among other things, calls for an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Lubrani warned Damascus that its support of Hezbollah imperilled future bilateral talks between Israel and Syria. These negotiations have been suspended since February 1996.

"I can't see any Israeli-Syrian negotiations proceeding with a chance of success while terrorist activity continues. We'll have to find a formula by which (Hezbollah's) military activities will cease, even temporarily, for negotiations to begin. This leads us to Lebanon First.

"It's possible for Israel and Syria to sign a peace treaty. But it can't be superimposed by one side or the other or be the result of Syrian pressure on us in Lebanon.

"I would like to think that (Syria) wants to make peace, but the taste of the pudding will be in the eating."

Israel, Lubrani said, has "very meaningful" security interests on the Golan.

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Greater Toronto Area

Survivor captures wartime horror in his poetry

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

After a lifetime of memories, North York resident Stanley Hochman recently returned to Poland, his first visit to the land of his birth in more than 50 years.

A survivor of the German war against the Jews, Hochman revisited his native shtetl, Dembrin, where he had been incarcerated in a Nazi labor camp. He also visited Warsaw, Krakow and Auschwitz and other former Nazi death and labor camps. His response to the killing factories was exactly the same as the first time he saw them during wartime: he wrote a poem.

Feature

Hochman first began writing poetry as a youth, after he was rounded up and incarcerated along with many other local Jews in the labor camp in Dembrin. "I started writing poetry from behind barbed wire," he said.

"My father was a butler to a German officer, and when I had finished my work loading bombs, I would go to where he was and I would write."

He and other prisoners were later transported to Buchenwald in cattle cars and Hochman lost his few remaining possessions. After he was liberated in 1945, he spent more than three months recuperating from severe emaciation. Then he rewrote his poems from memory.

Returning to his native town was a disappointment, he said, "because I couldn't recognize the place."

However, he was surprised by the warm reception he received from the assistant mayor and others. One resident remembered Hochman's father, and showed Hochman many local sites that he could not have recognized or found on his own.

The editor of the local newspaper, *Nasz Demblin*, took a particular interest in Hochman's Holocaust poetry and other writings and asked him to translate his poems and a 15-page wartime memoir into Polish so that it could be published in Demblin.

Goaded by Holocaust deniers in recent years, Hochman said he feels a determination to write in increasing detail about the atrocities he experienced. "In the beginning I wanted to forget about it. Now I think it's important to remember everything that happened, no matter how gory.

"I feel compelled to tell what happened again and again. My kids and my grandchildren know, and I keep telling them, because I am convinced that this thing can happen again. Human nature is that way. I keep warning them to be on the alert."

Hochman, who travelled with a group of Jewish war veterans, reached Auschwitz on a wet day: "It rained and rained, almost as though heaven was weeping with us," he recounted. When he returned home he wrote a four-stanza poem, titled *Auschwitz*:

Heaven suddenly its gate opened wide
As torrent of tears came down from the sky
In tune with our sorrow we just couldn't hide,
It wept all day long, knowing well why.
Those evil barbarians, devilish creation
Swept away our parents, our children too,
The Final Solution reduced our nation
To a tiny shadow, to hardly a few.
We came to Auschwitz to honor the Dead,
The innocent martyrs, by the Nazis slain
Their souls kept screaming, our insides bled
Genocidal all over you could see the stain.
It rained and rained again all day,
Our hearts still aching and bleeding kept,
With Al Mole Rachmim we began to pray,
As heaven with a deluge of tears still wept.
We left for Warsaw, a once-Jewish place,
To look for the parts that teemed with joy,
There hardly you see now a kind Jewish face,
I used to look at, when I was a boy.

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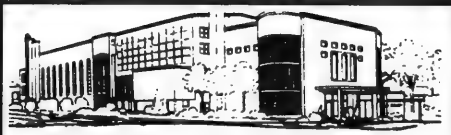

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Jewish studies centre a tribute to Eisen's commitment

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Although Syd Eisen's academic expertise is in Victorian intellectual history, the teaching of which has been a source of pleasure for him, he is better known in the Jewish community as the founding director of York University's Centre for Jewish Studies, an unanticipated focus for his personal and professional interests.

Earlier this year, after more than 30 years at York (the most recent year as a consultant), Eisen – now a university professor emeritus (history and humanities) – was honored on his retirement with a York conference on the relationship between Judaism and modern science.

He retains his affiliation with the university through Vanier College, where he was interviewed in his office down the hall from the Centre for Jewish Studies.

Eisen never actually taught Jewish studies. A one-time dean of York's Faculty of Arts, his importance to the centre resulted from his administrative expertise and Jewish commitment.

His involvement with what would become the Centre for Jewish Studies began when, as a new faculty member in the mid-'60s, he was asked by York's dean to hire Hebrew instructors. "I'm a Jew. Jewish things are my commitment in life," he explained.

Eisen hired Sol Tanenzapf and Michael Brown in what was to become the first step in creating a Jewish studies program. Both professors are still actively involved; Brown is Eisen's successor.

Eisen is "a gifted administrator," Brown said. "Jewish studies is not his field [but he] is vitally interested in every aspect of Jewish life, civilization and community, and the belief that the teaching of Judaism should occupy its rightful place at the university... He's always been encouraging and helpful. He was one of the people who really shaped York University."

Syd Eisen

An alumnus of the University of Toronto, where he earned his BA in Modern History in 1950, Eisen joined York with credentials including a PhD from Johns Hopkins University and a stint as acting assistant dean of the faculty of Arts and Science at The City College of New York.

In 1973, he became dean of York's Faculty of Arts, a position he held for five years. The Centre for Jewish Studies was inaugurated officially eight years ago.

Eschewing the ivory tower mentality, Eisen and his "tremendous group of scholars," all of whom – including Brown, Tanenzapf, Irving Abella and Martin Lockshin – teach within other faculties, took pains to focus on the greater Jewish community.

"We wanted to do things that would raise the level of Jewish feeling in the community itself," said Eisen.

The establishment of the Jewish teacher education program in the late 1970s is the ultimate example of that philosophy. To Eisen's knowledge, there's not another one like it in the Diaspora.

The combined BA/B.Ed. program, affiliated with York's Faculty of Education, accredits teachers for both Jewish and general studies in Jewish day schools, as well as in the public school system.

Although Eisen considers Israel a fundamental aspect of Jewish education and believes that Israeli shlichim teaching in Jewish schools here "were and are a good influence, I would never want to see a situation where there are no Israeli teachers," he's also convinced of the importance of having "home-grown" teachers as role models.

Initially the program attracted only "a trickle" of students, but now there are more applicants than can be accepted.

The thought of turning away students pains Eisen with a concern that is both academic and personal.

The father of four grown children who are alumni of Associated Hebrew Schools and the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), Eisen has a long history of involvement with both schools as well as other Jewish organizations. He is now chairing the search committee to find a new CHAT headmaster (Rabbi Marvin Pachino is retiring). He is also a member of B'nai Torah Congregation and serves on its education committee. "And I do love it," he adds.

Eisen's own Jewish education, after he immigrated here with his family at age six, included after-school studies at Eitz Chaim and Torat Chaim Yeshiva (run by Rabbi Aaron Price). He is an alumnus of Harbord Collegiate.

Reflecting on the growth of day school education in Toronto in recent years, Eisen said that many people "have turned to the day school to do what the general culture can't do for Jews.

"While I think the home is as necessary [as the school in fostering Jewish identity], schools have been vitally important in some cases in bringing parents back to Jewish life, and I'm not talking [just] about religious schools. I support all of them, every one, without qualification."

CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

Recent Ryerson Polytechnical University graduate Ari Shapiro washes a car at a Kol Hastudentim fundraiser. At right are Rob Shaumer (with bucket) and Jeremy Lichtman (with hose). Kol Hastudentim is an independent council of Jewish students with a presence at more than a dozen campuses in Ontario. [Dave Gordon photo]

Sephardi Centre opens

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Community leaders joined dignitaries from all levels of government and an estimated 2,500 people at the event.

In his remarks, Levy expressed the hope that peace was imminent on all fronts.

"We will make peace with Palestinians, Syria and Lebanon," he pledged in his Hebrew address, "but it will not be a peace from weakness."

Peace with Palestinians will be "very difficult, but everything has been difficult for us," he said.

He recalled how hard his own life had been as a young immigrant to Israel from Morocco, and how his hands hurt tilling the hard soil.

"But if you're strong," he said to applause, "in the end, they will accept you."

The festivities began with the escorting of several Torah scrolls from the Beth Sepharad Congregation in an adjacent strip mall, a short jaunt northward on Bathurst Street to the new building. Music, singing and cheering accompanied the procession.

Levy, Vaughan Mayor Lorna Jackson, and the centre's president, Jacques Benquesus, unveiled the cornerstone.

Rabbi Amram Assayag, chief rabbi of the Sephardic Rabbinate of Ontario, said the centre "will minister to the spiritual needs of all Jews."

Rabbi Refael Abuhatzira of Israel, grandson of the renowned Baba Sali, the late spiritual leader of Moroccan Jewry, brought greetings and officially named the domed synagogue the Abir Yaakov Congregation.

Benquesus praised the building as a dream realized, and was in turn praised by Levy.

The building was constructed in Cordovan and Moorish architectural styles. Abundant archways decorate both the interior and the exterior of the building, which took 18 months to construct. Its foundation was built of Jerusalem stone.

Or Haemet Sephardic School, which began 22 years ago in the basement of a Metro synagogue, will now be able to handle 300 students in 30 classrooms, and will feature a gym, library and labs.

The synagogue's floor is gently sloped toward the Aron Kodesh to symbolize that one should hurry toward Torah, but walk away from it slowly.

Three huge, specially designed chandeliers in the banquet hall are said to contain 250,000 pieces of crystal. Those wanting to have a simchah there will have their choice of five caterers.

The day after the opening of the centre, Levy flew to Ottawa for brief meetings with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien.

Levy was scheduled to hold a meeting with Toronto Jewish community leaders last Thursday, but flew back to Israel the same day after the most recent suicide bomb blasts in Jerusalem.

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Le Centre Sépharade Kéhila

ELIAS LEVY
Reporter

MONTRÉAL – Un des plus ambitieux et imposants projets éducatifs et culturels du monde séfarade contemporain vient de voir le jour en Ontario. La dynamique communauté sépharade de Toronto, constituée de quelque 6 000 âmes, a inauguré officiellement, le 2 septembre dernier, le somptueux *Centre Sépharade Kéhila.*

Cet établissement éducatif et socio-culturel abritera: l'École sépharade *Or Haemet*; une synagogue; une bibliothèque; les locaux du *Beth Din* sépharade de l'Ontario; un *Mikveh*; un Centre communautaire doté d'une piscine, d'une grande salle de fêtes, d'un gymnase, de plusieurs aires de jeux...

"*Le Centre Kéhila* sera désormais le pilier fondamental de la vie communautaire sépharade de l'Ontario.Cette institution socio-culturelle va grandement contribuer à raffermir l'identité sépharade des membres de notre communauté. L'inauguration de ce grand complexe communautaire est une preuve manifeste de la volonté farouche affichée par les Séfarades de l'Ontario depuis une quarantaine d'années pour préserver et transmettre le merveilleux héritage culturel que nous ont légué nos ancêtres", nous a confié l'un des responsables de ce magnifique projet, M. Maurice Benzacar, président de la Campagne de construction du *Centre Sépharade Kéhila.*

Ce projet ne se serait jamais concrétisé sans l'implication exemplaire et la grande générosité d'un leader communautaire hors pair, M. Jacques Benquesus. Ce réputé philanthrope a été l'un des principaux initiateurs et parrains de cette exaltante aventure communautaire. Il assumera les fonctions de président de l'École *Or Haemet* et du nouveau *Centre Kéhila.*

Fondée en 1975, par quelques membres de la petite communauté sépharade de Toronto, l'École *Or Haemet,* qui était localisée à ses débuts dans le sous-sol de la Synagogue *Petah Tikva Anshe Castilla,* est fréquentée actuellement par 300 élèves.

"*Or Haemet* est une école orthodoxe qui offre des programmes éducatifs, à partir du niveau Garderie jusqu'au Grade 8, axés sur l'enseignement des traditions séfarades", nous a expliqué le directeur de cette institution scolaire, le rabbin Mordechaï Sévy.

Cette personnalité rabbinique d'origine égyptienne, qui a été, de 1989 à 1992, le leader spirituel de la communauté sépharade de Sidney -Australie-, a joué un rôle de premier plan dans la réalisation de ce projet éducatif.

L'École *Or Haemet,* nous rappelle-t-il, s'est fermement engagée à inculquer à ses élèves les valeurs morales de tolérance, d'ouverture et de sagesse qui ont toujours caractérisé le judaïsme sépharade. "Par ailleurs, ajoute-t-il, notre philosophie d'enseignement prône l'amour de la Terre sacrée d'*Eretz Israël et* un dévouement sans failles à l'égard de tout le peuple juif".

Cet établissement scolaire sépharade est affilié au Conseil de l'Éducation juive de l'Ontario, à la Fédération sépharade du Canada, à l'Association Sépharade de l'Ontario et au Conseil national des écoles orthodoxes *Torah U'mesorah.*

"La qualité de nos programmes éducatifs attirent aussi des parents ashkénazes soucieux de prodiguer à leurs enfants une excellente éducation juive. Environ dix pour cent de nos élèves sont Ashkénazes", nous a précisé le rabbin Sévy. La direction de cet établissement scolaire espère doubler le nombre de ses étudiants au cours des deux prochaines années.

Pour M. Maurice Benzacar, l'inauguration du *Centre Kéhila* va revigorer les structures organisationnelles de la communauté sépharade de l'Ontario. "Notre communauté, qui comptait déjà à son actif de nombreuses synagogues, est de mieux en mieux structurée. Il est indéniable que le renforcement de ces structures va nous aider à mieux assurer la pérennité de la culture sépharade en Ontario", nous a-t-il expliqué.

La conception architecturale du bâtiment abritant ce nouveau Centre est des plus saisissantes et originales. Celle-ci reflète fidèlement le prodigieux héritage que nous ont transmis, au fil des siècles, les civilisations sépharades qui ont vécu dans l'Israël biblique, la péninsule ibérique et les contrées méditerranéennes où les Juifs d'Espagne trouvèrent refuge après leur tragique expulsion, en 1492, des Royaumes de Castille et d'Aragon.

La façade de la bâtisse a été construite avec des blocs de pierre apportés de la capitale du peuple d'Israël, Jérusalem.

M. Maurice Benzacar et le rabbin Amram Assayag introduisent les sifrei Thora à la nouvelle synagogue, Abir Yaakov. (Ron Csillag photo)

Please see related story on the opening of the new Sephardic Kehila Centre in Toronto, on page 1.

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Photography by Debra Warshaw

On Campus

JSU continues search for permanent home

Remains open in old location

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A permanent site for the Jewish Students' Union (JSU) at the University of Toronto's downtown campus has not yet been finalized, but progress has been made toward that goal, according to Zac Kaye, director of Jewish Campus Services (JCS) of Greater Toronto, the umbrella agency for the Hillel/JSU and its counterparts at York University, Ryerson Polytechnic University and Seneca College.

Meanwhile, the Hillel/JSU, which serves a Jewish student population estimated at 3,500, is open for business at the same University College location as last year – through the section F door on the north (quadrangle) side of the building, downstairs from Diablo's cafe, which offers kosher bagels and muffins through an arrangement with the Hillel/JSU.

The Hillel/JSU has been using temporary basement premises since late 1995, when they had to leave their long-term home at 604 Spadina Ave. B'nai Brith Canada, which was about to sell the building, provided the space rent-free, even after a formal connection between the two organizations ceased to exist.

The University College premises, about 1,250 square feet, have two offices, a meeting room and a games room. A pool table takes up most of the floor space in the latter room. Participants in minyans are somewhat crowded as they position themselves around the pool table, said Hillel/JSU director Lance Davis.

"It's a great location for the short term," said Davis, "but we will need a bigger space to provide for more of our diverse activities."

The university has offered the Hillel/JSU a centrally located house and other sites have been mentioned, said Kaye.

The house in question is "very dilapidated," Kaye noted, and would need a "substantial" amount of money for renovations.

The hoped-for permanent quarters would be "a centrally located, above-ground space that speaks of Jewish pride," said Kaye. It would have meeting rooms, lounge space and facilities to accommodate a wider variety of activities.

"The proposals are on the table," said Kaye, adding that JCS is working with UJA Federation to secure funding for the project. "We're quite optimistic that we'll open within the year."

Images to print special issue to mark 50 years of Jewish student press

By ALEXANDRA PRASOW
Special to The CJN

TORONTO – As Jewish student press in Toronto celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, *Images*, Toronto's Jewish student newspaper, is preparing its September edition with excerpts and reprints commemorating the last 50 years of Jewish student discourse.

Along with the 50th anniversary, *Images* itself is celebrating chai – 18 years in its current incarnation.

A monthly publication, *Images* provides a forum for issues, opinions and events concerning Jewish student life. The last issue included subjects such as student programming, Nazi war criminals, Middle-Eastern politics, the threat of missionaries and reviews of kosher restaurants.

The September issue of *Images* plans to have 50 contributors whose voices will span 50 pages – the largest in the history of the paper.

The publication team is seeking advertisers and sponsors to assist this student venture with financial support. *Images* invites its past editors to write articles about their experiences as well as to provide archival materials. Writers, photographers and research editors are also needed for the newspaper.

Those interested can contact *Images* at the Jewish Campus Services at (416) 785-1465 or *Images*' editor-in-chief, Dave Gordon, at (416) 631-8053.

Images is published by Jewish Campus Services with the support of its member organizations in York University, the University of Toronto, Seneca College and Ryerson Polytechnic University.

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From coast to coast

Hoenlein helps launch Winnipeg CJA campaign

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Israel is a major world power and Jews count in the world today.

But that is both a blessing and a curse, says Malcolm Hoenlein.

The executive vice-chair of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Hoenlein brought his message to a relatively small crowd recently at Shaarey Zedek Synagogue.

He was in Winnipeg to help kick off the 1997 Combined Jewish Appeal Campaign.

Citing numerous examples of large-scale massacres in various regions in recent years, Hoenlein observed that the world has not changed much in the last 50 years. Apathy and indifference still reign supreme, and the "big lie" still works.

The "big lie" has cost millions of Jewish lives over the centuries, he said. Two recent examples involving Israel, he explained, are the idea that American Jews are spying on the United States for Israel, and the Palestinian accusation at the United Nations Human Right Commission last March that Israel is infecting Palestinian children with the HIV virus.

The Palestinian claim "is a modern blood libel," he said. "The accusation sits as part of the UN record. No one in authority at the UN has stepped forward to challenge or refute the lie."

The Har Choma controversy is also based on lies, Hoenlein said. It is a housing project, not a settlement. It is in Jerusalem, not East Jerusalem and it joins two Jewish areas. As well, the land is 70 percent owned by Lithuanian Jews who bought it in 1927. No one has ever lived there.

Former Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek designed the project in 1988, according to Hoenlein, and Yitzhak Rabin approved its construction.

"The [UN] security council has not had a single meeting about any of the massacres that have taken place in the world, but a housing project or the opening of a tunnel in Israel is seen as a major international crisis. It shows that the 'big lie' still works where Jews are involved."

Hoenlein also noted the disturbing resurgence of fascism and anti-Semitism in Europe and elsewhere. Right-wing parties are winning seats in elections. There are 70,000 skinheads in western Europe.

Of greater concern is the danger posed worldwide by the growing legions of Muslim fundamentalists.

It "would seem" the West has fallen asleep again after rousing itself to put Iraq in its place. Iraq was diminished rather than defeated, Hoenlein said, and it can rebuild its weapons of destruction.

Of greater danger, he said, is Iran, the "fulcrum" of the fundamentalist movement and a regional super power. The country has recently taken delivery of three Russian nuclear submarines, and thanks to Russian scientists, it has developed missiles with the capacity to hit any target in Israel or Europe, he said.

Islam is also rapidly gaining new adherents in Europe and Africa (Ethiopia is now 45 percent Muslim, for example) and has a secure foothold in North America, he added.

"Canada and the United States are the second largest source of funding for Islamic terrorists worldwide," he said. "There are terrorist cells in more than 40 states. The FBI has hired an additional 2,600 agents to fight Islamic terrorism. There is a trial going on in New York right now that is vital to American and western security. Yet it receives very little press coverage."

On the positive side, Hoenlein noted, for the first time in modern Jewish history, there is no country in the world where Jews are not allowed to leave. Over 800,000 Russian Jews have "come home," he said, and virtually all Jews have left Syria and Ethiopia and Yemen.

Furthermore, tens of millions of people around the world are claiming to be of Jewish descent.

Benjamin Netanyahu, he argued, has lived up to all of Israel's commitments under the Oslo and Hebron Accords. Yasser Arafat has yet to carry out his side of the bargains, Hoenlein claimed.

"You have the right to disagree," Hoenlein told his audience, "but words count. You count. As Israel becomes more economically independent, all Jews become more interdependent. We are one people, one faith and share the same fate. When we stand together, we can create miracles."

Winnipeg CJA '97 co-chair Sam Guralnick called on all members of Winnipeg's Jewish community to stand together. This year's theme is Now More Than Ever, as the CJA team seeks to reach out to new contributors and maximize the donations of existing contributors.

One new approach is an emphasis on "Dollar Divisions" rather than the old "Professional Divisions." Contributors' names will be published in a booklet of honor divided into the different divisions.

As well, the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council's Wall Fund, which was founded in the late 1980s, is being renamed the WJCC Endowment Fund for Jewish Continuity and will be administered by the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba. The fund had raised over $1 million for community programs.

The interest from the fund will go to the CJA campaign and new donors and previous donors who gave more than $100 will have their names featured in the Jewish Foundation's annual report.

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Marc Hirshman
Hebrew University, Jerusalem

3:30 p.m. HOW DID THE RABBIS VIEW THE HOLY LAND?

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The Wolinsky Lectures are sponsored by the Centre for Jewish Studies, the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Education of York University in cooperation with the Toronto Board of Jewish Education. Professor Hirshman's visit has been arranged with the cooperation of the Toronto Chapter of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University. Lectures are open to the public free of charge.
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Enrolment on rise in Jewish schools

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Despite anger expressed by many north Winnipeg Jewish parents at the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education's (BJE) decision to close Talmud Torah school as of June 30, it would seem most parents have opted to leave their children in the BJE system.

The latest figures show that the total enrolment at the new Gray Academy of Jewish Education, on the newly opened Asper Jewish Community Campus, is about 840, an increase of about 20 students over last year.

Hebrew bilingual programs

The increase comes despite the fact that some north end parents of younger children have moved their 6- and 7-year-olds to the Seven Oaks School Division's Winnipeg Hebrew Bilingual program in north Winnipeg.

"We are pleased with the continued support of north end families," says Jack Solomon, the BJE superintendent of schools.

The Gray Academy is divided into three levels. The Simkin Early Years program – Junior Kindergarten through Grade 4 – has an enrolment this year of about 375. The Grade 5-8 Shore Middle Years School has a registration of 273. The Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate's student numbers are 192.

The success of the new Gray Academy, however, does not seem to be affecting enrolment at the two public school elementary Hebrew bilingual programs. Brock-Corydon in south Winnipeg has about 174 students registered – almost the same number as last year. The north Winnipeg program has a registration of 104 this year – a drop of six from last year.

The difference is that a comparatively large Grade 6 class of 24 graduated last June from the north Winnipeg program and the kindergarten class usually starts off with lower numbers of students. The school should show an increase next year because this year's Grade 6 class has only nine students.

Holocaust conference planned for Alberta

CALGARY — An upcoming Holocaust conference at the University of Alberta (U of A) promises to be a notable international event. World-class scholars will be in attendance, some speaking in Canada for the first time.

The conference and art exhibition — entitled The Holocaust: Art/Politics/Law will be held at the Law Centre of the University of Alberta on Oct. 29 and 30, with the art exhibition presented from Oct. 29 to Nov. 8. All events will be open to the public.

The conference theme is human rights and social justice. In particular the program will address legal, moral, political, cultural and esthetic meanings of the Holocaust and their continuing significance to contemporary social and intellectual life.

Dr. Bernard Schwartz of the university's department of Education has spent the past six months working full time on organizing the conference.

Guest speakers include Raul Hilberg, whose three-volume work is considered to be the definitive statement on the destruction of European Jewry. Bruce Elman, U of A law professor, will deliver the Annual Belzberg Lecture on Hate Propaganda and Legislation. Other speakers include Henry Friedlander of Brooklyn College in New York, Harold Kaplan, formerly of Northwestern University, Michael Kater of York University, Sybil Milton of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington and Richard Weisberg of Yeshiva University. Anne McLennan, the federal minister of justice will open the conference.

The event also features Perpetrators, an exhibition of 42 original prints by American artist Sid Chafetz. The prints represent the "ordinary people" who formulated the laws of the Third Reich, built the armaments, designed and ran the concentration camps, directed the armies and carried out the propaganda programs. The artist will be in attendance at the evening opening reception on Oct. 29 and will present an illustrated lecture the following morning.

There will be a film festival featuring documentaries and feature films on the subject of the Holocaust. These include: *Anne Frank Remembered, The Architecture of Doom, Degenerate Art, Europa, Europa, Night and Fog, One Survivor Remembers, Survivors of the Holocaust, Triumph of Will, Voices of Survival, The Wannsee Conference,* and *We Must Never Forget.*

For more information, contact Prof. DeCoste at the Faculty of Law, University of Alberta at 403-492-0285 or e-mail:[tde-coste@-law.ualberta.ca].

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פון אלעק סילווער

זינט דעם ערשטן רוף פאר א ייִדיש היימלאַנד ביים סוף פון 19-טן יאָרהונדערט, איז ציוניזם געווען א קוואל פון דיסקוסיעס בי ייִדן אין גישט־ייִדן. אפילו די עטאבלידונג פון מדינת ישראל האָט נישט אפגעשטעלט דעם דאזיקן וויכוח. דער ציל פון ציוניזם: אריכצושטעלן א זעלבשטענדיקע מדינה פאר ייִדישן פאָלק, האָט ארויסגערופן פארשיידענע מיינונגען בי א צאָל פרינציפיעלע ייִדישע פערזענלעכקייטן.

ציוניסטישע פירער האבן אין דעם געוען א לייזונג פון ייִדישן פראבלעם פאר פארשיידענע צוועקן. די ערשטע ציוניסטן, ווי למשל **אחד־העם**, האבן אין אן אייגענער יידישער מדינה געזען א גייסטיקן צענטער פאר ייִדן איבער דער וועלט. אנדערע, ווי **זאב זשאבאטינסקי**, זיינען געווען מער קעמפעריש געשטימט אין נעזען אזא מלוכה, ווי א פיהישע פארטיידיקונג־פאזיציע פאר ייִדן, וועלכע קענען נישט געטרויען זייער גורל צו אנדערע פעלקער. דער ציוניזם האָט אין די פריע יאָרן נישט געהאט די בריטע אונטערשטיצונג פון די ייִדישע מאסן איבער דער וועלט. געווען ייִדישע שוובים, וואס האבן זיך געשראקן, אז אן אייגן יידיש לאנד וועט שאַדענען זייער עקזיסטענץ אין זייערע וואירערשטער אן וועט שטערן זייער אינטעגראַציע מיט דער ארטיקער באפעלקערונג.

דער ערשטער, וואס האָט ארויסגערוקט דעם ציל פון שאפן אן אייגענע מאַדערנע ייִדישע מדינה, איז געווען בנימין־זאב (טעאָדאָר) **הערצל** אין 1897. ער איז נישט געווען דער ערשטער צו באַהאנדלען די אַוויי־גערופענע „ייִדישע פראגע". עס האבן שוין דאָס געהאט געטאָן אנדערע ייִדישע פירער פאר אים. אבער פאר הערצלן, וועלכער האָט געשאפן דאָס וואָרט „ציוניזם", איז א פריע ייִדישע מדינה געווען דער איינציקער ענטפער צו די פראבלעמען, וואס האבן געפלאגט דאָס ייִדישע פאָלק אין 19-טן יאָר־הונדערט.

אויפן ערשטן ציוניסטישן קאָנגרעס אין באַזעל, אין 1897, איז געבוירן געוואָרן די ציוניסטישע באוועגונג, מיטן ציל צו פאר־ווירקלעכן די אידעע, וואס בנימין־זאב הערצל האָט פארפלאַנצט בים ייִדישן פאָלק. דאָס איז געווען א פועל־יוצא פון די אום־שטענדן, אין וועלכע דאָס מזרח־אייראָפעאישע ייִדנטום האָט זיך דעמאָלט געפונען. ניט, ליידן, אומסטאַבילקייט און פיהישע פאר־פאָלגונגען האבן כאַראקטעריזירט דאָס ייִדישע לעבן.

די ייִדישע פירער פון יענער צייט האבן אָנערקענט, אז דער „ייִדישער פראבלעם" מיינט נישט בלויז די סאציאָלע און רעליגיעזע פארפאָלגונג פון ייִדישן פאָלק. דער פראבלעם איז דער עיקר געווען א נאציאָנאלער. און וי אזעלכער האָט דער פראבלעם נעמחט גע־לייט וועלט. האָט דער ציוניזם אויפן ערשטן קאָנגרעס — מיט די וועלטער פון טעאָדאָר הערצל — פארגעשלאָגן א ראדיקאלן אויס־וועג: אויפשטעלן פאר ייִדן אן אייגענע זעלבשטענדיקע מדינה.

די ציוניסטישע באוועגונג האָט אריינגענומען אלע הויפט־שטראָמען פון ייִדישן געדאַנק און ייִדישן אידעאָליזם. צי זיי זיינען מאָטיווירט געווען פשוט פון דער נייטיקייט פאר א זיכערן מקום־מקלט פון פיזישער פארפאָלגונג; צי זיי האבן געוואָלט אנטלויפן פון די ספּה־דיקע אומסטאַבילע. אומשטענדן פון פאָלקסמטן לעבן, זוכבריק א נארמאַליזירונג פון דער יידישער סאציאָלער און עקאָנא־מישער סטרוקטור; צי זיי האבן געוואָלט אויסמיידן דיסקרימינאציע אן דערנידעריקונג וויא א רעזולטאַט פון „סאציאָלן" אנטיסעמיטיזם, אדער היילן די פסיכאָלאגישע וואונדן פון פראָכטונג און אפשטויס, וואס זיי האבן געמחט אויסשטיין; צי זיי זיינען מאטיווירט געוואָרן פון דעם דורות־אלטן רעליגיעזן חלום פון שיבת ציון — א צוריק־קער אינעם לאנד פון די אבות; צי זיי זיינען באַיינפלוסט געוואָרן פון דעם ניעם סאציאָליסטישן אידעאל מיט דער לאזונג פון אניי־וועלט באפרייאונג פון מענטש — ייִדן פון יעדער שטער־מונג האבן געפונען אין דער ציוניסטישער אידעע א וועג צו דער־גרייכן זייער ציל, זייער טרוים, זייער טיפסטע לעכצונג. דער־בער האָט דער ציוניסטישער גרעדאנק, נאך א שוועך אנהויב, באקומען די אונטערשטיצונג, וואס עס איז אים געווען אזוי שטארק נויטיק.

די ציוניסטישע באוועגונג האָט אויך באקומען אינטערנאציא־נאלע אנערקענונג נאך דער ערשטער וועלט־מלחמה, ווען ענגלאנד האָט אינערגעמעגן דעם מאנדאט איבער פאלעסטינע. אבער דער גרויסער יידישער חורבן אין דער צווייטער וועלט־מלחמה האָט ערשט בולט אויסגעברענט פאר דער וועלט די נויטיקייט צו רעאליזירן דעם ציוניסטישן אידעאל. דאָס יידישע פאָלק, וואס האָט פאַרלוירן א דריטל פון איר באַפעלקערונג, האָט באַווען פאר דער וועלט, אז די אינציקע לעבנס־פארזיכערונג איז אן אייגענע מדינה.

כמעט וי בביאוש האָט הערצל פאראויסגעזען דעם אויפקום פון א יידישער מדינה אין ארץ ישראל „אין 5 אדער אין 50 יאר אַרום". האָט זיין נבואה געוואָרט מיט 1 יאר מער וי די פאראויס־געזעעט 50 יאר צו ווערן פארווירקלעכט. אין יאר 1948 איז עטאבלידט געוואָרן די מאַדערנע יידישע מדינה, וואס איז פאר־פלאַנצט געוואָרן אין 1897 דורכ ציוניזם.

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Features

FSU Jews live in a place of sad existence

By STANLEY K. PLOTNICK

In recent times, as all levels of governments have shrunk their transfer payments for local, health, social and educational needs, many individuals have started to question the extra and, in some cases, even the need for Diaspora financial involvement overseas. I too, recognize the tremendous needs at home. But, after returning recently from the former Soviet Union and Israel, I have been re-sensitized to the important issues abroad. Not only are our contributions overseas needed, and very well used, but our continued participation both enhances and strengthens our own Jewish identity. The following is an account of only a small part of what we said and experienced on that trip.

The older faces were distinctively eastern European. The younger, a blend of the old and the "coolness" of western influence. But none of their eyes had a sparkle, none of their lips a ready smile, none of their movements a real purpose. These were the people on the streets of St. Petersburg. This once magnificent city, is now mostly shabby and tired. It is really a place of sad existence, and, St. Petersburg may, in fact, represent the "best" of the former Soviet Union (FSU).

And yet, there are bright spots. My heart was warmed at joining a luncheon of the St. Petersburg "Yiddish Club," which, as expected, was made up of seniors, who once again had the freedom to sing Yiddish songs, talk about the holidays and share some of their previously secret Jewish experiences.

I rejoiced at a Kabalat Shabbat at a St. Petersburg youth centre, at which dozens of young Russian Jewish children were returning to their roots and traditions, and shared with us Havdalah, and Israeli dancing and singing. They talked about their plans to visit Israel, and, some, to even make aliyah. And they talked, with pride, of being Jewish.

I was overwhelmed to learn of, and visit, the children's camps that are run, throughout the FSU, by teams of Israelis and locals, and which, every year, provide nearly 15,000 Jewish children with an incomparable Jewish camping experience — regardless of their ability to pay — the opportunity to play ball and to swim, and to learn of their heritage, of their ties to other Jews around the world, and of their opportunities and potential in Israel. It is incredible how much they can learn in a very short time.

I was deeply touched by the courage of the parents we met, who had sent their children to Israel, even though they were not sure they could follow. They had made a tremendous sacrifice in recognizing that the potential for their children was greatest away from them. I could not help but share their sadness, as they described how lonely they were, and yet how certain they were that they had made the right decision.

I was fascinated to meet Jews of the FSU, of all ages, and to see how they were preparing for their aliyah; how they were learning about Israeli society, about the opportunities and challenges; how they were learning the language, and learning also about the difficulties they might encounter.

And, I was excited as I boarded a flight filled with olim who, with their limited belongings, hidden apprehensions, courage and optimism, were leaving for "hopefully a better life."

I had seen a great deal in St. Petersburg and Azerbaijan, but yet so little. I had met an inspiring courageous team of Israeli field workers who are working throughout the FSU. They are dedicating their lives, their hearts, and their souls, to provide a better life to those Jews who remain in the FSU, and a better opportunity for those who wish to emigrate.

Stan Plotnick and Yoine Goldstein (left photo, back row, from left) with the men of Baku. Above, the women of Baku.

I have never seen a spirit that equalled theirs, and never felt so proud that, in some small way, we helped make possible all that they were doing, and so much of the positive re-awakening that was happening all around us.

I began to realize what an incredible "burden," we the Jews of the world, have placed on our State of Israel, by insisting that she accept the poor, and the old, and the handicapped, without qualification, other than that they be Jewish. And even this qualification is interpreted in the broadest sense when the arriving individuals are in distress. After all, if the demons of the Holocaust could define a Jew as anyone who had a grandparent who was Jewish, then how could Israel, their refuge and sanctuary, be any more restrictive?

How could we insist that one small state absorb an additional 25 percent of its population, in less than a decade, as well as provide for their integration from different backgrounds, cultures, races, and capabilities?

Virtually all these immigrants are poor; 60 percent are over the age of 50 (as compared to 13 percent of Israelis); a disproportionate number are mentally or emotionally or physically challenged; 20 percent are single parents; and 25,000 are children without parents. Imagine the impact of this decision that Israel has made in conjunction with us, the Jewish people throughout the world. Imagine the challenge to the infrastructure and to the social structure of Israeli society. Imagine the cost to Israeli society, both in monetary and social terms. And, remember that in accepting all who immigrate to its shores Israel is fulfilling the mandate jointly sustained by itself and world Jewry.

I have witnessed the many positive results of this incredible immigration. I have seen the massive construction, and the busy shops, and the new city halls and theatres. I am aware of the growth of the economy, and the explosion of exports, and the new Israeli wealthy.

But, I have also seen the many centres for "children at risk;" the new shelters for abused and battered women, the bomb shelters that double as youth drop-in centres, and old age clubs and child care centres, in the poorer neighborhoods. I have visited the absorption centres, and language ulpans, and even the few remnants of the trailer villages. I have seen the poverty of many of the recent immigrants; their frustration, and sadness, at not being able to find dignified work. And, I have seen the growing youth delinquency that has accompanied this miraculous influx of Jews.

I am overwhelmed by how much Israeli society has been able to cope, especially with the continuing peace and security challenges.

But, most of all, I am proud that we, Canadian Jews, are able to be an integral and continuing part of all that is taking place, the reawakening of Jewishness in the hearts, souls and minds, of the Jews of the FSU; the caring for the weak and frail, of our people, in Russia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Belarus; the aliyah of Jews at risk; the absorption of the olim into their new Jewish lives in Israel; the fulfilment of our role helping to make Israel a safe, easily accessible refuge for all of our people; and the proper sharing of our responsibility to look after other Jews wherever in the world they may be.

I am very proud of what we have been able to accomplish in the last 49 years and I feel fortunate that we have been an integral part in what has taken place.

We have all gained enormously from the birth, growth and success of Israel, we all stand taller and prouder as Jews, no matter where we live.

And, I hope, that we will continue our active partnership, that we share both the burdens and the blessings of caring for each other, and protecting Israel...our pride, defender, and eternal home and refuge.

Stanley K. Plotnick is the incoming president of FEDERATION CJA in Montreal.

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Saturday, Sept. 13

CELEBRATE BLOOR II

The Stars Celebrate Bloor II, music, humor, fun, 8 p.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Proceeds to Bloor JCC Capital Fund. 924-6211.

Sunday, Sept. 14

APPROACH TO PRAYER

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning lecture by Judaic scholar **Marcia Falk,** Beyond "Our Father, Our King," An Inclusive Approach to Jewish Prayer, 7:30 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Co-sponsored by Holy Blossom Sisterhood and Canadian Women for Reform Judaism. $15 in advance, $18 at door. 905-764-1329.

SIN AND SALVATION

Conversations in Music and Words on the Spirituality of the Days of Awe, **Rabbi Steven Saltzman** and **Cantor A.E. Kirshblum**, at Adath Israel Congregation. Davening 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, seminar at 10. Sponsored by Adath Israel and Beth Radom congregations. 635-5340.

100 YEARS OF ZIONISM

Yiddishe Kultur Geselschaft features **Prof. Eugene Orenstein** speaking on 1897-1997, 100 Years of Zionism and the Bund, 8 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. $3.

GARAGE SALE

Toronto Jewish Association of the Deaf garage sale, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ostens, 14 Harnworth Dr. Funds go to TJAD. 1-800-855-0511 Bell Relay Service, then 756-9951 TTY.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Hosted by **Alec Gelcer** at 179a Danforth Ave., 7:30 p.m. All welcome to listen and tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 699-8914.

Monday, Sept. 15

JEWS, ISRAEL, THE INTERNET

Surfing the Internet with **Mark Mietkiewicz**, Internet columnist for *The CJN* and CBC producer, 8 p.m. Beth Tzedec Synagogue. Sponsored by the Association of Jewish Libraries of Ontario and Beth Tzedec Max and Beatrice Wolfe Library.

FUTURE OF HOUSING

Cranbrooke Friendship Club of United Jewish People's Order information forum on The Future of Housing and Tenants Rights in Ontario with **Howard Tessler** of Federation of Metro Tenants Association, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. $4 including light lunch.

KABBALAH SEMINAR

Information seminar on the Shofar, Prayers and Rituals of Rosh Hashanah, 7:30 p.m, Bathurst Jewish Centre. $7. Presented by Kabbalah Learning Centre. 631-9395..

MEET THE AUTHORS

Two Jewish Iraqi-born authors, **Jack Stevens** talks about his book *Iraq As I Knew It*, and **Avner Meir** reads from his collection of short stories *Waters of Babylon* 7:30 p.m. Chapters Book Store, 7040 Yonge St.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish family and Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, Sept. 16

MEDICINE AND PEACE

CISEPO Visiting Professors Program for Peace lecture by **Dr. Riyad El-Zanoun,** minister of health, Palestinian Authority, Medicine – An International Instrument for Peace-building, 6 p.m., Mount Sinai Hospital, 18th floor auditorium.

THE SANDWICH GENERATION

Series on Senior Care continues with Community and Institutional Resources and Services: When and How to Access Them and Obtain Help, **Renay Benlolo,** Placement Coordination Service; Judy **Kauffman,** Homecare; **Anne Max**, social worker, 8 p.m., Beth Tzedec Synagogue.

[Cont'd. on page 35]

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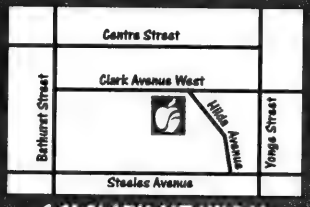
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher



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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 34]

SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

Givatayim chapter, Toronto ORT, Scholarship Luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Fireside Lounge, Baycrest Centre.Entertainment, the Bubies and Zaidies. $45 (tax receipt). Reserve. **Pearl Brody** 922-1077 or **Felice Gropper** 223-9234.

SITUATION IN ISRAEL

Prof. David Goldberg, York University, speaks on The Current Situation in Israel at New Fraternal Jewish Association meeting, 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 12 Heaton St.

FALL FASHIONS

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood Fall Fashion Show and Boutiques. Showtime 8 p.m., boutiques open 6 p.m. $20.

Wednesday, Sept. 17

BEREAVED FAMILIES

Bereaved Jewish Families of Ontario, for families who have lost a child through death, Family Night, Adath Israel Synagogue. Panel of bereaved parents discuss New Year New Beginnings: A Time to Heal! **Maureen Feder** 636-1880, ext. 202.

EYE CARE

The Importance of Eye Care with ophthalmologist **Dr. Ellis Shenkin** sponsored by Wellness Education Group of Baycrest Centre, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Wagman Centre, 55 Ameer Ave. $2. **Dena Bach** 785-2500, ext. 2555.

CREATIVE ARTS SALE

Baycrest Centre's Creative Arts Sale of handcrafts at reasonable prices, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 785-2500, ext. 3574 or 2549.

Thursday, Sept. 18

PILLAR OF FIRE

Pillar of Fire Chapter VIII, Israeli TV documentary depicting the history of Israel's rebirth from 1898-1948, introduction and commentary by **David Goldberg,** Foundation for Middle East Studies, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Canadian Zionist Federation 633-3988 or Beth David 633-5500.

And What Else Is New

OSTROVTZER MEMORIAL

Annual gathering in memory of victims murdered by the Nazis in Ostrwiec and vicinity, Sunday, Sept. 21, 1 p.m., Lambton Cemetery, Royal York Road. Speakers include **Rabbi Irwin Witty** and **Israel Garfinkel.** Brunch at 14 Viewmount Ave. at 11 a.m. before going to the cemetery. **Al Speisman** 785-5688.

GOLDA MEIR CHAPTER

On Wednesday, Sept. 24, 8 p.m., hear **Cindy Murphy**, aromatherapist, and meet new friends at Golda Meir chapter, Jewish Women International open meeting. Age group 50 and up. **Sylvia** 905-737-6326.

ORAYNU HAPPENINGS

Oneg Shabbat, Friday, Sept. 12, 8 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre. Non-members $8. RSVP **Sarah** 385-3910.

Living in a Shroud: The Women of Afghanistan, **Sally Armstrong**, editor, *Homemaker's Magazine*, author of *Veiled Threat*, Monday, Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m., North York Central Library.

Intertalk support group for intercultural couples, potluck supper, Friday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m., Goldfinger's, 82 Willowbrook Rd., Thornhill. Non-members $10. RSVP **Eva** 905-889-7450.

SURVIVAL TIPS

Israel Cancer Research Fund Young Associates Friday night dinner Sept. 19, **Evan Solomon,** host of CBC TV's *Future World* speaks on Survival Tips for the Information Age, 8 p.m., Skyview, 5444 Yonge St., Party Room. $18. RSVP 487-5246.

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES

Conducted by **Rabbi Reuven Slonim** Rosh Hashanah Wednesday, Oct. 1, 8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m. to noon; Yom Kippur Friday, Oct. 10, 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m. to noon (Yizkor), 4-6 p.m., First Unitarian Congregation, 175 St. Clair Ave. W. No charge. 789-2876.

Driltzer Society and Congregation High Holy Day services at 326 Wilson Ave. For tickets 633-3063.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

Family Programming, sounds of the shofar, activities, treats, Sunday, Sept. 14, 1-3 p.m. $3.50/child, $10 maximum per family. Reserve.

Experience the Potential of Rosh Hashanah, **Rabbi Aryeh Pamesky**, Wednesday, Sept. 17, 8 p.m. $5.

Make the High Holy Days Meaningful for Your Kids, **Elaine Rubinoff**, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 8 p.m. $5.

KADIMA SCHOOL

Kadima School – Religious School Program for Developmentally Handicapped, ages 9 and up, to meet Sundays, 10-11:30 a.m. New students welcome. **Ruth Kelman** 633-3838.

PRAY 'N LEARN

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation interactive service of prayer and discussion, Shabbat mornings 9:30 a.m., Room 29, begins Sept. 13. Tickets for High Holy Days. 789-3213.

LEO BAECK DAY SCHOOL

Leo Baeck Day School offers Reform Jewish education, kindergarten to Grade 8. Orientation for prospective parents. Meet the director and visit classes in session, Thursday, Sept. 18, 9:15 a.m., Holy Blossom Temple, and Tuesday, Sept. 23, 9 a.m., Thornhill Campus, 36 Atkinson Ave. 905-709-3636.

HIGH HOLY DAY MEALS

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living offers kosher meals for the High Holy Days to residents/patients in care facilities and to the general public. $7.25 each. Order by Thursday, Sept. 25. **Sonia Krass,** 225-2112. Under supervision of Orthodox Division of the kashruth committee of UJA Federation.

THE YONGE SHUL

The Yonge Shul High Holy Days, Rosh Hashanah at Berlin Night Club, Yom Kippur at North Toronto Collegiate, traditional service, interactive educational classes, children's program, babysitting. $75. 787-2444. In partnership with Village Shul.

TINY TALENT TIMERS

Reunion for people who appeared on *Tiny Talent Time*, Channel 11, Hamilton, 1957-1992, Thursday, Sept. 25, 8 p.m. Royal Connaught Howard Johnson Hotel, Hamilton. $15 at door, $10 in advance. **Barry Shainbaum** 598-5353.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service Groups. 636-1880.

Relatives of Adults With Schizophrenia or Manic Depression, six weeks, begins Wednesday, Sept. 24, 6:30-8 p.m. **Marsha Berniker** ext. 257.

Do Your Kids Have Trouble Making Friends?, group for parents and kids, begins Oct. 20. **Pat Lieberman.** ext. 211.

Living With Your Teenager: Who Is the Stranger in My Home?, begins Sept. 16; Separation and Divorce, begins September. Pat Lieberman.

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan, an egalitarian Shabbat service, every Saturday 10 a.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Room 204. For information on this and High Holy Day services, **Shelly** 469-4287.

KESHET SHALOM

Sundays Sept. 14 and 21, Congregation Keshet Shalom, in association with Congregation Shir Libeynu, presents Warming Up for the High Holidays, **Cantor Sharon Bar David** leads in learning and reviewing High Holy Day melodies and songs, 4 p.m. Bloor Jewish Community Centre. 537-3435.

HEBREW ULPAN

Learning Hebrew is easy and fun with **Yael Lev**. Conversational Hebrew course (three levels, ulpan method) daytime or evening. Special Hebrew classes for parents of children in Jewish schools. Classes start week of Sept. 22 at Kehillat Shaarei Torah. Register. Yael Lev 225-6151.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tikvah Friendship Group 55 Plus installation dinner, 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 16, with **David Brant**, lead singer of Hava Nagila.Members $15, non-members $17. **Althea** 905-707-5774.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Sunday dance, Sept. 14; Casino Rama, Sept. 17; Haliburton, Sept. 22-23; Canada Cap Factory and Fortinos in Woodbridge, Sept. 24; Casino Niagara, Sept. 25; Washington and Atlantic City, Oct. 26-31. Activities – table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork shop, trips day and night. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club registration for 1998 Miami trip Wednesdays 10 a.m., Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Picnic Tuesday, Sept. 16. Centre Island ferry 11 a.m. sharp, bring lunch and drink. Bingo and games Thursday, Sept. 18. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning, movie video, *Mr. Holland's Opus* Nov. 3; opening musical luncheon, entertainers **Ivory and Silver** Nov. 10. **Lena** 785-5773 or **Ruth** 224-5923. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

On Tuesday, Sept. 16, **Jack Gallop**, president and CEO of Branson Hospital speaks on The New Branson Hospital – What Will the Ambulatory Care Centre Be? How Will it Affect Your Health? 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Israeli Etrog Club meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays (note change of day). Sept. 16 is a lecture. **Anna**.

Movie *Jack* Sunday, Sept. 14, 2:30 p.m.

Dance, Sunday, Sept. 14, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Wednesday social, singer **George Frank**, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

New date of the **Simon Rosenblum** lecture Whither the Peace Process?, Tuesday, Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m.

Open House Week continues to Sunday, Sept. 14.

Golf Tournament Sept. 18.

Bloor JCC calendar every Friday on 100 FM radio on the *Zelda Young Show* 10:05 a.m.

Crafters needed for Annual Bizaare Autumn Affair, Sept. 28.

Join Bloor JCC Co-Ed Adult Choir, Tuesdays or Thursdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m., beginning Sept. 18. JCC members $65, non-members $80.

Bloor JCC Senior's Club, 2 p.m. Thursdays: Sept. 11. 2 p.m., **Rabbi Dow Marmur** speaks on The Year 5758...What Can We Expect?; Sept. 18, **Irving Matlow**, Israel Soldier's Fund, discusses The Current Situation in Israel and Its Impact on the Soldiers. Information on seniors programs, classes offered by Toronto Board of Education, duplicate bridge, aquafit, call **Judy**.

BATHURST JC

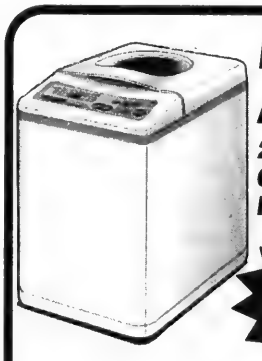
Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Senior Adult Services Current Events with **Doug Haddow** starts Thursday, Sept. 11, 1-2:30 p.m.

Register now for Line Dancing 10-week course which starts Friday, Sept. 19.

North York Board of Education Learning Cards on sale Thursday, Sept. 11, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For information, **Teme,** ext. 364.



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Mohel's clamp seen as better circumcision tool

By MARA DRESNER
Connecticut Jewish Ledger

CONNECTICUT — When it comes to baby's comfort and safety during circumcision, mohels may have the inside track rather than hospitals — not by virtue of divine intervention, but rather, by the choice of the clamp used to perform the procedure.

A new study by Dr. Hema N. DeSilva, director of neonatology at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Centre in Hartford, confirms that the clamp that mohels use — the Mogen — is the better choice. Most hospital circumcisions are performed using the Gomco clamp. DeSilva presented the results of his findings at the recent annual meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies.

DeSilva, who estimates that he has performed over 10,000 circumcisions during his career, was trained to use both types of clamps.

He prefers the Mogen clamp and estimates he has performed 5,000 circumcisions using it.

He and his St. Francis colleagues decided to study the clamps about two years ago. This is the first study that DeSilva knows of that compared the two clamps. After getting approval from parents, DeSilva randomly selected 48 babies, using the Gomco clamp on some and the Mogen on others. Babies were monitored for heart rate, breathing pattern, oxygen saturation and cry time.

Not only was the Mogen clamp faster, but babies were much more comfortable when the Mogen clamp was used. "The [negative] changes were certainly much greater with the Gomco clamp," DeSilva noted. "Mohels have been using the Mogen clamp for years," he added.

DeSilva believes that one of the reasons that so many hospitals have been using the Gomco clamp is because that's what the physicians were trained on.

Despite the fact that using the Mogen takes less time, DeSilva said that this is not a motivating factor in choosing to use it.

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To Your Health

How to be an advocate for your medical care

During a time of major health care reform and dramatic restructuring, today's consumer is becoming increasingly concerned about how to be an informed and active participant in their health care experience. More and more health consumers wonder how to best navigate the medical maze. Mount Sinai Hospital's department of patient relations offers the following suggestions:

When you arrive at the hospital:

Bring a paper and pen to write down your questions for your caregivers (doctors, nurses) as you think of them and ask for answers for these concerns.

Consider keeping a journal if your health care experience is extensive and involves many health care professionals over a prolonged period of time.

Ask caregivers for their names and titles, and write them down.

Ask what tests and procedures are being done and why.

Find out when your doctor visits and have someone with you to listen to the information to ask questions, and to talk with after the team leaves.

Before you sign any consent forms, make sure you read and understand them.

Bring a list of all medications you've been taking at home.

When it's time to go home:

Ask about the normal or abnormal side effects of your procedure, such as how much pain should be expected.

Ask for educational material on your condition, procedure and treatments.

Find out how much you will be able to do when you get home and what you will need help with. Ensure that you, your family and your caregivers make arrangements for help.

Ask about your home care options. Find out exactly what home care arrangements have been made and ask for the contact name and phone number. If something is not covered, make sure you plan for the help you need.

Ask about your expected recovery time. Find out when you can return to work.

If you or your loved ones do not feel you are ready to return home, state your concerns to your caregivers and ask for some time to discuss these concerns in detail.

Ask about follow-up procedures and rehabilitation therapies. Find out what future appointments you will have and with whom. Ask if you should have a follow-up visit scheduled with your physician.

If you need help resolving your concerns or want to give feedback to the hospital, find the hospital's patient representative. The hospital reception can give you this contact.

To Your Health is a regular column prepared by a partnership of Mount Sinai Hospital and Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

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IDF stunned by botched Lebanon raid

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A stunned IDF is doing some heavy soul-searching to find out how Hezbollah succeeding in wiping out nearly an entire force of naval commandos during a botched raid in south Lebanon early last Friday that left 11 dead and one missing and presumed killed.

Hezbollah gloated over its victory, showing off mutilated bodies and calling the battle a grave defeat for Israel.

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak said the IDF is "in pain."

He appointed Maj.-Gen. Gabi Ofir to head an investigation into the failed operation. Navy and air force representatives will also be on the committee, which must examine not only the planning of the attack, but also the possibility of an intelligence leak.

"We will examine everything connected with this operation to learn what is needed to ensure the security of the residents of the north," Shahak said.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the IDF's "method of operation in Lebanon will come under stringent review," although the basic policy of remaining in Lebanon "as long as the north is endangered will not change."

European Union envoy Miguel Moratinos telephoned cabinet secretary Dan Naveh and Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur Saturday night and passed on a message from Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri that Lebanon is interested in reducing the tension in the region.

What began as a pinpoint operation suddenly exploded into a fierce battle to survive a death trap, when the 16 naval commandos were ambushed as they approached their target just after midnight. They had landed near the sea and were nearing the end of their three-kilometre approach to the village of Ansariya, between Sidon and Tyre, when a Hezbollah-laid bomb blew apart the squad. A rain of gunfire cut down those who were not wounded in the explosion.

Two more bombs were said to have gone off, possibly charges carried on the backs of commandos.

The battle was short, with Hezbollah gunmen being joined by Lebanese Army troops, members of the local group Amal and some civilians. Of the 16 raiders, 10 were killed, including the force commander; four were wounded, one seriously; and one was missing.

The sole unscathed commando radioed for evacuation. A rescue squad immediately set off for the site of the ambush in a helicopter, but only reached it about half an hour later. IAF attack helicopters flew air cover and rocketed terrorist and Lebanese Army positions around the ambush sight. Two Lebanese army soldiers, four Amal, and two Hezbollah fighters were wounded, Lebanese security sources said.

As the CH-53 Yasur helicopter landed with the rescue force, guerrillas in an approaching car opened fire, hitting it but not causing significant damage. IDF troops returned fire, riddling the car and killing at least one passenger, military sources said.

A Lebanese Army statement said civilians took part in the clashes, and that the fighting killed a woman and a young girl and wounded six other civilians.

Intense enemy gunfire

Under intense gunfire, the rescue squad succeeded in loading most of the wounded and dead, but its field doctor, Maj. Dagesh Maher, was killed. The damaged helicopter took off, but made an emergency inspection landing once it crossed the border. It then continued directly to Haifa's Rambam Hospital, where President Ezer Weizman visited the wounded later in the day.

In the chaos, efforts were made to extract all the commandos and all body parts, but not all were found. Third Petty Officer Itamar Ilya is missing and presumed dead. Under instructions from the highest echelons, a small force remained behind to search the area, but to no avail. At 4:30 a.m., just before dawn, the order was given to evacuate.

"From reports in Lebanon we have received, it appears body parts were found," a solemn Shahak told military reporters Friday afternoon.

He said it would have been very complicated for Hezbollah to have known the route of the IDF force, but could not rule it out.

Throughout the battle, Shahak and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai joined Navy Adm. Alex Tal at navy headquarters.

Mordechai said that the purpose of the raid was to hit at Hezbollah deep in Lebanon, and that it was ordered despite the risk. "All the risks were taken into account and it seemed correct to take the action," he told Channel 2.

In Lebanon, one gunman held up the head of a dead commando for photographers, before a Lebanese soldier intervened. At a news conference in Beirut, Hezbollah displayed parts of the dead commandos, along with captured weapons, detonators and swimming flippers.

Hezbollah secretary-general Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah said the group is holding no Israeli prisoners and warned Israeli soldiers not to set foot in Lebanon.

"Any town you decide to come to, you will not only find the alert eyes of guerrillas watching you, but bombs planted in the ground, in the walls and in trees," he said. "What happened was a grave defeat for Israel and a major morale and human loss for Israel's military establishment."

"This is a day of heavy sorrow and redoubled bereavement for the people of Israel," Netanyahu told reporters. "In a vile attack in Jerusalem, we lost the flower of our daughters and sons, and last night in Lebanon, we lost 11 of our best fighters.

"The State of Israel is caught up on two fronts in a tough and bitter struggle against despicable terrorists, whose only desire is to destroy the State of Israel and to murder its citizens."

While officials would not divulge the target of the raid, Lebanese sources said that the objective was the kidnapping of an Amal leader. This could not be confirmed.

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Commandos' mission remains a mystery

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Mystery still surrounds the objective of the IDF naval commando unit in last week's abortive mission in Lebanon.

According to reports from Lebanon, the area itself, near Ansariya village, is a populated coastal strip, without any obvious Hezbollah or Amal targets.

The main road leading from the south to the Lebanese capital, Beirut, runs through the area, which contains some of the country's most fertile farming land and is dotted with plantations.

The coastal area is also said to contain some of Lebanon's finest and most frequented fish restaurants, as well as bathing beaches.

It was along a route running through one of the plantations that the elite IDF unit was apparently ambushed by Hezbollah, who first detonated a mine or other explosive device and then opened fire from relatively close range.

The region is a distance from the so-called "front lines" of the security zone and therefore generally quiet. According to the reports, there is a large force of Lebanese Army troops deployed there, keeping tight control over the area.

The Shi'ite villages in the region are primarily affiliated with the Amal movement, although as in other parts of Lebanon in general, and the south in particular, there is a large presence of Hezbollah supporters and activists among the local population.

Amal maintained in statements that the target of the IDF unit was one of its command centres in the Ansariya village area.

Other reports said that the naval commandos had intended to kidnap leading Shi'ite cleric Sheikh Abdel Amir Kabalan, who is affiliated with Amal and is vice-president of the Supreme Shi'ite Council of Lebanon. Kabalan has a home in Ansariya.

Amal leader Nabih Berri said the abortive attack was in retaliation for recent actions by Amal "resistance fighters" in the Wadi Saluki area.

Four Amal gunmen were killed in a clash with Golani Brigade troops in the Wadi Saluki area last week. The Golani soldiers were later caught in a brushfire which claimed the lives of five of them.

Veteran Lebanese observers expressed skepticism over Amal's claims, however, maintaining that Amal retains only a haphazard fighting arm which poses little threat to the IDF or the SLA in the security zone.

Furthermore, they said the claim that the target was Sheikh Kabalan is illogical, given Kabalan's moderate stance and the fact that he made no effort to hide his movements.

Hezbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, for his part, maintained that there were no Hezbollah or Amal targets in the area of the commando operation.

In an apparent contradiction, however, Nasrallah also said Hezbollah planted explosive devices around those areas and units it felt it was necessary to protect. This would indicate that Hezbollah did have something or someone to protect in the area.

On the other hand, Hezbollah may have been playing a disinformation game from the start, to give the impression it had something there to defend, and then set up an ambush in the event the bait was taken.

Amal, according to an eyewitness account from one of its gunmen, only got into the picture when its activists heard the explosions and the sound of shooting.

Similarly, the Lebanese Army was not, apparently, involved from the outset. It reportedly concentrated mainly on firing mortars at the troops on the ground and anti-aircraft guns at IAF helicopters and warplanes, when they came into the picture, after the initial clash.

UN spokesperson Timor Goksel, himself a veteran Lebanese observer who has been with the peacekeeping force in Lebanon virtually since its inception in 1978, was at a loss regarding the IDF's objective in the area.

"This is a densely populated area with a lot of people moving around. The Israelis must have been convinced that there was a very attractive target, whatever it might be, in this area, to sanction and clear what was an extremely high-risk operation," said Goksel.

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Mortar kills soldier at post in Lebanon

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — An IDF soldier, Lt. Avraham Bok, 22, was killed by Hezbollah fire at an IDF outpost in south Lebanon early Sunday morning.

His death brings the number of IDF soldiers killed in or en route to Lebanon since the beginning of the year to 103: 73 in February's helicopter collision and 30 in operations.

Bok, the Nahal commander of the Tel Dabshe outpost on the Beaufort Ridge bordering Nabatiya, was killed by a mortar round at about 6 a.m. As the position came under mortar and rocket-propelled grenade fire, Bok was running among his soldiers checking their positions when he apparently took a direct hit.

In response, the IDF artillery shelled the surrounding area for an hour.

Meanwhile, the IDF inquiry into the abortive commando raid – in which 11 naval commandos were killed, one was missing and presumed dead, and four were wounded – issued preliminary findings Sunday. The report said the commandos may have been killed both by Hezbollah explosive devices and gunfire, and by the detonation of explosives they carried.

According to Channel 1, the inquiry is examining a theory that the unit's commander strayed slightly from the route and stepped on a Hezbollah mine, which in turn detonated charges the troops were carrying. The inquiry has not ruled out other possibilities, including that charges carried by the commandos exploded due to a technical failure, which drew Hezbollah fire or that the commandos walked into a Hezbollah ambush.

The most worrying possibility of all is apparently an intelligence leak. In a press conference, Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Amnon Shahak stated that it would have been very complicated for Hezbollah to have known the route of the commandos, but he could not rule it out.

Mordechai visited the family of Third Petty Officer Itamar Ilya, who is missing but presumed dead. At their Arad home, Mordechai assured the family that everything possible is being done to return their son's remains.

Israel has lodged a formal request with the International Red Cross Committee asking for its assistance in retrieving Ilya's body. Committee head Iov Giovanni said Sunday the organization had forwarded a request to the Lebanese authorities and is waiting for a reply.

Hezbollah and its Shiite rival Amal announced they are holding parts of the body of the missing commando, but made it clear they would make use of the body parts to arrange an exchange for Lebanese prisoners being held by Israel and the South Lebanese Army.

Sept. 1

• The death of Ilya Gazrach, a 73-year-old man, brings the total number of Israelis killed in the Machane Yehuda bombing to 15.

• *Ha'aretz* and the *International Herald Tribune* published their first English-language edition of Israeli news. The four-page supplement is edited by *Ha'aretz* and inserted into the *Herald Tribune*.

Sept. 2

• Israeli media reported that Israel, Turkey and the United States have scheduled joint naval exercises in the eastern Mediterranean Sea in November.

Sept. 3

• The Israeli High Court of Justice ordered the army to release information from an inquiry into the February crash of two military helicopters which killed 73 soldiers. The soldiers' families want to review the material to understand why no charges were filed.

• Israel Aircraft Industries unveiled its new executive jet and said that orders have been pouring in worldwide for the $14.5 million twin-engine plane, the Galaxy. It can transport eight passengers on intercontinental flights, up to 18 on shorter routes and is capable of flying non-stop from Paris to New York.

Sept. 4

• Israel's religious parties threatened a coalition crisis over a proposal to drastically cut the Religious Affairs Ministry budget. Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman's cuts would translate into a $214 million savings. His plans call for the religious ministry to shoulder nearly one-third of his total proposed budget cuts.

• Israel's flower growers shipped an additional five million fresh-cut stems for sale to Britons this week who want to pay their respects to Princess Diana. Israel sells more than 1.5 billion flowers in Europe annually.

Sept. 5

• Israeli media reported that U.S. Secretary of State Madelaine Albright still plans to visit the mideast region, despite yesterday's bombings. Her itinerary will not change, but the content of the visit will, in response to the attack.

With files from the JTA.

Arafat must make a choice: Netanyahu

[Cont'd from page 1]

and those yet to be reached. He suggested that all the powers interested in resolving existing conflicts, Russia as well as the United States, should take effective action to prevent the regional balance of power from shifting in Iran's favor.

Netanyahu contended that the Iranians' ultimate objective – arming their projectiles with biological, chemical and nuclear warheads – would pose a threat to the entire world while enhancing Iran's incessant effort to disseminate its extremist ideology.

In discussing the Palestinian track, he made no reference to the construction work at Jerusalem's Har Choma or the reported possibility that Albright may seek a three- to six-month pause in the controversial project. Nor did he seem ready to make any concessions on settlements in conjunction with further redeployment or proceeding to final status talks.

"We have a clear position, which is that we fulfil agreements," Netanyahu said. "The Oslo Accords are quite clear about our commitments and about the Palestinians. They make no mention of settlements – in fact, [Yitzhak] Rabin was very clear about the freedom that Israel maintains to build settlements, even new ones, something we are not doing.

"I think the important thing at first is to establish [the principle] that old commitments are kept before new ones are entertained.

"We fulfilled our side," Netanyahu insisted. "We've redeployed in Hebron and fulfilled other commitments; but the Palestinians have not."

Asked why his government had not approved any new settlements, the premier said: "We decided early on that any decision on a new settlement would require the full cabinet's approval, and we haven't brought any for approval so far."

But surely, he was asked, he could have gotten approval from his cabinet, had he asked for it?

"I think we have contented ourselves with allowing the growth of existing settlements," Netanyahu answered. "They're growing. I don't think they're growing quite at the pace at which they grew under the Labor government, and I don't say this with any particular pride. They expanded by nearly 50 percent of the population under Labor.

"That didn't seem to be such a hindrance toward peace then, the way it is presented now."

Netanyahu defended his proposal to shelve the frustrating quest for interim agreements – which he described as potential sources of new friction and violence – in favor of final status talks. He denied that the suggestion was a tactic designed to avoid further troop redeployments in the interim.

The only reason for postponing additional troop pullbacks, he said, would be the PA's failure to act against terrorists and terrorism.

The parties should "cut to a final agreement," Netanyahu said, because "the incremental process erodes confidence, with each side eyeing a final settlement." He contended that an immediate advance to final status talks "would enable the parties to cut the Gordian knot" that breeds frustration and violence.

Netanyahu rejected Arafat's definition of the demand for the arrest of 150 people on Israel's "wanted" list as a "dictate," asking: "What good is it for us to make new concessions, give more pieces of land that will simply be used as launching grounds for additional terrorist attacks against us?"

Netanyahu also rejected the idea of statehood as a feasible form of Palestinian self-determination. He cited security considerations as the main reason.

He argued that sovereignty would enable the Palestinians to forge military alliances with Iraq and Iran, challenge Israel's control over the air space west of the Jordan River and deploy weapons near Tel Aviv.

"The 20th century shows that symbolism becomes reality," he said, suggesting that "there are other models for a final settlement" besides statehood.

Turning to the territorial aspect of the Palestinian-Israeli dispute, Netanyahu cited his "Allon-Plus" plan as a viable proposal, noting that it would have to provide "defence-security zones," while at the same time "balancing Israeli and Palestinian needs."

In the end, he argued, "only we – Israelis and Palestinians – could determine the prerequisites for coexistence in peace and security."

Netanyahu dismissed media reports charging that he would prefer to concentrate on resurrecting the moribund negotiations with Syria rather than go on dealing with the PA. The reason for this was said to be the increasing complexities of the core issues yet to be aired: Jerusalem, refugees and borders. But by bringing the final status talks forward, Netanyahu said, these issues would be taken up sooner rather than later.

With regard to peace talks with Syria, Netanyahu said he was "encouraged" by President Hafez al-Assad's role in the joint Israeli-Syrian effort to wind down the recent escalation in southern Lebanon. He credited the Syrian leader with reining in the Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrillas, thereby avoiding further bloodshed.

However, Netanyahu described as a nonstarter Assad's demand that the armistice line existing from mid-1949 to June 4, 1967 be the outer limit of the Syrian forces' deployment in the aftermath of a proposed Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

"The Syrians are torpedoing the peace talks before they resume," he said, indicating that the only acceptable cartographical term of reference was the political boundary between Palestine and Syria dating back to the British mandate.

"The Syrians simply want to get down to the water," Netanyahu said, referring to Lake Kinneret, on whose northeastern shore the Syrian army was camped until the outbreak of the Six Day War.

Netanyahu also ruled out a return to the Green Line, saying it would trigger "internal conflict" within Israel. At the same time, he expressed surprise at the PA's apparent notion that its territorial objectives could best be achieved by the return of a Labor-led coalition to power.

Israel "couldn't redeploy" in Hebron under Labor, he recalled, adding immediately, "We could do it."

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Syrian track frozen as Albright visits region

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Madeleine Albright, the American secretary of state, is scheduled to begin her first tour of the Middle East this week. Among the countries she will visit is Syria, widely recognized as Israel's main military rival and the key to a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Mideast Analysis

In the view of observers, Albright will quickly learn that the prospects for a peace treaty between Israel and Syria are virtually nil at this juncture.

Israel broke off bilateral talks with Syria in February 1996, following Syria's refusal to condemn a spate of Palestinian suicide bombings in Israeli cities. Since then, the negotiations have been frozen and both sides have accused each other of war-mongering.

Israel's position is that it is ready to resume the discussions, which were last held at the Wye Plantation in the United States, "without prior conditions." Syria, too, is prepared for talks, but only at the point they left off. Therein, as Albright will discover, lies the problem.

President Hafez Assad claims that the late Israeli premier, Yitzhak Rabin, orally agreed to a complete withdrawal from the Golan Heights — to the June 4, 1967 lines — in exchange for peace. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu counters that informal understandings reached by Israel and Syria are not binding on his government.

According to Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's former ambassador to Washington and its chief negotiator with Syria, Rabin never promised to withdraw, but simply made a commitment to seriously discuss this pivotal issue, provided Assad was amenable to Israeli security demands, open borders, diplomatic relations and normalization.

What seems clear is that Israel and Syria were in fact inching toward a viable accommodation. Syria's envoy in Washington and its chief negotiator, Walid Moualem, believes that the two countries were on the verge of an agreement in 1995.

This may be true. But it's also worth remembering that at the conclusion of one of their last negotiating sessions in 1996, neither side was in an upbeat mood. Ehud Barak, then Israel's foreign minister, said that he did not expect any breakthrough in the near future. Radio Damascus voiced disappointment with the pace of progress, and Assad ruled out a summit with either Rabin or his successor, Shimon Peres.

Since last year's election in Israel, the situation has gone from bad to worse. Netanyahu has repeatedly declared that Israel, for security reasons, cannot give up the Golan. However, at President Bill Clinton's urging last March, he acknowledged that United Nations Resolution 242 — which calls for trading land for peace — is applicable to the Golan. Foreign Minister David Levy has conceded that point, and several Likud Knesset members have announced their willingness to consider a pullout from the Golan.

To Syria, these are hollow gestures, given Israel's reported intention to build new housing on the Golan, the cabinet's decision to construct a dam on the Yarmuk River in an area claimed by Damascus, and Netanyahu's support for a proposed Knesset bill that would require any withdrawal to be approved by at least 80 members.

Syria has responded to these developments with expressions of anger and despair, though it has offered Israel peace with security in return for a full withdrawal from the Golan (and southern Lebanon).

Against the backdrop of fears that Israel and Syria are on a collision course, Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas has warned that Netanyahu's policies are leading the region toward war, and Assad has said that he is keeping his "options open."

Israel is also beset by a sense of foreboding, as witnessed by warnings from Israeli Chief of Staff Gen. Amnon Shahak and Israeli ambassador to Washington Eliyahu Ben-Elissar that Syria may be preparing for war. Can Albright put it all right? It's doubtful.

PA links security ties to further withdrawal

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Palestinian security officials have said that they are not cooperating with Israel regarding the investigation of the suicide bombings in Jerusalem's Machane Yehuda market and Rehov Ben Yehuda, and conditioned such a step on Israeli implementation of further IDF redeployment in the West Bank.

Mohammed Dahlan, chief of the Palestinian Authority's (PA) Preventive Security Apparatus in Gaza, said his agency is prepared to cooperate with Israel "on condition that it participates in the peace process. This means implementation of the interim agreements signed until now."

Samir Mashrawi, an aide of Dahlan, said at this point the Palestinians and the Israelis are conducting separate investigations into the suicide bombings in Jerusalem. But he added that neither side is exchanging information.

Mashrawi said the PA investigation has not turned up information on the identities of those behind the bombings.

Israeli security officials said they have detected increased willingness by the PA to cooperate with the investigation. But they said the new attitude is a demonstration meant for U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, scheduled to arrive in the Middle East this week.

Palestinian sources said Arafat — attending a summit with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein — was accompanied by a senior Palestinian security official to Cairo to explain to the Egyptians the PA investigation into the suicide bombings.

Recently, the West Bank head of the PA Preventive Security Apparatus, Jibril Rajoub, was stopped at a Border Police roadblock outside Jerusalem. In a rare step, the border policemen searched Rajoub's car and seized weapons that Israeli sources said were unlicensed by the IDF.

In the last few days, PA security has also been tighter.

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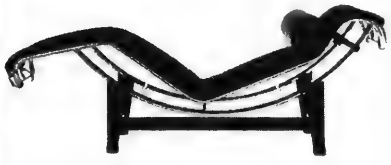
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Israel & the Jewish World

Vancouver dentist wounded in Jerusalem bombing

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

JERUSALEM — Sherri Wise, a 27-year-old Vancouver dentist on her first trip to Israel, received burns to her arms, legs and face in last week's triple suicide bombing on Ben Yehuda Street.

Wise is believed to be the only Canadian injured in the blast. Speaking by phone from her room in Hadassah Hospital to *The CJN* in Toronto, she recalled "lots of bodies, blood and people scattered about."

The only indication of danger, she realized in retrospect, was seeing a man dressed as a woman on her way to lunch. (News reports said at least one bomber was disguised as a woman.)

Wise was having lunch with two other people at the Village Green restaurant when the bomb went off.

The next thing she remembers is "being on the ground. The ambulances came [in what seemed like] two seconds, and the police and soldiers were everywhere. People who weren't hurt were helping other people. I just remember being totally out of it, just trying to breathe and just trying to know that I was alive and that I was going to see my family again."

She recalls looking for – and finding – her purse. "I didn't want anyone to find my passport without me being attached to it," she explained. Both her companions survived the blast, although one was "more seriously" injured.

Wise, who arrived in Israel Aug. 13 to volunteer for a month at a dental clinic for underprivileged children through Dental Volunteers for Israel, plans to cut her stay short and return to her parents' home in Winnipeg as soon as she is out of the hospital, likely this week.

On Friday, the day after the bombing, Wise had "literally hundreds" of visitors, including schoolchildren and representatives of the Canadian Consulate and the United Jewish Appeal.

Buoyed by the visits, Wise said she felt much better. She was on medication to manage pain from first, second and some third-degree burns.

Wise said she didn't fear bombings before leaving for Israel. "If it's going to happen, it's going to happen. I wish it hadn't happened. I feel bad that other people were hurt. [We were in] the wrong place at the wrong time."

Wise was very taken with her first experience in Israel. "I loved it. I went to Masada and climbed it. I went to the Dead Sea and thought it was the most beautiful thing. I went to the Kotel and prayed on Shabbat, and it was beautiful."

Within a day of the bombing, many people had asked Wise whether she would return to Israel. "I don't think I could take it in the near future, but probably one day. I don't know. I think I'd be very scared."

Outrage at attack

CJN Staff

TORONTO — In Canada, Jewish community leaders condemned the bombing while Prime Minister Jean Chrétien expressed "shock and outrage" at the attacks.

"Our thoughts and prayers at this moment are with the families of the victims and the people of Israel," the prime minister said.

The Canada-Israel Committee (CIC), the Jewish community's advocacy group on Israel, pointed out the attacks occurred only days before the scheduled arrival in the region of U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright for resumed peace negotiations.

CIC national chair Stephen Victor, said "the attacks occurred only days after Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was seen publicly embracing the leaders of Hamas and other Muslim extremist organizations. This was despite the Palestinian Authority's moral and legal obligation, under the Oslo Accords, to disarm and disband these groups, who have made no secret of their violent opposition to the very concept of peace with Israel."

Victor also called on the Canadian government "to condemn terror attacks against Israel and all other violations of the Oslo Accords by the Palestinian Authority. We also urge the Canadian government to demand the Palestinian Authority adhere to the obligations undertaken when they signed the accords."

Canadian Jewish Congress president Goldie Hershon said "Arafat must wage war against these terrorists if he wants peace [with Israel]. Peace and terror are incompatible."

Moshe Ronen, chair of Congress' Ontario region, said "these callous and calculating fanatics are not just at war with Israel, but with the ideal of peace. The international community must reject through deeds the use of terrorism as an element of politics. Israel must be supported in whatever measures it deems necessary to stop terrorism against its citizens."

B'nai Brith Canada (BBC) suggested the timing of the terrorist attacks after lifting of the closures and prior to Albright's visit "flies in the face of American initiatives to ensure the continuation of the peace partnership."

BBC spokesperson Frank Dimant said the bombings were "the natural consequence of [the] public rapprochement between Arafat and leaders of the terrorist organizations that perpetrate these horrible crimes. The embrace between these leaders can only be interpreted as a sign of cooperation, goodwill and support between the Palestinian Authority and those who would murder innocent civilians and destroy any chance for peace in the region."

Words are inadequate in the face of such horror and inhumanity, said Dvora Goodman, vice-president of the University of Toronto's Jewish Student Union. "My heart aches for the Israelis who have to live in dread and mourning."

Ilana Segal and Eyal Lewin, co-presidents of Ryerson Hillel, said the bombings have "once again highlighted the sharp disparity between the attitudes of the parties involved in the Israeli peace talks."

"It is unfortunate and very sad that followers of Hamas feel that violence will attain their goals," said Dave Gordon, editor-in-chief of the student publication *Images* and a student at York University.

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GOLDEN HARBOR CENTRE CUT NOVA LOX 5.49 142g with ad Exp. Oct. 30

GOLDEN HARBOR CENTRE CUT ONE POUND NOVA LOX 14.99/lb

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Toronto
Civic Awards Nominations

Do you know someone who deserves a civic award?

Each year, on Civic Honours Day, Toronto City Council honours people who have attained distinction in various fields of endeavour. All nominees must be residents of the City of Toronto.

Civic Award of Merit

The City will present the award to persons who have helped improve Toronto's quality of life. The nominees may have participated in one or more of these suggested areas, or in other areas:

- the arts
- community
- labour
- the media
- science
- business
- education
- government/politics
- religion
- sports

Constance E. Hamilton Award

This award is given to a person or persons who have made a significant contribution toward equitable treatment for women in the City of Toronto.

William P. Hubbard Race Relations Award

The City presents this award for outstanding achievement and commitment to race relations in the City of Toronto.

Access Award

The City gives this award to a person or persons who have made a significant contribution towards improving access for people with disabilities in the City of Toronto.

For nomination forms, please call the City's Equal Opportunity Office, (416)392-7855.

TTY users, please call 392-0083.

Deadline for Nominations is October 1, 1997.

Israel urged to investigate fate of missing Yemenite babies

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

KIRYAT SHAUL — There have been renewed calls to review the investigation into the fate of several thousand babies born to Yemenite and Oriental Jewish families who were allegedly taken from their parents in the 1950s and illegally sold for adoption, mainly to American families.

These calls were prompted in part by the pictures taken in the last month of Tsila Levine being reunited with her biological mother Margalit Amosi.

Levine went missing as a baby, 49 years ago, and was adopted by an Ashkenazi family. In her early 20s, she moved to the United States. DNA testing confirmed the mother-daughter relationship.

Although there have been several commissions appointed over the years to look into the matter, until now there has been no conclusive evidence as to the possible veracity of the story of the adoptions which prominent Yemenite community leaders have been claiming for many years.

There has also been a call to review the circumstances that led to the 1994 police siege at Yahud, near Tel Aviv, which resulted in the arrest, conviction and imprisonment of Uzi Meshulam, a well-known Yemenite rabbi.

At the time, it was said that Rabbi Meshulam and his followers were in dispute concerning the building of new apartments near to the rabbi's home and had barricaded and armed themselves to prevent the construction going ahead.

This was always denied by Rabbi Meshulam, who consistently championed the cause of the lost children and claimed that there was an official conspiracy to silence him over the matter of the missing children. He claimed that many prominent public figures and politicians were involved in the sale of the children for very large amounts of money.

In August, four graves were opened in Tel Aviv's Kiryat Shaul cemetery at the request of the families. Although each grave was marked, no remains of any kind were found.

That supports the long-held claims of many parents that their children were taken from them and given for adoption. The parents had been told that their children had died and been buried, but no parent of any single missing child had ever been to a funeral or seen the body of their child or been given a death certificate.

Menasche Babu, who was present at the opening of his daughter's grave, returned to the grave site a week later and gave *The CJN* an exclusive interview.

"I had twin daughters and I always thought that this was the grave of one of the twins who had died in infancy. I knew that this was supposed to be the grave of my daughter Ruti because the chevrah kadishah (the burial society) had given me a plan showing the grave's location.

"The chevrah kadishah informed me and the other three families, that they were going to open the graves of our children and they invited us to come to the cemetery on that day. They opened the grave and there was nothing — no body, nothing. We saw only weeds, nothing more.

" I don't know what became of my daughter or who took her. I have had no information for nearly 46 years.

"In January 1951, we came to Israel from Iraq. Some five months later my wife gave birth to twin girls in the Dejainy Hospital in Jaffa. When it was time to leave the hospital they gave us just one daughter saying that as we lived in a maabara (a tent camp) and the weather was very bad they would keep one of the children at the hospital. We would have her back, they said, when the weather was good. We left and went home.

> *'They opened the grave and there was nothing'*

"After a month, we received a telegram to say that our daughter had died and she had been buried at Kiryat Shaul Cemetery, at plot number this and block number that. As we were olim chadashim (new immigrants) and knew nothing, we said — if she has died, she has died.

"However we found out after many years that the government had sold children of Yemenite, Iraq and Oriental families.

"There have been several government commissions looking into this matter and we were invited at times to give evidence. Nothing changed following these commissions. Up until today we do not know where our daughter is. Who took her? To what country was she taken? If she lives in Israel or abroad. We have no idea."

Ora Shifriss, a spokesperson for the Yemenite families, claims she has evidence that the trade in adoption was carried out with the knowledge, and in certain cases connivance, of leading political and public figures.

Shifriss is not satisfied that the present Cohen Commission, chaired by former Supreme Court justice Yehuda Cohen, will clear up the matter, as its terms of reference are too narrow and will not allow into evidence factors, which she says "are essential to the commission finding out, once and for all, the truth."

Shifriss wants Rabbi Meshulam to be released from prison, where he still has about 18 months of his sentence to serve, and be free to tell what he knows about the claims of illegal adoptions. She says that there would be a major political fall-out if the truth were exposed.

"Three years ago parents demanded that the graves of their children, whom they had been told had died in the 50s and buried in Petach Tikvah's Segula Cemetery, be given suitable grave stones, and this was done," says Shifriss.

"The manager of Segula Cemetery at the time said that the areas where the children's grave stones are located have no bodies beneath them, only sometimes a few small bags of non-descript bones and fetuses from abortions. We opened some of these graves about a year ago and asked that samples from 10 named graves be sent to a world renowned DNA testing laboratory in England and the results be checked against the parents.

"Such a test would solve this problem immediately. The laboratory in England wanted $150,000 to test all the 10 samples. Because the samples have been in the ground for a long time and are no longer live tissue, the tests are complicated and take a long time, this we know. The authorities said that they has no money, for this, it was too expensive. We are sure the parents had been given bogus burial locations of their children just to keep them quiet."

Shifriss says that several Knesset members have urged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to authorize the tests and solve this "historical tragedy."

The Ministry of the Interior also holds the key to the problem explained Shifriss. "The testimony of a leading official of the ministry, who is responsible for all adoption records in the State of Israel held at the ministry, was heard only behind closed doors, even though the inquiry was ostensibly a public one. The biological parents of each and every child adopted in Israel are known by the ministry. The reason these records are kept is to avoid a brother and sister marrying by mistake. This is hypocrisy. For the ministry this is important, but abduction of Jewish children for money — this doesn't matter."

Yeshiahu Mansoura, head of the Yemenite community in Israel, has also appealed to leading public figures to use their influence to ensure the truth is now told and the guilty are not protected. He says, "It is a stain on the name of the Jewish people and Zionism which must be removed."

Israel & the Jewish World

Israel ties with Croatia spark debate in Knesset

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Word that a country will establish diplomatic relations with Israel is generally welcomed as a sign of decreased isolation for the Jewish state.

But in the case of the former Yugoslav republic of Croatia, the applause is far from unanimous, and much of the criticism focuses on the country's leader, President Franjo Tudjman.

The two countries recently agreed to create formal ties next month.

The move came after Tudjman said he plans to visit Israel and apologize for his nation's persecution of Jews during World War II.

Tudjman's nationalist policies are viewed by many as an attempt to rehabilitate the fascist Ustashe regime that ruled Croatia as a Nazi puppet state during World War II.

Croatia had 25,000 Jews before World War II, most of them prosperous and largely assimilated. Some 20,000 were killed by the Nazis or the Ustashe regime.

Croatia decided to cede to Holocaust survivors its share of gold held by the Tripartite Commission, which is charged with returning Nazi-seized gold to European central banks. Britain, France and the United States agreed to freeze the gold while they review evidence that some of it was stripped by the Nazis from concentration camp victims.

The Israeli government's decision to establish ties with Croatia came under sharp criticism recently from Labor Knesset member Yossi Beilin, who said Tudjman had yet to fully repudiate writings which cast doubt on the number of people killed during the Holocaust.

Beilin said that when he was deputy foreign minister in 1995, he turned down a request by Croatia to establish ties, saying Israel would only do so if Tudjman removed anti-Semitic sections from his 1989 book, *Wastelands of History*.

Israeli officials viewed the book as anti-Semitic, and Tudjman subsequently issued a revised English version under a new title, *Horrors of War*, from which the most controversial parts were dropped.

The director-general of the Foreign Ministry, Eitan Ben Tsur, defended the decision to forge ties with Croatia, saying that Tudjman had removed the anti-Semitic sections from his book.

Ben Tsur added that Tudjman had offered to visit Israel and place a wreath at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial.

Beilin charged that the changes were made only in the English-language version of the book and that Tudjman has never publicly apologized for the remarks which still appear in the Croatian-language edition.

"He is simply a classic anti-Semite, and the statements in the book are scary. When such a person is president of a state, we have a problem," Beilin said.

He added that in his view, the only reasons Israel had agreed to establish ties with Croatia was because "all of a sudden we've returned to a state of international isolation, so we welcome anyone."

Another motivation was suggested last week by the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*, which reported that the forging of ties will clear the way for Israel to sell Croatia more than $100 million in unspecified "non-lethal" weapons.

The paper quoted a senior political official as saying that negotiations between Croatia and Israeli defence industry officials began in 1992 after Israel joined the countries recognizing Croatia as a U.N. member-state.

Israel to lodge protest over grisly photos

By DOUGLAS DAVIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Foreign Ministry expressed its shock over the publication of a photograph in the London-based daily *Al-Hayat* which depicts an Amal militiaman holding the severed head of an Israel Navy commando.

"It is most serious that the media in enlightened countries, which are supposed to uphold professional and moral standards, allowed the publication of such a shocking photograph," the ministry said in a statement.

The Israeli Embassy in London is to lodge a formal complaint with Britain's Press Council over the publication.

The features of the commando, one of 12 who were killed in the abortive operation in Lebanon, are clearly identifiable in the picture, which was distributed by Agence France Press and published on the front page of the Saudi-owned paper.

"Publication of this photograph was an act of barbarism," said embassy spokesperson Ron Prosor. "It contradicts all newspaper codes and journalistic ethics. We are devastated by the publication."

Other pictures in the paper depict the dismembered limbs and organs, including the heart, of other Israelis who were killed in the operation.

The Britain Israel Public Affairs Centre, a pro-Israel lobby in London, also announced that it will seek legal advice on action to be taken against *Al-Hayat*. The newspaper, which is regarded as one of the most influential among the elite in the Arab world, is based in London, but is printed simultaneously throughout the Middle East and in the United States.

The editor-in-chief of *Al-Hayat*, Jihad Khazen, told the *Jerusalem Post* he could understand why many people would find it "incomprehensible" that a supposedly reputable newspaper would decide to publish such a photograph. "As a reader, I didn't like it myself," he said.

He said the decision to publish was made jointly by senior editors at the paper because it had arrived via a widely distributed wire service and they believed other papers would publish the photograph.

"I was not on duty at the time, but I will not shirk my responsibility," he said. "Perhaps I would not have used it on the front page. Perhaps I would not publish something like it again.

"We at *Al-Hayat* are peaceniks," he added. "We just want this whole thing to finish."

LifeStyle

Advertising Feature

Come see...what the Jewish Singles Registry is all about

If you have never been to a dating service before, here is the perfect opportunity to drop by the Jewish Singles Registry (J.S.R.) and see for yourself how a system which takes the "blind" out of "blind dating" works. Last April the J.S.R. held its first open house and the office was over flowing with interested individuals. "We were so busy, we didn't know where to turn to first" reported a jubilant Rob singer the J.S.R.'s owner and director. Rob promises that this time they will be even better prepared to handle the crowd. "We would like to spend a little more time with each individual when they come in" Singer continues. "There are so many benefits to joining our service that it is sometimes difficult to get the entire message out in such a short period of time. One thing we do try and stress at the onset is that there is virtually **NO RISK** in signing up with the Jewish Singles Registry. We **GUARANTEE** our service, and if someone doesn't get a minimum of ten dates within the first year of their membership, they get to stay in our service for free until they have had all ten dates. Nobody, to my knowledge, even comes close to a guarantee like ours". The Registry's success rate has been growing steadily throughout the years and the service is proud to announce that it is now averaging an engagement approximately every four weeks. While this unique system leads to many weddings and engagements, the J.S.R. also provides Toronto Jewish singles with an ideal way to meet and network with one another. Simply put in your request to meet someone (you first get to read, see and hear all about them) and the Registry staff puts the powers in motion. A phone call is made, usually that same day, to invite the person that you selected into their office to read, see and listen to your profile. When the person says yes, the phone number is given out. **IT IS THAT SIMPLE!!**

Another open house is scheduled for Sunday September 28, 1997 at their offices at 55 Eglinton Ave. E. #405, from 1-5 p.m. At the open house you will be able to meet the entire Registry staff, as well as read selected profiles of actual members, see their photographs, and listen to recorded voice personal messages. The afternoon promises to be educational, informative and fun. Just think how a few hours of your time on a lazy afternoon could very easily put you on the right track to meeting exciting, eligible, and dynamic Toronto Jewish singles.

Club Med In The City - Party

The J.S.R. is excited to announce that they will be presenting a Club Med In The City Party, an interactive get together designed specifically to meet and mingle with other Jewish singles. Official Club Med representatives will be on hand to lead the group through various fun and entertaining activities. Prizes will be awarded for the winning team. The event will take place on Sunday Sept. 21/97 at The Unicorn, 175 Eglinton Ave. E. beginning at 8:00 p.m. sharp. Live entertainment will also be provided to cap off the evening. **Don't miss this one!!**

More To Come

A lot of exciting things have been happening recently at the J.S.R. and Singer promises that there is a lot more to come. Whether you are looking to meet someone for friendship, a relationship or marriage, the time is right to sign up with the Jewish Singles Registry. They can be reached at **416-483-4151 or e-mail at jsreg@total.net.**

KISS BLIND DATING GOOD-BYE
The Jewish Singles Registry offers you an unlimited number of introductions, that you select from an extensive Bio/Photo/Voice library. It's a great way for you to connect with people you would normally never get a chance to meet. So if you are looking for an attractive, fun, and simple way to meet other Jewish Singles, call the Jewish Singles Registry today.
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416-483-4151
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E-mail
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Photo: Courtesy of Sylman Photographs
Pamela and Alan
Married Feb. 97

LifeStyle

Stride into fall with Mephisto

In autumn, as the weather mellows, invigorating exercise grows more appealing; and for North Americans, especially those whose work entails little physical labor, the major exercise is walking. It uses the whole body without undue exertion, maintains steady circulation to the brain -- and is safe enough to let us give free rein to our thoughts.

Since ancient times, great sages have advised us to make major decisions while walking. Aristotle's philosophy is called "Peripatetic", from the Greek for "walking about", because he lectured to his students while strolling with them in the garden of his school. And how many insights did the great Sherlock Holmes reach while restlessly pacing?

Without giving it much thought, we take thousands of steps daily; and each time, one foot bears our entire body weight. For this reason, and because vital nerves link the foot to the rest of the body, the state of our feet affects our overall health. And as we spend most of the day in shoes, our footwear in turn affects the state of our feet.

Mephisto footwear is designed with your total well-being in mind. With a style for every purpose — formal, casual or rugged — Mephisto shoes, boots and sandals are hand-crafted according to the best current knowledge. Their durable natural materials mould themselves to your foot and gait; and they are attractively styled in rich earth tones.

Every Mephisto model has a latex foam midsole, to make rough ground feel soft as a carpet; latex padding to cushion heel and joints; and a leather inner sole. For long walks on crisp autumn afternoons amid the changing leaves, Mephisto especially recommends its number one walking shoe for men and women: the *Trampolin*.

The *Trampolin* features a protective mudguard, and cleated sole to grip wet surfaces. The heel offers maximum shock absorption: each step causes it to compress, then expand, pushing you forward into the next stride and literally putting a spring into your step. The soles combine various materials in energy-saving air cushions; and the *Trampolin* is as solidly good-looking as it is sturdy.

Customers are the best advertisements; and while popular in their native France, Mephisto shoes find 85% of their expanding market elsewhere in Europe, Asia and North America -- both with celebrities, and people like you and me.

Join the Mephisto movement. You'll find *Trampolins* and other models at two Toronto boutiques: 1177 Yonge St. at Summerhill, (416) 968-7026; and 50 Bloor St. West, Concourse level, (416) 966-2568. You'll also find them in a Mephisto shop-in-shop at 182 Main St. in Unionville, (905) 940-0865. Call Ralph Benisty, Mephisto's Director of Operations for Canada, at (905) 881-0050 for further information on Mephisto's complete product line.

Celebrate with the stars

"People often have the misconception that planning a wedding, bar or bat mitzvah has to be a stressful and tedious experience," states Marla Kay, organizer of "A Celebration of Stars," a trade show which assembles a large variety of party professionals serving the Jewish community.

"As a bridal and party consultant for 15 years, I know how wonderful it is to plan a simcha. There are so many details to be looked after. For the past 4 years at each of my shows, I have brought together over 50 professional "stars" of the party industry to display their wonderful products and services."

This year, the Celebration of Stars Wedding, Bar and Bat Mitzvah Show will take place on Thursday, September 25, 1997 at the Paradise Banquet Hall, 7601 Jane Street, just north of Steeles and south of Hwy. 7. It begins at 6:00 p.m. and runs until 11 p.m. I am happy to announce that Windsor Bridal Salon, the largest bridal boutique in Canada, featuring 6,000 sq. ft. of bridal wear will present a full runway fashion show starting at 8 p.m. They will be showing Canada's fastest growing bridal collection...private label by G which features the latest styles, fabrics and trend setting customer service. This collection features the ultimate in bridal imagery. As an added bonus, Windsor Bridal will be holding a draw for a free wedding gown.

"There are a lot of bridal trade shows offered to the public," says Kay. "The Celebration of Stars Show" is geared solely to the Jewish community. All of the exhibitors rely on Jewish simchas for the core of their business."

When you attend the Celebration of Stars Show, all of your entire party needs will be represented and you will be able to meet our party's finest on an informal basis. You have the luxury of making an instant decision based on what you have seen, heard or tasted, or mull it over and decide at a later date. Many of the exhibitors will be offering show discounts and numerous give-aways. Each of the various stages of party planning will be available and by having more than one company displaying their unique talents in a particular category, you have the choice of which individual will suit your needs. You may choose from a variety of party professionals who will strive to maintain the highest standards of excellence in their particular area of expertise. You will be offered bridal and party consultants, catering (Kosher), invitations, florists, make-up artists, personalized party favours, photography, videography, cakes, creative room decor and centrepieces, orchestras and DJ's. Some of the "stars" are very well known in the simcha industry and there will also be some new faces as well.

"Every Celebration of Stars Bridal, Bar and Bat Mitzvah Show that I have organized has proved to be so successful for both guests and exhibitors that as soon as I finish one, I begin plans for the next one," says Kay. "Organizing a party is what I do best and I think that it is certainly reflected in my shows."

Come and see for yourself that the Celebration of Stars has got it all and is one show that you don't want to miss. Admission and parking is free. For further information you can contact Marla Kay at **905-882-2042**.

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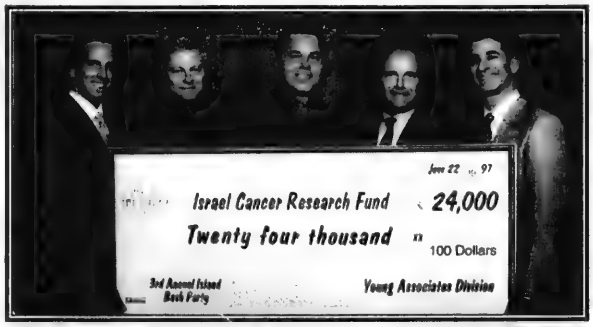

Above (left to right): S. Jonathan Kirshblum, Chairman; Dr. Sheldon Herzog, Vista Eye Institute (Gold Sponsor); Marvin Gutelewicz, Vice Chairman; James M. Werry, Managing Director ScotiaMcLeod (Platinum Sponsor); Mark S. Loss, President, ICRF Toronto.

On June 22, 1997 approximately 1,000 young adults attended the 3rd annual Island Bash party that was held at The Docks. Highlights of the evening included; a limbo in through the front doors, a door draw that saw a lucky guest win a trip for two to Club Med in Mexico, and a guest appearance by TV personality Erica Ehm who helped organize a 300 person conga line that was televised live on City TV. Guests were also treated to complimentary hors d'ouevres catered by Il Fornello and free Gelato Fresco ice cream. The event helped raise in excess of $24,000.00 for cancer research.

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Israel Cancer Research Fund's Young Associates' Division extends grateful thanks to the many generous sponsors who helped make the 3rd annual Island Bash party a tremendous success.

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RITA'S STORY

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Rita Tobias

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Travel, Arts & Business

Ashkenaz artistry attracted record crowd of 67,000

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The sights and sounds of Yiddish culture recently brought 67,000 people to Ashkenaz at Harbourfront Centre, double the number that attended the first such festival two years ago.

"We stretched the site and facilities at Harbourfront to their limit," said Ashkenaz artistic director David Buchbinder. "We knew we were on the right track, but the response amazed us."

The next Ashkenaz festival will be held in 1999, with one of the goals being to further break down the barriers between the artists and the audience, Buchbinder said.

The crowds were overflowing at the free music concerts and literary events. Even plays and concerts at paid venues drew near capacity attendance.

One exception was *The Last Yiddish Poet*. Buchbinder theorized that this unusual play by the Travelling Jewish Theatre from San Francisco suffered from the competition of free concerts by big name klezmer groups.

The Last Yiddish Poet, performed by two acrobatic actors, Corey Fischer and Albert Greenberg, is an inspiring and insightful view of Jewish history, with the accent on the present.

Donning clown noses when required and reverting to vaudeville-like antics and voices, they provided just enough skepticism:

"Is Yiddish dying?" asks the short Greenberg.

"Sick maybe, not dying," replies the tall, thin Fischer, a mischievous glint in his eye.

They footnoted Mordechai Gebirtig's song *Avremi the Pickpocket* with "He only stole from capitalists."

The Yiddish language was given to the Jewish people, "a golden language of the heart, dressed in rags," to enable continuity, the actors say.

A mainstream cultural production, *Kapelye/On The Air*, delighted the audience with its spoof of *The Yiddish Radio Hour* broadcast in Toronto in the old days.

New lyrics to *Sixteen Tons* transferred the locale to a delicatessen and the post-Lindbergh ditty, *Charley Levine, the Flying Jew*, was among the favorites.

The musician actors, Eric Berman, Adrienne Cooper (vocals), Ken Maltz, Henry Sapoznik and Peter Sokolow blended commercials for Fogelman's Hats with the old favorite, *Abi Gezunt*.

One of the stars of this show, Adrienne Cooper, went on to the Studio Theatre a half hour later, where, with pianist/arranger Zalmen Mlotek, she dazzled everyone with *Ghetto Tango*.

Ghetto Tango tapped into the black humor, rage and anxiety of the Holocaust artists who sang and played in order to live. If *Ghetto Tango* doesn't return to Toronto as part of the next Ashkenaz or even sooner, someone is overlooking a sensational act.

With *The Dybbuk*, Ashkenaz moved to a different aspect of Jewish culture. For this reviewer, the production by the non-Jewish Polish troupe from Bialystok was too cold, formal and moralistic.

Their use of icons to portray the bodies of the participants as separate from the souls seemed to heighten the barriers between the actors and the audience.

The troupe gets full marks for staging, lighting and special effects, but their interpretation of S. Ansky's play, while perhaps valid from the viewpoint of Poles deploring the Holocaust, lacked a human factor.

The Memoirs of Gluckel of Hamelin, another Ashkenaz showpiece, represented Buchbinder's search for creative, original pieces and new voices.

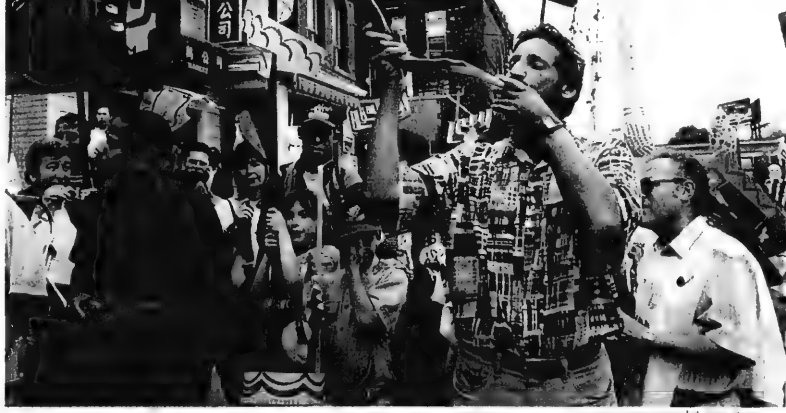
It tells the life story of a German Jewess (1646 to 1724) who successfully takes over her husband's business after his early death, while raising several children.

Many unusual theatre techniques are employed, along with a musical score reminiscent of how old radio shows produced their sound effects.

This is theatre of the future, an attempt to lighten up some Jewish folkways and portray the presence of women more powerfully than has been done in the past.

It may not have been everybody's cup of tea, but the hard-working collaborative team of Jenny Romaine, Frank London and the irrepressible Adrienne Cooper of New York's Great Small Works company, deserve to be commended for their efforts.

Artistic director David Buchbinder. [Barbara Silverstein photo]



Mel Litman blows a shofer at the Ashkenaz parade. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

LEO FRANK SUBJECT OF LIVENT PRODUCTION

Livent chairman **Garth Drabinsky** and veteran director **Harold Prince** are joining forces to mount a Toronto workshop production of *Parade*, a new musical based on the true story of Jewish-American factory manager **Leo Frank.**

The show's book is by award-winning playwright **Alfred Uhry**, its score by 27-year-old composer-lyricist **Jason Robert Brown.** The production will feature 30 actors with **Brent Carver** and **Carolee Carmello** in the lead roles.

Rehearsals begin this week in Toronto and New York, culminating in three private workshop performances here in mid-October.

In 1913, Atlanta resident Frank was accused of murdering Mary Phagan, a 13-year-old white Christian girl employed in his factory. The musical tells a bittersweet and intimate love story of the relationship between Frank and his wife, Lucille Selig Frank, "set" – as a Livent press release dramatically paints it – "against the backdrop of one of the most explosive and troublesome periods in American history."

Uhry, who was born and raised in Atlanta, has a direct connection to the story. His great-uncle owned the pencil factory where Frank worked and his grandmother was a friend of the Frank and Selig families.

The compelling case of Frank was the basis of a 1937 film and an acclaimed 1988 made-for-TV movie. Frank is also the subject of a provocative new novel *The Old Religion* by playwright-filmmaker **David Mamet**, whose October publication date should coincide with the Toronto workshop.

Livent's announcement of *Parade* came only one day after its acclaimed production of *Ragtime* closed here to prepare for a planned opening in New York in late December. Given that Livent's earlier production of *Show Boat* also moved to the Big Apple, will *Parade* likewise follow the parade to Broadway one day?

* * *

Fashion Fantasia: Members of the Bernard Betel Centre don outlandish outfits to perform in this comic fashion show that has already charmed many seniors' groups in recent months. "You just don't stop laughing," say those who have seen it. Directed by **Roz Livingstone**, the next hilarious performance is scheduled for Sept. 10, 1:30 p.m. at the Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W., west of Bathurst Street.

Tickets are available at the door for $4 ($3 for members). Includes refreshments. 416-225-2112.

* * *

Theatre Course: Introduction to Theatre for Adults, a 10-week course, starts Sept. 16 in the studio of the Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St. The cost is $150 plus $25 for a non-athletic membership in the Bathurst Jewish Centre. Pre-registration required. 416-636-1880, ext. 231.

* * *

Dance of Mourning: *Stabat Mater –Mother Was Standing* is a new dance work by **Georgie Donais** that explores themes of loss and grieving and the implications of a Christian belief system on Western society. The sizable and talented cast includes singer-dancer **Aviva Chernick**, who in previous productions has explored themes related to the Holocaust.

Winchester Street Theatre. Sept. 18 to 21, 8 p.m. with 2 p.m. Sunday matinee. Tickets $10 to $12. 416-535-1689.

* * *

Miscellaneous Notes:

• The Stars Celebrate Bloor II, an evening of music, humor and fun with cash bar, door prizes and surprise guests. Performers include **Nancy White**, **Batsheva**, **David Gale,** and **Karen** and **Allen Kaeja**. Tickets $20/$25. Sept. 13, 8 p.m. Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave. Proceeds to Bloor JCC capital fund. 416-924-6211.

• Hear **Charly Sibony's** Sephardi and Moroccan music on Sept. 14, **Ronnie Wiseman's** Klezmer Reggae on Sept. 21, and **Hu Tsa Tsa Klezmer** on Sept. 28. Sunday brunch, 11 to 3, performances at 12:30 p.m. At Bella! Did Ya Eat? 320 College St. Reservations, 416-967-1078.

Film tells urban tale

By CINDY WAXER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Despite the film's provocative title, *The Mao Lounge* isn't about the Chinese Communist leader's red velvet couches.

Written and directed by Jewish filmmaker Chad Derrick, 24, *The Mao Lounge* is a slice-of-life contemporary urban tale that chronicles the experiences and perspectives of a young man, surviving in the modern landscape of downtown Toronto.

"The film is really about a young person trying to find their place in an urban setting," says Derrick.

Screening at this year's Toronto International Film Festival as part of the Perspective Canada Short Programme, *The Mao Lounge* greatly differs from Gen-X films such as *Reality Bites* that attempt to capture the modern sensibilities of today's youth through witty repartee.

Instead, the black and white film uses its characters' facial expressions and suggestive body language to convey what would normally be stated through dialogue. "I thought it would be more honest to try to present these people's stories and the things that were going on in their lives through suggestion, through understatement, through evocation," says Derrick.

The result is an engaging film that encourages audiences to arrive at their own interpretations of the characters' thoughts and motivations.

"I think it was very important for me to invite people in and create their own story out of these people's stories," says Derrick.

Particularly compelling are the peculiar actions of the film's wiseman character who wanders the streets of Toronto's Kensington Market, exchanging cryptic glances with the film's protagonist.

Complete with a sage-like beard and black hat, the character is brilliantly brought to life by an actor whose name is mysteriously listed in the credits as solely Heshi.

"He's not playing an Orthodox Jewish person, he's actually an Orthodox Jewish person," Derrick says.

A self-described "labor of love," Derrick started penning the script for *The Mao Lounge* in November of 1994 while attending York University's film program.

As a student, he acquired vast experience writing, directing and producing several notable short films including *Greenwood* which represented York University in the short documentary category at the 1993 TVO Telefest.

On graduating in 1996, Derrick had finally cast *The Mao Lounge's* talented actors and was ready to begin shooting with the assistance of his hand-picked crew.

"That's one thing I learned in doing this. You better be in love with the project otherwise you're just going to give up on it. There's no other process like this. I've written before, I've written prose and I've written poetry and those are immediately gratifying. But with [film], you have to wait two and a half years to see what was in your head," he says.

And now that *The Mao Lounge* is screening at the Toronto International Film Festival, Derrick will be able to witness the impact his film has on its viewing audience.

"It's going to be very interesting to see how audiences engage with the movie at the Festival. That's the most curious thing for me. You spend 2½ years making a movie with the objective of showing it to people and now that's what's going on."

Screenings are scheduled for Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m. and Sept.11 at 9:15 a.m. at the Varsity 1 Cinema, 55 Bloor Street West.

Advertising Feature

Assessing the Financial Climate

The last couple of years have seen some extraordinary returns in both the bond and stock markets. Bonds have yielded some terrific gains as interest rates have declined to historic lows and stock markets in both Canada and the United States regularly test new highs. The perplexing question that seems to be on every investor's mind now is: "When is the tide going to change?"

S. Jonathan Kirshblum, Investment Executive

No one knows precisely when market corrections will occur or which direction interest rates are heading. Experts espouse market forecasts daily, and daily they are proven wrong. Financial Advisors are often confused for fortune tellers. Nothing could be further from the truth. So, how do we make investment decisions without a crystal ball?

The most important step in any investment is realizing the risks associated with the investment and being comfortable with the risk. The market can always drop immediately after investing in an equity mutual fund. Interest rates can always rise immediately after purchasing a bond or GIC. The prudent question is not "When is the best time to invest?" but rather, "Are my investment objectives still achievable even if my timing is not ideal?"

A young RRSP investor considering equity mutual funds for long term growth should not be overly concerned with market timing. Even a 20% market correction immediately following an initial investment will not have a great impact on the long term results (see the Dalbar reports). This type of investor is better served obtaining advice on which mutual funds suit their individual objectives, rather than seeking opinions on short term market direction. History has proven that equities as an asset class outperform all other asset classes over the long term. The lesson to remember, says Sir John A. Templeton, is: "It is time, not timing" that will reward investors in the stock market.

People entering retirement years typically require income from their investments. Until a few years ago finding rates of 8 - 10% was not difficult. Today, the interest rate environment is drastically different. At the time of writing, five year Canada bonds are getting 5.30% and 10 year Canada bonds about 6.00 %. Nonetheless, an investor's preoccupation should not be "How am I going to find yesterday's rates?" but rather, "Are my income requirements satisfied by investing my available capital at current interest rates?"

Alternative investments that have potential for higher yields may be pursued if present rates are inadequate for income needs. They will entail larger degrees of risk. The resurgence in the REIT market as well as the billions of dollars that are pouring into the new Royalty Income Trust market clearly show that many income investors are prepared to accept greater degrees of volatility in their principal in exchange for higher income. For the most part, this new asset class has performed very well and there are frequent New Issues emerging (this month look for BCI and CP Hotels). A word to the wise: caution should always be exercised when entering any new asset class that has no track record, especially if interest rates should rise. Be selective in this market and never buy solely based on yield.

There are many uncertainties in the market. Prudent investing requires that a longer term approach be taken especially when participating in the stock market. If you are invested in the stock market now, then hopefully it is because you are prepared to stay invested for some time through a potential correction and recovery. If your financial plan involves exiting the market within the next 18 months, locking in capital gains now should be a strong consideration. If you are seeking investment income and require more than prevailing GIC rates, I would suggest using the Government of Canada Yield Curve as a benchmark for comparative credit and yield analysis.

Jonathan Kirshblum is a Investment Executive at ScotiaMcLeod's Head Office branch in Toronto. Mr. Kirshblum is also a licensed Insurance Agent and he carries the designation of a Retirement Specialist. If you would like to arrange for a private consultation or to receive Mr. Kirshblum's monthly newsletter which highlights investment ideas and strategies, please call his office at (416) 863-7238.

• • • •

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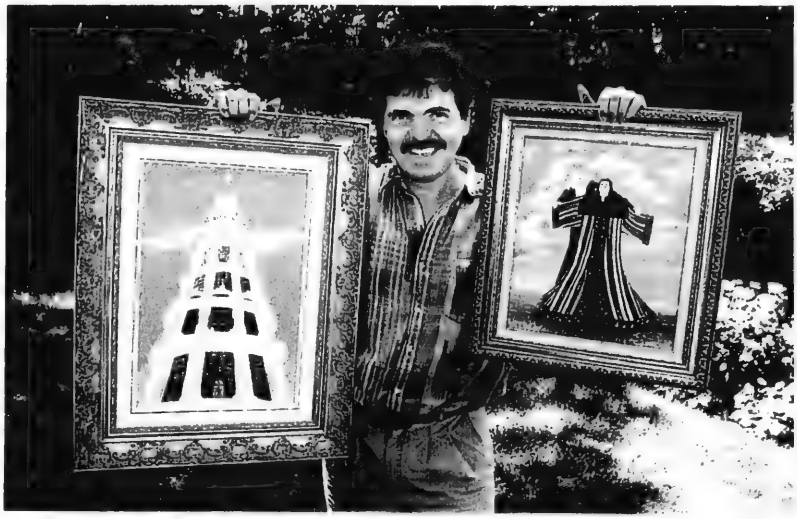

Michael Erdos holds up two of his paintings. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Artist employs spiritual realism in interpreting biblical scenes

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Call it spiritual realism. Michael Erdos' experimental series, Once in a Millennium, at Holy Blossom Temple's annual High Holy Days Art Exhibit, is a provocative interpretation of passages from the Bible.

The show, which runs from Sept. 10 through Oct. 31, also features works by Elaine Clarfield-Gitalis and Richard Unger.

Erdos' Once in a Millennium refers to the year 2000 that, he says, is a singular time for millions of people "that will come and go and never come again. It says to us and to generations to come, that we recognize our place in biblical history, for without the Bible there would be no year 2000 nor a millenium to celebrate."

His works pay tribute to the Book of Books which, he says, binds us all in its spiritual force.

Yet he questions a sometimes "cynical" G-d.

Tower of Babel, a bas-relief in media ranging from fragments of windshield glass garnered at car crash sites, to clay and metal, is arresting. Erdos has dyed the glass purple, green and blue highlighted with gold, and painstakingly constructed the tower on supports representing Roman, Art Deco, Turkish Gothic, Sumarian, Thai and Indian architecture.

Attempting to capture the intent of the original tower, which he says was built to unify diverse people through a common language, he wonders why G-d wanted to destroy it.

In Ruth and Naomi, Erdos has painted a haunting portrait of the moment the two women are about to part. Naomi, the mother who has lost her son is returning home from Moab where she has been living since famine struck her own land and Ruth, her daughter-in-law the Moabite, who has lost her husband, is refusing to stay with her people. Declaring, "Whither thou goest,

[Cont'd. on page 49]

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AWARD OF APPRECIATION

David Burstyn (centre) of Sutton Group Admiral Realty Inc. received an appreciation award recently from the Toronto Real Estate Board for his numerous contributions to the community and to the Board. He is pictured with his wife Charlotte and Board president Jerry England.

Travel, Arts & Business

Stress reduction device leads to Tranquility Base

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The founder of Tranquility Base began his search for the best method of reducing stress some five years ago.

Morry Zelcovitch's company specializes in stress reduction, where clients come for personalized sessions that enable them to achieve total relaxation.

The session begins by sitting in a reclining chair and donning goggles and earphones connected directly to the Digital Audio Visual Integrated Device (DAVID). Light and sound are emitted to induce a hypnotic or meditative state, and for the next half hour or so, it's total relaxation.

Zelcovitch, 35, turned to the Internet to further his search for stress-reduction methods. He believed that the state of relaxation could be achieved by an electronic device and was determined to find the best product in the world.

He found the DAVID system, which is manufactured in Edmonton, through an Internet site in New Zealand.

Zelcovitch travelled to Alberta to meet the manufacturer and test the product. DAVID was developed 15 years ago at the request of the University of Alberta, which commissioned the device for a project to help people overcome stage fright.

"The project was so successful the company went into full production," Zelcovitch said.

There are many similar devices on the market, but he chose DAVID because its development was based on sound scientific, medical and psychological research. The company combined research on brain chemistry and the effects of meditation on mind and body with prior studies on the healing powers of light, he explained.

"I was impressed by how responsible this organization was. The manufacturer was conducting ongoing research and was very open to questions."

Zelcovitch was very excited by his first sessions on DAVID, he added. "I tried many other devices, but the experience was unlike any I ever had. After the first try I felt energized. I felt vibrant. The feeling lasted for two or three days."

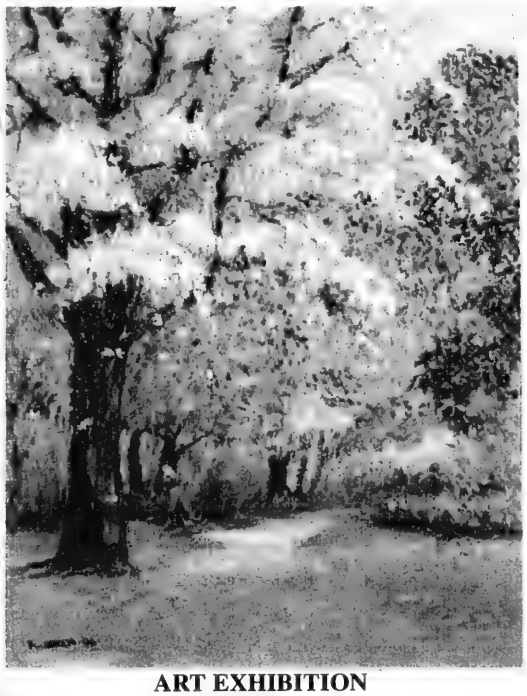
Zelcovitch, who has an honors degree in psychology, took the intensive training course offered by the company for using the DAVID system. "I wanted to bring the equipment and the training to Toronto to work with people with stress-related problems," he said.

In the last six months, he has been designing stress-reduction packages for both individuals and corporations. Additionally, he has been educating the public on the many benefits of DAVID.

Zelcovitch found that he has been able to help people with sleep and pain disorders. He has seen people improve their performances at work, as well as develop better coping strategies for day-to-day stresses. "I couldn't believe the results I was getting. People were reporting that they were feeling younger, less aggravated," he said.

He contends that the stress in our lives upsets brain waves. "We've grown up believing that feeling stressed is a natural state, and so people feel they have to cope with it as best they can. The DAVID system normalizes the brain waves and takes you back to the state [of mind] that nature intended."

Morry Zelcovitch tries out DAVID. [Barbara Silverstein photo]



ART EXHIBITION

An exhibition and sale of recent works by artist Albert Soren will take place Sept.14 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Civc Garden Centre, Edwards Gardens on Lawrence Ave. E. and Leslie St.in Toronto.

Scenes from the bible

[Cont'd. from page 48]

there will I go; thy people shall be my people," Ruth insists on accompanying Naomi.

Erdos mutes the warm colors of the desert in harmony with the pathos of the scene.

Samson and Delilah, a crisp artist's proof in pencil, takes a different approach to the generally accepted story of feminine betrayal. Samson appears in all his muscular glory while Delilah leans cozily against him. A sly smile hovering about her lips suggests, "Just you wait, you macho male!"

Erdos, who holds a masters degree in Political Philosophy from McGill University and studied art under Norman Rockwell in Westport, Conn., has experienced numerous careers and jobs: marketing executive, art teacher, advertising illustrator, truck driver, even herbal farmer. He now works at his first love, art, striving toward new frontiers.

In a whimsical but pointed political mood, he is also currently marketing a stuffed voodoo-type doll resembling Ontario premier Mike Harris.

For art inquiries, contact Erdos at 905-677-0166.

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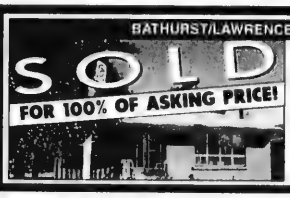

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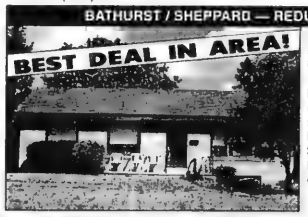

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113 Viewmount - "Mark Rosenberg Homes" 5 bdrm, 5 bath, choose finishes, 50' lot, great detail. Chaim Talpalar*

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470 Old Orchard Grove - 50' lot, 3450 sq. ft. great detail
65 Marmion - 2900 sq. ft., fin. bsmt., choose finishes, 42' lot
483 Cranbrooke - 3450 sq. ft. Top St., 45' lot. Chaim Talpalar*

CALL SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
43 Shenstone - $349,900! 4+1 br., 4 bth., mn. fam. + sol. + lau.
269 Wilmington - $264,400! Fab. 3+2 br., s/s on 80' lot
68 Viewmount - $598,800! Fab. 5 br., 4 bath, mn. fam. rm.

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

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4 bdrm., 3 bths., mod kit., good size liv & din., fin. w/out. bsmnt, don't miss.

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Tri-plex, 2-3 bdrms + 1 - 1 bdrm, bths ensuite, balcs, steps to all.

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Hrdwd., ceramics, 2 full baths, 5 appl., w/out balcony

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Lawr,55',spac lrg 3 bdrm bung,bright,upgrades,new deck & kit,fin bsmt. **Private**. 782-1984

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Great 4 bdrms., 3 baths, lg. fam. rm. w/fpl. & bar. Huge kit. w/walk-out to garden. Formal din. rm., 2 car gar., det. on quiet st. Only **$289,000.**

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REAL ESTATE Section

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

3 bdrm bung., mint cond,Laurelcrest Ave. 635-6427.

45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED

Condo/Duplex, priv. buyer (perhaps small twnhse) 2-3 bdrms, balc, bright, reas, walk to Bath./Glencairn. 256-7796.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Bath./Steeles, room in bsmt apt, cac, lndry, cable, pkg, part. furn, $350./mo. inclus., n/smkr. 905-707-8515 (evgs.).

Laid-back smkr., seeking roommate, for a 2 bdrm at Yonge/Egl., Nov. 1st. $500.+ Call Noa, 488-7373.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

MAGNIFICENT PENTHOUSE
EGLINTON-Edenbridge
2 Bedroom., spacious living dining room, 6'x22' terrace, breathtaking view overlooking park. Well kept building, sauna, pool, card room & storage.
416-248-8777

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Thornhill, new bsmt, BAYT, TTC,male, $450. 905-886-2273

Thornhill, beautif. 1 or 2 bdrm, priv bsmt apt, close to York U., syn & TTC, n/smkr, n/pets. 905-886-9294, (evgs 5-10pm).

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Bath./Shallmar, avail from Dec. 1st -March 31, 2 bdrm, 1 bth, suit single or couple, pkg, n/smkr, 783-6633.

81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET

Bath./Egl., 1 bdrm furn apt to sublet, Sept.-May. 782-4335.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

We need a Jewish grad. student, live-in, pref. a driv. lic./car, someone who could be at home (Windsor) during most evgs. & wknds. 481-3949 (Toronto ph#).

85 APARTMENT WANTED

Jerusalem academic couple, spending Dec. 1997 to May, 1998 on sabbatical at York Univ., seek 2 bdrm furn apt. Easy walking distance to Shaarei Shomayim shul. Refs. supplied. Call 972-2-561-2418 or fax: 972-2-561-7716 (Israel).

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

Belle Ewart, lkfrnt, co-op, 3 bdrm, perfect for young family. $134K. 905-889-8687.

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

ANITA LATNER

GENTEEL FAMILY ENCLAVE
453' Lake Muskoka. 8 bdrm. winterized, 2 firepl., 2 boat houses, sunrise/sunset, deep & sand shore, terraced decks/docks/hot tub.
SUGAR POINT - $850,000
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705-687-2879

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Pompano Beach, Palm Aire-Oaks Circle, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, furn, laundry ensuite, enclosed Florida room, adj. to pool. 223-9424.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Ft. Myers, 2 bdrm, 2 bth condo, across from beach. 283-6555.

Lauderdale Lakes-Somerset Condo, 1+1, w/encl., Florida rm, newly renov'd, fully furn, 2nd flr, elev, pool, clubhouse. Asking $1200./mo. U.S., 3 mo. min. Call Shelly, 905-737-9937 (local).

Pompano, Palm Aire, 2 bdrm, 2 bth (sep) fully furn, terrace overlks golf course, beautif landsc, pool, tennis, country club, min. 3 mos, 1-718-793-0548 (New York), Marta Gero.

QUADOMAIN, HOLLYWOOD, FLA. Spectacular oceanview, 2 bdrm. convertible on beach for rent, fully furnished, Kosher. 633-4141.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Century, West Palm, req. 1 bdrm, lower, for 3 mos., from Jan., 416-782-7400.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Quadomain or nr it, in Hollywood, 1 bdrm or conv, for Jan. & Feb. or Jan. & Mar. 221-2446

162 FURN. ISRAEL PROP. FOR RENT

Jerusalem, High Holidays-mo. of Oct., 3 bdrm, ideal location, synagogue on premises, shomer shabbat bldg, 635-0640.

201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED

Social worker (fam./indiv./aged) seeks **p/t shared office space,healthcare setting,** (Dr./Soc.Wkr./Psych./Clinic), Bath./Egl. to Lawr./Baycrest; refs. 256-7796.

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

$$$$/Immediately. Stuffing envelopes at home/free supplies. Rush stamped addressed envelope to: VTR Home-work, 1771 Avenue Rd., PO Box 54562, North York, M5M 4N5.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

RECEPTIONIST
We require an exceptionally outgoing and enthusiastic individual with excellent communication skills and a willingness to assist in general office duties. Good knowledge of MS Word or Word Perfect required. Knowledge of any of the following languages would be an asset: French, German, Spanish or Russian.
Interested candidates may send resume by fax at (416) 364-4924 or by mail to: S. Waldman, Walard Corp. – 85 Richmond St. W., Suite 701 – Toronto, Ont. M5H 2C9.

Driver needed 4 kids, from Bialik to Bayview, 2 afts./wk., reliable, likes children, refs. Contact Andrea, 315-3735.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CHANGE YOUR LIFE! Work from home, improve your health, help people, personal growth & financial independence. HABLA ESPANOL 905-882-6335.

Telephone conversationalist to communciate with homeowners who have indicated an interest in using a dry cleaning service. One good person to work weekdays evgs from home. $15./hr. salary. 512-8876.

247 DAY CARE

Day Care - I Care, Thornhill, more for your child, more for your money. Personal care. Loving, safe & educational environment in home pre-school. In operation since 1988 with ECE teacher, over 15 yrs. exp., limited space, full or part time. Refs., receipts. 905-764-6936.

247 DAY CARE

Carla's kids Castle, 10 mos.-3 yrs., pre-school nursery, learning centre, Sun.-Thurs., flex. hrs. Carla, 244-4172. Keele/Wilson area.

Jewish mother needed to babysit 4 children, Mon, Wed, & Thurs,3:30-7pm, Thornhill area, legal only. 905-709-8875.

Share our wonderful nanny! Our boy is 7 mos. old & we live in the Bath./Shepp./Finch area. Kids to be cared for in our house. Call 222-3937.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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Exper. cleaning lady seeks job, condos/homes, good refs. available. 416-289-4392.

Cleaning lady avail. with refs. 782-7592 (early evg.).

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
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250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

Lady will babysit in your home or mine, exper, refs. Call Liana, 631-0399.

Loving & energetic. A babysitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

Need Help For the High Holidays? Top Agency will provide prof. support from serving to preparation of foods, cleaning & child care. Relax & enjoy your special holiday with the assistance of **No. 1 Domestic Service.** Call today to book an appointment. Please refer to this advertisement when you call.
(416) 630-0674 or 224-9907

Woman seeks cleaning job, exper. 466-2703, after 6pm.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I will keep your home clean & tidy on a regular basis (small offices also) at reas. rates. Call Angie 780-9874, after 5 pm.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personaly interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs.416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Exquisite cook/housekeeper, live-out. Call 416-493-1356.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

F/T live-out nanny req'd for 10 mo. infant + hswrk. Bath./Lawr. area. Must be patient, energetic, exper., reliable. Refs. req'd. 789-2125.

Need an exper. nanny, live-in, for newborn twins, Bilingual pref, n/smkr, refs. Thornhill 905-882-5907.

Live-in nanny/hskpr., 3 kids, n/smkr, min. wage, exper., refs req'd, kosher home. 787-6446.

P/T Nanny/Hskpr, Mon.-Thurs., 3:30-7:30pm,Bath./Egl. Hebrew speaking. Call 402-8379.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

RN's, RPN's seek jobs in priv. homes, to offer quality nursing care, foot care & palliative care. Affordable Rates. Call 391-0582

Woman looking to work with elderly for companion, caregiver, willing to live in. 862-5563.

258 HEALTHCARE WANTED

HCA, live-out, home or inst., exper, refs. avail. 780-9755.

259 SENIORS

Do you need a companion for a loved one? I am compassionate, patient, sensitive to others needs, and I drive a car. My name is Ruth, 398-2969.

259 SENIORS

Companion for elderly - caring, reliable, excel. refs. Helen 787-5974, leave message.

Driver/Attend./Companion, exper., refs. Chaim, 512-6525.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Jewish Singles Registry. Photos/Bios. Toronto's Largest with over **1425** registered. Ask about our **Guarantee**. 483-4151

"Simply The Best Way to Meet" Ruth Friedman guides you to choose from over 1000 personally interviewed members.View photos.905-731-5204

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

Attr, personable prof. male, seeks soulmate. 633-1728.

Educ. prof. male with a good heart looking for an educ. attr, female, 22-25, to live & love life. Lve. msg. 416-576-1266.

Handsome Jewish prof, late 40s, likes sports, dancing, movies, travel & reading, seeks attr & caring SJF, 30-43, for serious relationship. CJN Box 6966.

PRETENTIOUS? Not me - a widow, 50, (reform) from Hamilton. Instead of the tangibles, I treasure family, loyal friends, compassion & integrity. I'm a nurturer, free-spirited, slightly off the wall & benignly eccentric. If you think you may be my Jewish male counterpart, please elaborate when responding to CJN Box 6963.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
Address your mail to:
Box #____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

SJM, Michigan, seeks SJF, middle-age, never married, attr, for marriage. Send photo. Reply G1033 Balmoral Pkwy, Flint Michigan, 48532.

Unique, soph., classy, elegant lady, 5'5", curvy, 59, looks 45, European background, lots on the ball, indep., no depend., would like to meet a gentleman with similar qualities, 60-65. CJN Box 6965.

JF, 36, integrity, 110 lbs, attr, educ, prof, enjoys music, art, family & travel, seeking a man who is intell, traditional, ambitious & emot. secure. CJN Box 6962.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Israel stamps, complete FDC collection, 1957-85. Also air letter sheets from beginning, and used Israel collection. Call Michael, 638-7610.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Looking for a Mah Jong set to buy. 416-226-4572.

330 OBITUARIES

MARK, Dorothy - 79, Steadman St., Moncton, N.B., passed away suddenly at Moncton Hospital on Monday, August 18, 1997. Born in Edinbridge, Sask., she was a daughter of the late Aleck & Rose (Winner) Abramsky. Mrs. Mark was a member of the Congregation Tiferes Israel Synagogue, Moncton; Sisterhood of Tiferes Israel Synagogue and a life member of Hadassah Wizo of Canada. She was a volunteer with Elizabeth Fry Society; Canadian Red Cross; Magma and Meals on Wheels. At one time, she taught and demonstrated cooking classes at the YMCA and on CKCW-TV. She was honoured by the Atlantic Jewish Council for her community work and her strong support of the State of Israel through both the Jewish National Fund and United Israel Appeal. Her home was always open to travelers and extended family. She is survived by daughters, Mrs. Elka Pelt (Mel), Toronto, Ont.; Mrs. Hedda Medjuck (Franklyn), Halifax; son, Meir Mark (Mimi), Denver, Colo.; grandchildren, Jessica and Aviva Pelt, Bena and Jacob Medjuck, Yakov, Levi, Mendy and Chaim Mark; nieces,Mrs. Carol Kravetsky (Marvin),Mrs. Ann Greenblatt (Jayson), Mrs. Hoda Dalfen (Manuel), Mrs. Peggy Mendelson; nephew, Dr. Morris Mendelson. She was predeceased by her husband, Jacob, in 1967; an infant son; brother, Phillip Abramsky. Funeral service was held at Tiferes Israel Synagogue, Moncton, on August 20th, with Rabbi David Ellis officiating. Donations to the memorial of donor's choice would be appreciated by the family.

331 IN MEMORIAM

We remember with loving memories

Lea Reiner Schulklapper ז"ל

mother, grandmother & great grandmother on her fifth Yahrzeit

"In our hearts she will live forever"

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Samuel and Sally Lindsay** will take place **Sunday, September 14th, 1:00 pm** at **Lambton Hills Cemetery**,Ostrovtzer Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend. For further information call Lloyd Lindsay at 905-629-8498.

The unveiling of a monument to the late **Edward Hy Rossman** will take place on **Sunday, September 21st, 1997 at 11:00 am** at **Holy Blossom Memorial Park** on Brimley Road. Friends and relatives are invited to attend.

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ROSE GREENSPAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 21st at 2:30 p.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Beth Radom Section
- on east side of Cemetery, off Herron Rd., Gate 109
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
PEARL EISEN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, 1:00 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Labour Zionist Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ROSE FAINTUCH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stopnitzer Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BENNIE GIBBS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, 12:30 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Chenstochover Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
RAY GLICK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, 1:30 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Adath Israel Synagogue Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
IRVING JACOBSON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, at 10:45 a.m.
Lambton Cemetery
Hebrew Men of England Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ABRAHAM KATZ ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, 1:30 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SAUL LICHTBLAU ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Stashover Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LARRY PORTNOY ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, at 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Adath Sholom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Mindy Rosenberg ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14, 9:45 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SARA ROTMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 21st, 1:30 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
(986 Wilson Ave.)
Ozrower Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late
HENOCH (HENRY) SCHNOLL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, 10:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
National Order of Hatzofim - Section11
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Charles Smith ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, at 12 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Bathurst, S. of Steeles
Warshover Lodzer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Grace Spiegelman ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, at 12 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Shaarei Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MORRIS SOBEL ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 14th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Tikvah Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MORRIS YELIN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 21st, 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

yad vashem monuments
(416) 782-8995

UNVEILINGS for SUNDAY, SEPT. 14

MARY BOWMILE ז"ע	Mount Sinai Pride of Israel Section 11:00 a.m.
MAX DALE ז"ל	Pardes Shalom Farband LZA Section (N) 11:30 a.m.
ODON DANIEL ז"ל	Mount Sinai Shaarei Tefillah Section 1:45 p.m.
REBECCA FELDMAN ז"ע	Lambton Beth Jacob Section 11:00 a.m.
TERRY FLO FISCHER ז"ע	Beth Tzedec Section 9 10:00 a.m.
HARRY SCHWARTZ ז"ל	Lambton Grand Order of Israel Section 12:00 noon
ADA SHAPERO ז"ע	Pardes Shalom Beth Emeth Section (UU) 9:30 a.m.
IZZY TREFLER ז"ל	Dawes Road Apter Section 11:00 a.m.
HARRY WAJGENSBERG ז"ל	Bathurst Lawn Lodzer Center Section (23) 11:00 a.m.

Serving Your Community For Over 18 Years

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BETTY LEFKOVITCH ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 14th at 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Blue Star Lodge Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

330 OBITUARIES

FOGLER, Harry Lyons - on Aug. 22, 1997, late of 625 Avenue Rd., #1202.
ZUKER, Esther - on Aug. 22, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #510.
FINE, Valerie - on Aug. 24, 1997, late of 33 Strathearn Rd.
TAREK, Rachel - on Aug. 25, 1997, late of 175 Hilda Ave., #716.
FREEDMAN, Harry - on Aug. 26, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
WEINBERG, Henry - on Aug. 26, 1997, late of 20 Craigmont Dr.
LEVIT, Dutch - on Aug. 27, 1997, late of 10 Shallmar Blvd., #612.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

LAZEBNIK, Sonya - on Aug. 24, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
BARABAN, Liza - on Aug. 25, 1997.
KUTTNER, Harry - on Aug. 25, 1997.
MARMER, Kenneth - on Aug. 25, 1997, late of 144 Huntington Park Dr.
SHANFIELD, Rita - on Aug. 25, 1997.
ACKER, Laura Dolores - on Aug.26, 1997.
GOLDGRAB, Judith - on Aug.26, 1997, late of 107 Collinson Blvd.
MIDANIK, Bernard - on Aug. 26, 1997, late of 732 Wagg Rd.
STEINER, Ben - on Aug.26, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

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Maccabi juniors register record medal haul

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto's junior Maccabi athletes have returned from Hartford with enough gold to bail out Bre-X.

In a record-setting performance, 100 Toronto Jewish athletes captured 101 medals, including 52 gold, 31 silver and 18 bronze at the JCC North American Maccabi Youth Games.

It was Toronto's best ever showing at the annual summertime extravaganza and included first-ever medals in boys volleyball (gold) and table tennis (three silver), said Jim Emery, a spokesperson for the Toronto contingent.

Toronto's medal count was greatest among all participating communities, which included contingents from across the United States, from Canada, Israel, Australia and Britain. Twelve hundred athletes participated in the regional event, while parallel games were held in Kansas and Seattle. Next year, Detroit will host a single JCC/Maccabi Youth Games.

Swimmer Nir Rotenberg led the Toronto medalists with nine gold. Swimmer Beth Albert was next with eight gold and one silver followed by track and field star Anthony Daniels, with seven gold and two bronze.

Daniels, a student at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), scored gold in long jump, high jump, shotput, 11-metre hurdles and the 400-m hurdles. He also won the "sheshathlon," a grouping of six events, as well as a team gold in the 4 x 100-m relay.

His bronze medals came in the 100 and 200-m sprints.

A track and field athlete since he was in Grade 9, Daniels, 16, says his best event is the 110-m hurdles. At first, it was the most difficult event to master, since runners must maintain the right pace to take three strides while covering nine metres between jumps, Daniels said.

Daniels, who trains three times a week at Athletiques International, has finished as high as fourth in the Metro Toronto region in the hurdles event. He plans to run the hurdles for CHAT this year and join the school's cross-country team.

Ari Sargon, a USDS Bayview student who recently entered CHAT, came home with a silver medal as a member of the Toronto basketball squad.

Anthony Daniels

Toronto's silver medal-winning hoops squad woop it up. Seen here, back row (from left): Eric Gelman, Oren Farbaman, Michael Goldfarb, Teddy Pettle and Ted Badner (head coach). Front row (from left): Andrew Morris (assistant coach), Ari Sargon, Danny Hollander, David Safer, Ijetts Mohammed, Mark Dunn, Ben Katz.

Consisting of a nucleus of players from the JCC Blue Demons, the Toronto hoopsters lost to a team from Mid Westchester (New York) 45-40 in the final.

Toronto trailed their U.S. rivals throughout the game by a two to five point margin and were never able to close the gap.Towards the end of the game, Toronto was forced to take two fouls, allowing the Americans to score three unanswered points and put the game away, Sargon said.

The game, though a loss, was Sargon's most exciting moment in sport. "A lot of Toronto kids from other teams were there and the crowd was really loud. We were really motivated," he said.

Sargon, 14, said that the experience far exceeded even the Blue Demons' quarter-final match in the Ontario AAAA championships. "We worked hard for three months for four days of basketball. We knew we'd remember it for the rest of our lives," he said.

Toronto was 6-0 going into the final.

For Craig Podolsky, 16, winning gold in baseball was rewarding though not particularly dramatic. In fact, the gold-medal game was rained out so Toronto won on the basis of its overall record and an earlier 4-2 win over silver medalists, Hartford.

Toronto was 6-0 in a double round robin format against teams from Hartford, Boston and New Jersey. The Canucks relied on good defence and team speed in the field to register the wins, Podolsky said.

A member of the Thornhill Rep Team that plays in the York-Simcoe League, Podolsky said the pitching was not generally as strong as he'd see back home.

He attributed the gold to "the team really [playing] well as a team."

Tight defence, team speed

Other medalists included:

• baseball, boys', gold medal: Shawn Dym, Daniel Greenwald, Matt Kanter, Blaine Kideckel, Daniel Kobrossi, Ari Levstein, Ronnen Maze, Justin Olch, Craig Podolsky, Michael Reiss, Shawn Rotstein, Steven Sadoff, Mitch Sadofsky, Jonathan Tekela and Steve Reiss.

• basketball, boys', 15-16 years old, silver: Eric Gelman, David Safer, Danny Hollander, Mark Dunn, Teddy Pettle, Ari Sargon, Micahael Goldfarb, Ijetts Mohammed, Ben Katz and Oren Farbaman.

• basketball, girls, silver: Robyn Fluxgold, Jane Segal, Sarah Lane, Neomi Chencinski, Kim Haviv, Tova Natanzon, Rachel David, Lorrie Plonka and Stephanie Freedman;

• volleyball, boys', gold: Daniel Shermer, Lyle Shugar, Aaron Goldberg, Daniel Alter, Jordan Mizrahi, Jeff Gottesman, Avi Horansky, Willy Knapp, Jonathan Joffe and Josh Binstock.

• swimming, girls 13-14 years old: Emma Fox, two gold, five silver, one bronze; Aliza Goodman, one gold, six silver; Tarryn Dennill, two silver; Sarah Albert, three silver, one bronze;

• swimming, girls 15-16: Beth Albert, eight gold, one silver.

• swimming, boys 13-14: Jordan Chittley, eight gold, one silver; Jonathan Sherman, two gold, one silver, one bronze;

• swimming, boys 15-16: Nir Rotenberg, nine gold; Ben Fox, three gold, two silver, four silver.

• table tennis, boys 15-16: Robbie Lowenstein, singles silver; Robbie Lowenstein and Steve Balaban, doubles silver.

• tennis, girls, 15-16: Helena Vander, gold (singles); Ora Wexler, silver (singles); Vander and Wexler, gold (doubles).

• tennis, boys 13-14 (singles) Bryon Weinberg, gold; Evan Weizenberg, silver; Seth Bassman, consolation winner.

• tennis, boys 13-14 (doubles): Weinberg and Weizenberg, gold; Bassman and Adam Wexler, bronze.

• tennis, boys 15-16 (singles): Ryan Godfrey, bronze.

• tennis, boys 15-16 (doubles): Godfrey and Jeff Srour, silver.

• track and field, girls 13-14: Jody Naiberg, two gold, two silver, one bronze.

• track and field, girls 15-16: Joanne Jalfen, four gold, one silver.

• track and field, boys 13-14: Jason Goldstein, one silver, three bronze; Michael Small, six gold, one silver.

• track and field, boys 15-16: Daniels, seven gold, two bronze.

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LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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The Inside Back

Complex legal issues apply to prayer at Kotel

BY JONATHAN SHIFF

The Tisha b'Av expulsion of Conservative Jews from the area near the Kotel received a lot of media attention.

However, most of the Israeli papers gave only cursory coverage to the legal issues involved. This is a shame since the matter is likely to find its way to court at some time.

The issue of prayers at the Kotel is regulated by the Law of Protection of the Holy Places, which was passed just two weeks after the Six Day War. The regulations include a long list of activities that are forbidden at the holy places. One of these is the "performance of a religious ceremony not according to the custom of the place..." An appointed official is permitted to give instructions to ensure the efficient implementation of the rules and is also permitted to eject anyone doing one of the above forbidden activities.

Before Tisha b'Av, a group of Conservative Jews gave notice that they intended to conduct a religious service in the evening, in which men and women would sit together. The police set aside a place for them in a nearby parking lot from which they could partially see the Kotel. A few minutes after they began the service, the appointed official stated that they had to stop, since they were praying in a manner that is not according to the custom of the place. As a result, the police ejected them.

The first question one must ask is whether the place where they were praying is part of the Kotel, because if it is not, then the appointed official had no authority to eject them. The regulations define the Kotel as "the Western Wall and its plaza, including any structure and upper or underground passage to which the entry is from the plaza..."

The parking lot is not in the plaza, and while one can get to it from the plaza, the entry to it can also be from other places. If the court determines that the parking lot is not part of the holy place, then the rules do not apply there and the official had no legal basis for the action he took.

Secondly, the Conservative group argued that since they have been holding prayer services with mixed seating for years at the Kotel, that has become part of the "custom of the place." If this argument were accepted by a court, it would also remove the entire legal basis for the official's actions. A similar issue arose in the famous case of the Women at the Wall in 1989. At that time, the court made certain points which could be relevant to our case.

Court vice-president Menachem Elon said that the Western Wall plaza is essentially a synagogue and that women's prayer groups are not part of the custom in that synagogue. The purpose of the regulation is to maintain the status quo, and Elon was of the opinion that customs cannot be changed overnight without consensus. The other judges emphasized the fact that in recent decades the Kotel has also become a national site of importance to all Jews where non-religious activities take place.

Therefore, it is not accurate in their view to define it simply as a synagogue where traditional religious rulings hold sway.

Thus, the willingness of the court to view the mixed prayers as part of the custom of the place will likely be determined in part by which judges hear the case, whether they see the Kotel simply as an Orthodox synagogue and how much importance they attach to the feelings of the regular worshippers.

Another point: Israeli law requires all officials to act in a reasonable manner and not out of "foreign" motivations. In this case it is worth noting that since the rabbi of the Kotel passed away some time ago, there has not been an appointed official at the site, but that on the morning before the prayers were to be held the minister of religious affairs suddenly decided on the appointee and rushed through the process. The court may wonder whether the minister and his appointee acted out of concern to enforce the law, or as part of the religious and political battles currently being waged in the country. Should the court come to the latter decision, the actions could be ruled illegal.

The above is only a partial list of the questions this issue raises and is not intended to supply the answers. Nonetheless it may provide some reference points for the reader should the matter find its way into the courts, as everything in Israel seems to do.

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4-5 red bell peppers
3 cloves elephant garlic (very lg. garlic cloves which are sweet)
2 cups chicken stock (or vegetable stock)
1 cup tomato sauce puree
1 tblsp honey
lemon pepper
5-6 fresh basil leaves

Roast or BBQ red peppers til skins are charred and shrivelled. Then roast or BBQ elephant garlic, leaving skins on til soft and skins are quite dark but not burned.

Remove peppers and garlic, place in plastic bag, tie the top and leave in about 15 minutes til skins peel off both peppers and garlic. Puree peppers and garlic in food processor til thick but not chunky. Toss in basil leaves and puree.

Transfer puree to a pot, add honey, tomato sauce, chicken stock or vegetable stock. Simmer til heated through; add lemon pepper to season, adjust chicken stock (or veg) to taste. Adjust honey, tomato sauce, and basil to taste.

About Life

Dear Ella,

My girlfriend and I have been going together for over a year. We are both in our 60s. She loves dancing to the point of addiction, I love it to a lesser degree. On evenings we do not see one another, I might visit a friend or have dinner with a colleague, she feels it's okay to go with friends to singles dances. This upsets me. I say singles dances are a place to meet members of the opposite sex and she already has a boyfriend. She compares our outings as being on the same level. I say dancing has a slightly intimate slant to it, while eating out is completely different. To keep her happy, I have agreed to her attending two single dances a month without me.

She feels she does not wish to comply with my agreement and says it is too rigid and controlling. She knows her attitude might break the relationship. Now you tell me, am I out of line? I also have a slightly jealous nature which does not help.

Dance Crazy

Dear Dance Crazy,

One of the main ingredients of a relationship is mutual trust. I think the hurdle you are having trouble with is the word "singles." You feel if your girlfriend is going to a singles dance then others will assume she is single and possibly try to get to know her for a bit more than just as a dance partner.

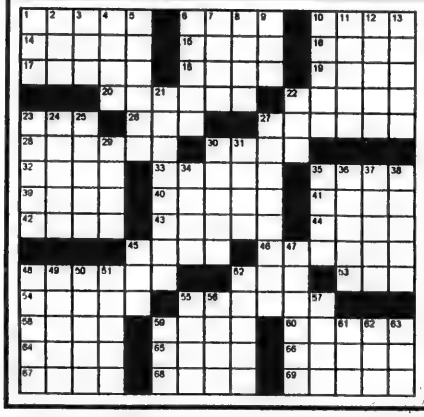
You are probably right. However you have to remember one thing, it's not what the other people think or do. You have to trust your girlfriend enough to know that she is there to dance, have fun and that's all. You have to trust her that she will set these other fellows straight from the beginning.

A dinner for two with a lady friend can be just as intimate. Jealousy is a difficult emotion to overcome, but if you don't get a grip on your feelings, you may lose someone you care about. If she really wants someone else, she doesn't need a singles dance to fulfil her wishes. She's chosen to be with you. Enjoy your relationship and don't read more into her enjoyment of dancing than necessary.

Remember the saying "If you love something let it go, if it comes back it's yours, if it doesn't it never was."

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Dad to Moses
6. Create
10. Halt
14. Actress Winger
15. Twelve wells site
16. Chuppah holder
17. Giant Dead Sea tribe
18. Boxer Rosenblatt
19. Levaye notice
20. Proverb
22. Imitate Mauri Rose
23. B.C.E. word
26. Reason for shiva
27. Forbissima (Eng)
28. "Mission Impossible", star
30. Appear
32. Similar
33. Sharansky
35. Sodom and Gomorrah torture
39. Ellis
40. Artist Chaim
41. World (Heb.)
42. Pomegranate plenty
43. Av or Tammuz
44. 2,002
45. Called to biblically
46. Sabin
48. Minister of immigration
52. That woman
53. Pastrami on ___
54. Edomite king
55. __ Tovah
58. Gershwin and Morris
59. Long time
60. Ruth's mother-in-law
64. Driedel
65. Tref shortening
66. Eldad or Medad
67. Response to Haman's name
68. Kill biblically
69. Machers

Down

1. Lemon or Ginger
2. Alephbet member
3. Al Rosen stat
4. Uzis
5. Israeli mesa?
6. Medes
7. Funt or Sherman
8. Solomon or Asa
9. Mother (Heb)
10. Coecil's beat
11. Book of __
12. Israeli wood
13. Actor Sellers
21. Comedian Henny
22. Faint
23. Island entry
24. Hagba'ah
25. Leg joint
27. Illustrator
29. Mitzvah, good __
30. David's ammo
31. Mizrach location
34. Gad's boy
35. Teller invention
36. Playwrite Rice
37. Milchidik
38. Kill, biblically
45. Haman or Amalek
47. Enjoyed the Seder
48. Shank
49. Avram's wife
50. Gimbel and Sandler
51. Hubs for Tsahal
52. Koufax
55. Crest
56. Dance
57. Uriel's headgear?
59. Einstein and Dreyfuss
61. E. Lazarus specialty
62. "Sea" to Chagall?
63. Taxmen

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 54.)

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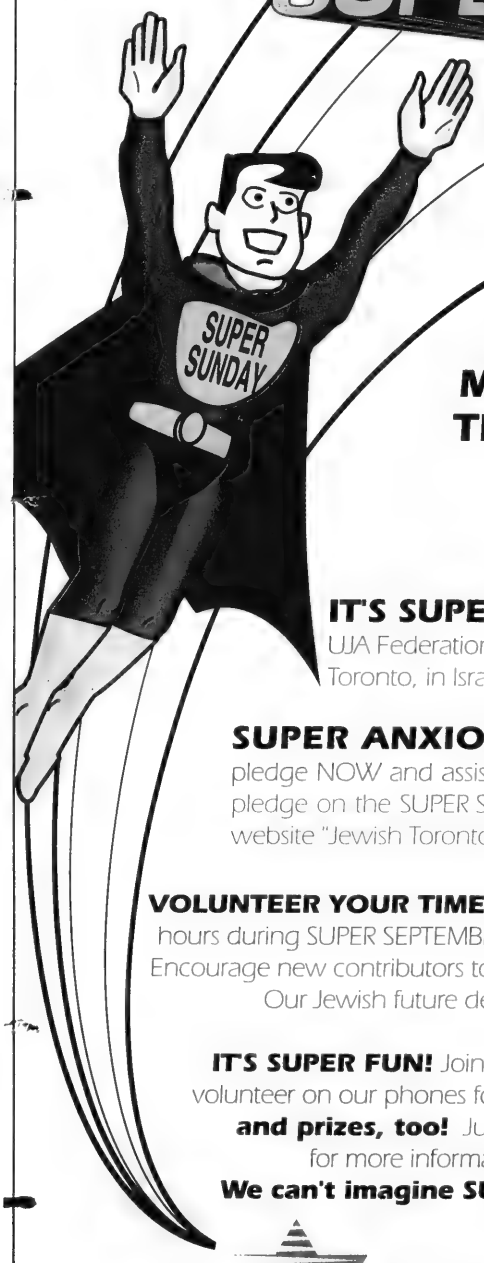

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UJA FEDERATION

COMMUNITY FOCUS '97

The Canadian Jewish news

SECTION B

Israel's Foreign Minister David Levy joined in the joyous opening last week of the Sephardic Kehila Centre in Thornhill. Also seen in the photos are Rabbi Amram Assayag; Rabbi Refael Abuhatzira, visiting from Israel; president Jacques Benquesus; and the Or Haemet Boys' Choir. [Ron Csillag photos]

Grand opening of the Sephardic Kehila Centre

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BETH TIKVAH CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL
3080 Bayview Ave.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2N 5L3
Principal: Samuel Kapustin
Tel: 416-221-3433 Fax: 416-221-1602
Offers a dynamic 2-day-a-week Jewish studies curriculum: Hebrew, Bible, prayer, history and values. We seek to develop a positive Jewish identity in each child through a meaningful, responsive educational environment, with a variety of youth activities. All classes (JK-8) are open to the community and are in the Synagogue.

BIALIK HEBREW DAY SCHOOL
12 Viewmount Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 1T3
Administrator: Sonia Shron
Tel: 416-783-3346 Fax: 416-785-8287
Bialik Hebrew Day School serves children from JK-Grade 8, striving to provide an integrated Jewish and general education. Through our integrated program, students learn to value their Jewishness and love for Israel while developing a sense of membership in the Canadian community.

B'NAI SHALOM HEBREW SCHOOL
Yorkhill E.S., 350 Hilda Ave.
(at Clark) **Thornhill**
Principal: Joseph Klinger, MA
Administrator: Sadie Domb
Tel: 905-731-2797
School hours - once or twice weekly. K-Grade 7. Free bar/bat mitzvah lessons. Affiliated with Board of Jewish Education. Conservative schools' curriculum. Trusted name in Hebrew education since 1983. Subjects covered: Hebrew, holidays, prayers, Israel, Bible, history, Israeli folkdancing, music.

COMMUNITY HEBREW ACADEMY OF TORONTO (CHAT)
200 Wilmington Ave.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 5J8
Headmaster: Rabbi Marvin B. Pachino
Tel: 416-636-5984 Fax: 416-636-7717
General philosophy: to provide Jewish high school students with a superior Jewish and general education. Unique Jewish studies curriculum available for students coming from public schools. Some ESL and Special Education services are available. Sponsors a wide range of extra-curricular activities including athletics.

DOWNTOWN JEWISH COMMUNITY SCHOOL (c/o Bloor JCC)
Principal: Joan Schonfeld
Tel: 416-924-6211 Fax: 416-924-0442
Independent school. 350 students, ages 4-18. Grades: JK-Grade 13. High school Wednesday 7-8:30 p.m. Special programs/features: community holiday celebration program and Oneg Shabbat dinners, adult education programs. Family Israel Fair. Provides students with a strong sense of Jewish identity in a pluralistic community.

JEWS FOR JUDAISM
2795 Bathurst St., P.O. Box #41032
Toronto, Ont. M6B 4J6
Executive Director: Julius Ciss
Tel: 416-789-2851 Fax: 416-789-1795
E-mail: jfjciss@interlog.com
Web site: http://www.jewsforjudaism.org
Jews for Judaism is an international educational, outreach and counselling organization dedicated to counteracting the increased efforts of evangelical Christian missionaries who are specifically targetting Jews for conversion. We provide educational programs, lectures and classes; information, literature, books and tapes as well as counselling for Jews involved in Christian belief.

KEREN HATARBUT INSTITUTE
788 Marlee Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 3K1
Director: Joseph Klinger
Tel: 416-787-0197
Offers courses for adults and teenagers in conversational Hebrew for beginners, intermediate and advanced students. All classes are conducted under the guidance of skilled Israeli teachers. The promise is that beginners will speak, read and write Hebrew in 14 sessions.

THE LEO BAECK DAY SCHOOL
Atkinson Campus
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C9
Tel: 905-709-3636
Holy Blossom Campus
1950 Bathurst St.,
Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K9
Director: Zita J. Gardner, M.Ed., RJE
A Reform Jewish day school where families, teachers and the community create a learning environment in which individuals are respected. Each student is prepared as a knowledgeable, practising Liberal Jew, able to participate effectively in Canadian society. Music, art and computers in our enriched curriculum integrate the Judaic and general studies program.

PLAYLEARN PRESCHOOL INC.
9741 Bayview Ave.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9X7
Director: Mrs. Necha Jakubowicz
Tel: 905-737-3336 Fax: 905-886-0059
Licensed by the Ministry of Community and Social Services, the warm nurturing atmosphere and carefully thought-out programing fosters socialization skills, builds self-esteem and allows each child to reach his/her fullest potential. The joys of being Jewish are carefully transmitted through hands-on activities, forming an awareness and love for people and Eretz Israel.

MORRIS WINCHEVSKY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
585 Cranbrooke Ave.,
North York, Ont. M6A 2X9
Educational Director: Marcia Gilbert
Tel: 416-789-5502 Fax: 416-789-5981
Secular Jewish education - your alternative! Sunday morning classes, ages 4-13. Jewish Identity & heritage explored through Yiddish culture, Jewish history, literature, music, folk dance, drama & art with social justice perspective. Family-oriented holiday celebrations. Graduation marked by Secular B'nai Mitzvah. Youth activities. Celebrating 70 years of progressive alternative Jewish education in Toronto.

SHAAR SHALOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
2 Simonston Blvd.,
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 4L1
Principal: Karen L. Goodis, RJE
Tel: 905-889-0987 Fax: 905-889-4975
Afternoon school affiliated with BJE and United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Location: Thornhill Secondary School. K, Sunday; Gr. 1-2, twice weekly; Gr. 3-7, three times weekly; Gr. 8 Judaica program, Monday. Highlights: family education, winter arts program, emphasis on synagogue skills, enrichment and remediation classes offered.

TEMPLE SINAI NURSERY SCHOOL
210 Wilson Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M5M 3B1
Supervisor: Yonah Ander-Balsam
Tel: 416-487-3281 Fax: 416-487-5499
Our programs, enriched with Jewish content, enhance children's awareness and appreciation of their rich heritage. Through a parent involvement co-op, we offer a 2 or 3 day option for age 2; 5 days for age 3, 4 and 5. A variety of Mini-Afternoon programs are available.

YIDDISH EDUCATION HOTLINE
UJA FEDERATION
COMMITTEE FOR YIDDISH
4600 Bathurst St.,
North York, Ont. M2R 3V2
Tel: 416-635-2883, Ext. 155
Fax: 416-635-1408
The Committee for Yiddish sponsors: Yiddish classes for children - Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 on Sunday mornings; Adult classes - beginners, intermediate and advanced and Yiddish literature in translation. University of Toronto offers elementary, intermediate and advanced Yiddish, and literature in translation.

UNITED CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOLS
100 Elder St. (Beth Emeth Synagogue)
Downsview, Ont. M3H 5G7
Educational Director: Rabbi Joseph Kelman
Tel: 416-633-1338 Fax: 416-633-1740
Comprehensive program emphasizing Hebrew, holiday celebrations, synagogue skills and history. 6 hours of classes, Wednesdays and Sundays. Central campus with free bus service from Thornhill on Wednesdays. Field trips, weekly music program, participating in Zimriyah Choir Festival. Bar/Bat Mitzvah program. Supported by Beth David and Beth Emeth Synagogues.

COMMUNITY FOCUS

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY OF ADVERTISERS

EDUCATION CONT'D

UNITED SYNAGOGUE DAY SCHOOL
Administration House:
3072 Bayview Ave., Morth York, M2L 5L3
Director of Education: Lucy Cohen
Tel: 416-225-5928 Fax: 416-225-9108
Bathurst Campus, 416-781-5658
Bayview Campus, 416-225-1143
Richmond Hill Campus, 905-770-0642
USDS is an integrated Jewish day school from Nursery-Gr. 8 which educates over 1,400 students guided by more than 150 teachers. USDS provides an education traditional in content and progressive in approach. USDS is sponsored by Conservaive Syngogues in 3 locations. Open to all in the Jewish community.

FUNERAL CHAPELS

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
2401 Steeles Ave. W.,
North York, Ont. M3J 2P1
Contact: Michael Chas Benjamin
Tel: 416-663-9060 Fax: 416-663-9417
We are part of the fabric that binds together the Toronto Jewish community, even in times of sorrow and stress. Four generations of the Benjamin family have provided support to bereaved Jewish families. We devote ourselves to upholding Jewish law and traditions, a responsibility we regard as a sacred trust.

THE SIMPLE ALTERNATIVE
275 Lesmill Rd.,
Don Mills, Ont. M3B 2V1
Contact: Harvey Poch
Tel: 416-441-1580
We are proud to be the only funeral home in Toronto where Jewish families are served only by Jewish staff. Offering a full range of services, we fulfil the traditional requirements of simplicity and dignity at the lowest cost of any establishment offering funerals according to halachah, at need or prearranged.

STEELES MEMORIAL CHAPEL
350 Steeles Ave. W.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 1A1
Managing Funeral Director:
Carol P. Saucier
Tel: 905-881-6003 Fax: 905-881-8539
The Toronto Jewish community has, for almost 70 years, entrusted us with its most sacred and important task. We accept your trust with a measure of humility and a great sense of responsibility. As a community run organization we have established a tradition of tzedaka towards organizations in the city and in Israel.

ISRAEL BASED ORGANIZATIONS

AID TO DISABLED VETERANS OF ISRAEL BEIT HALOCHEM CANADA
3101 Bathurst St., 4th floor,
North York, Ont. M6A 2A6
Tel: 416-488-7649 1-800-355-1648
Fax: 416-322-3957
E-mail: bhcan@interlog.com
Web site: www.interlog.com/~bhcan
Founded in 1978, Beit Halochem Canada has contributed more than $3 million in support of disabled veteran rehabilitation facilities in Israel. The brave men and women who have given of themselves dearly in the defence of Israel are receiving the special kind of emotional and physical rehablitation they so desperately need.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE SOLDIERS OF ISRAEL
788 Marlee Ave., Ste. 201,
North York, Ont. M6B 3K1
Tel: 416-783-3053 Fax: 416-787-7496
Toll free: 1-800-433-6226
The Association is: the only civilian group whose programs make the life of every soldier on active duty in Israel's Defence Forces a little easier; co-ordinating its projects with the IDF to meet each soldier's recreational, educational and emotional needs; making army service more pleasant for every soldier; showing we care.

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF BOYS TOWN JERUSALEM
2788 Bathurst St., Ste. 200,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 3A3
Executive Director: Denise Gold
Tel: 416-789-7241 Fax: 416-789-1090
Over the past 50 years, Boys Town has enhanced the lives of more than 10,000 youths giving them new hopes and aspirations. Programs include computer science, design and manufacturing, electronics, mechanics, academic and religious studies. In turn, these boys have become key assets in building a better and stronger Israel.

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF GIVAT HAVIVA
1111 Finch Ave. W., Ste. 456,
Downsview, Ont. M3J 2E5
Executive Director: Barbara Tamir
Tel: 416-736-9655 Fax: 416-736-1405
Supports the Givat Haviva Institute, Israel's oldest/largest organization promoting democracy, tolerance and mutual respect between Israel's diverse communities; integrating new immigrants; presenting Holocaust workshops; developing community access to art and the media; and working with troubled adolescents.

CANADIAN FRIENDS OF THE JERUSALEM COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
3101 Bathurst St., Ste. 502,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2A6
Executive Director: Noreen Azoulay
Tel: 416-787-7565 Fax: 416-787-8457
JCT awards a 4-year B.Sc. degree, combining Torah, highest technological and academic disciplines and Judaic studies. A leading centre for research and development, JCT provides hands-on training and prepares students for senior decisive roles in society. Canadian Friends of JCT raises funds for the College and informs the community of JCT's contributions and needs.

THE CANADIAN SHAARE ZEDEK HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
3089 Bathurst St., Ste. 205,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2A4
National Executive Director: Sheila Dropkin
Tel: 416-781-3584 1-800-387-3595
Fax: 416-781-6439
The foundation represents Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem's "Hospital With A Heart." Our groups and committees offer rewarding and self-fulfilling activities for people of all ages. Our all-occasion cards and certificates, Jewish New Year cards and place cards for simchot provide supporters with an opportunity to honor friends and family.

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
534 Lawrence Ave. W., Ste. 212,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 1A2
Executive Director: Marilyn Somers
Tel: 416-785-1333 Fax: 416-785-4536
The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem is a non-profit, volunteer organization which seeks to link all survivors and those who wish to identify with Holocaust education and to Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. An Educational Resource Centre will be opened at our new offices using materials designed by Yad Vashem in Israel, including the 1st of 4 interactive CD-Roms on the Holocaust "Return to Life".

CANADIAN TECHNION SOCIETY
970 Lawrence Ave. W., Ste. 206,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 3B6
Ntl. Exec. Director: Cheryl Koperwas
Tel: 416-789-4545 1-800-935-8864
Fax: 416-789-0255
E-mail: cdntech@pathcom.com
National fundraising and education arm for Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, Israel's oldest university. Supports faculty recruitment and exchanges, scholarships, fellowships and bursaries for students and staff. Provides support for research and development projects and capital needs as well as innovative entrepreneurial enterprises initiated by new immigrant and Israeli scientists.

CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS FOR ISRAEL
788 Marlee Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 3K1
Tel: 416-781-6089 Fax: 416-785-7687
Montreal tel: 514-735-0272
Sar-el is a voluntary, non-political organization providing Diaspora Jews with the opportunity to directly help Israel. Most volunteers are between 18 and 65. They work and live for 18 days on IDF maintenance bases. Room and board supplied. Many extras.

THE CANADIAN ZIONIST CULTURAL ASSOC.
788 Marlee Ave. , Ste. 201
North York, Ont. M6B 3K1
Tel: 416-783-3053 Fax: 416-787-7496
Toll free: 1-800-433-6226
The Association offers its facilities without charge for social and education programs for young people and new immigrants in Israel; sponsors holiday camps for widows and orphans of soldiers providing psychological and group support; grants university scholarships and sponsors refresher courses for required university entrance tests to applicants having fulfilled national service.

CANADIAN ZIONIST FEDERATION, CENTRAL REGION
3995 Bathurst St., Ste. 300,
North York, Ont. M3H 5V3
Contact: Barbara Peters
Tel: 416-633-3988 Fax: 416-633-4382
The official Canadian representative of the World Zionist Organization the CZF umbrella brings together 15 national constituent organizations whose vision is a strong and vibrant Jewish life in Canada. Its mission is the promotion of Jewish culture, education, aliyah and strengthening the ties between Israel and Canada.

EMUNAH WOMEN OF TORONTO
3768 Bathurst St., Ste. 308,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 3M7
Executive Director: Devorah Danziger
Tel: 416-636-0036 Fax: 416-636-0039
A Torah Zionist organization, stands proud of its accomplishments. Under Emunah's dynamic auspices, over 170 educational and social facilities meet the ever-increasing physical and spiritual needs of diverse communities in Israel. Emunah represents a commitment to the quality of Jewish life in Israel and the Diaspora.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND
4600 Bathurst St., Ste. 238,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 3V3
Executive Director: Ben Prossin
Tel: 416-638-7200 Fax: 416-638-7345
Best recognized as the organization which has planted forests, parks and trees in Israel. It really does much more - builds roads, constructs dams and reservoirs, develops land infrastructure for new immigrant housing, prepares recreation and tourist sites, and conducts research with regard to various ecological concerns. Donors to JNF receive receipts for income tax purposes.

NA'AMAT CANADA
272 Codsell Ave.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 3X2
Tel: 416-636-5425 Fax: 416-636-5248
A dynamic fighter for women's rights in Israel and Canada. Since 1921, Na'amat Israel, with 750,000 members, has dramatically affected lives of women by providing child care, high schools shelters and counselling centres for family abuse and legal advisory clinics. In Canada, Na'amat sponsors Bialik Hebrew Day School, Camp Gesher, Habonim Youth and a Free Legal Aid Advisory Clinic.

ORT Canada (Organization for Educational Research and Technological Training)
3101 Bathurst St., Ste. 604,
Toronto, Ont. M6A 2A6
Development Director: Edna Levitt
Administration Director: Robyn Raisin
Tel: 416-787-0339 Fax: 416-787-9420
ORT is the largest non-governmental training organization in the world. ORT educates and trains people in skills that will provide them with sustainable employment in the marketplace. Students in over 60 countries learn programs that are geared to the demands of the workplace now and in the future.

RELIGIOUS LIFE

ADATH SHOLOM SYNAGOGUE
864 Sheppard Avenue West,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 2T5
Contact: Carol Modlin
Tel: 416-635-0131 Fax: 416-635-0953
Adath Sholom is a warm, friendly and family-oriented Conservative Synagogue, encompassing over 350 families, and offering a range of activities which include "haimishe" daily minyans, Shabbat and festival services, sisterhood and brotherhood, and exclusive newly renovated catering facilities. New members are most welcome.

BEIT RAYIM SYNAGOGUE
9711 Bayview Ave.,
Richmond Hill, Ont. L4C 9X7
Tel: 905-770-7639 Fax: 905-671-5178
A warm family oriented Egalitarian Conservative Synagogue serving the growing community of York Region. Women can choose to participate in all aspects of our services and children are welcomed into the sanctuary. We are dedicated to making the synagogue experience meaningful and enjoyable, with innovative and award-winning programs for children, teens and adults.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING
1003 Steeles Ave. W.,
North York, Ont. M2R 3T6
Tel: 416-225-2112 Fax: 416-225-2097
Provides recreational, educational, fitness and general courses to persons over age 55. Health clinics check blood pressure, eyesight and hearing. Also available: hot kosher lunches (under COR), nutrition and other counselling, congregate dining, telephone security checks, visits to homebound seniors, and Russian and Hebrew-speaking clubs.

BETH AVRAHAM YOSEPH OF TORONTO CONGREGATION
613 Clark Ave. W.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 5V3
Tel: 905-886-3810 Fax: 905-886-5103
The congregation was founded in 1981 and now has over 600 families. Under the spiritual leadership of Rabbi Baruch Taub, it follows an Orthodox path, while warmly welcoming those at all levels of religious observance. The synagogue offers a variety of programs and activities. Special rates for young couples and singles.

BETH DAVID B'NAI ISRAEL BETH AM CONGREGATION
55 Yeomans Rd.,
North York, Ont. M3H 3J7
Executive Director: Miriam Telem
Tel: 416-633-5500 Fax: 416-633-1740
Join us in welcoming in Rosh Hashanah (5758) and discover why our members keep coming back week-in and week-out. Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am is a vibrant, traditional Conservative Synagogue where community is embraced. Contact Miriam Telem for further information - she will be pleased to answer your questions.

BETH HAMINYAN CONGREGATION
Bella Shupac, Tel: 416-785-3655
Fax: 416-256-2925
A traditional, non-affiliated congregation in the Bathurst/Eglinton area. We learn in a friendly, informal environment. We offer outstanding educational and social programs, children's programs, and bar/bat mitzvah classes. Shabbat services are held at West Preparatory School, 70 Ridge Hill Dr., Toronto. High Holiday services are at Bialik Hebrew Day School, 12 Viewmount Ave., Toronto.

BETH JACOB V'ANSHE DRILDZ CONGREGATION
147 Overbrook Pl.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 4R1
Contact: Rabbi Jay Kelman
Tel: 416-638-5955
A growing young community oriented Orthodox Synagogue welcoming to all. We offer daily services, child care, youth programs, adult education, alternative learning minyan, ongoing social programs. Reasonable membership rates with financial incentives for home buyers in the area. A warm close knit community of 165 families. Central neighbourhood close to all amenities.

BETH RADOM CONGREGATION
18 Reiner Rd.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 2K9
Rabbi/Cantor: David Bagley
Office Administrator Anne Wolle
Tel: 416-636-3451 Fax: 416-636-1042
Member of United Synagogues of Conservative Judaism. Beth Radom has a membership of 300 families. Under the religious leadership of renowned Rabbi/Cantor David Bagley and with modern facilities it provides a beautiful alternative for any simcha. Catering is under the supervision of the Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

BETH SHOLOM SYNAGOGUE
1445 Eglinton Ave. W.,
Toronto, Ont. M6C 2E6
Executive Director: Ruth Podeswa
Tel: 416-783-6103 Fax: 416-783-9923
A traditional Conservative synagogue. Family oriented, warm friendly atmosphere. Approximately 1,100 families. Activities include educational, cultural and social programs, monthly family services and Onegei Shabbatim. Reserved seats for High Holy Days. Thriving youth groups, Congregational School. Modern facilities for all simchas. Building is wheelchair accessible. Membership inquiries welcome.

BETH TIKVAH SYNAGOGUE
3080 Bayview Ave.,
North York, Ont. M2N 5L3
President: Heather Shapero
Tel: 416-221-3433 Fax: 416-221-1602
A traditional Conservative synagogue with active lay participation. With the assistance of outstanding professional staff, we offer a Congregational school, exceptional music, youth, young family and adult programming, an attractive financial plan for new members. We are Toronto's only Conservative synagogue to offer the choice of 4 caterers under COR supervision.

BETH TORAH CONGREGATION
47 Glenbrook Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M6B 2L7
Contact: Marsha Domb or
Treasurer Stephen Turk
Tel: 416-782-4495 Fax 416-782-4496
Conservative synagogue in existence over 30 years, Lawrence-Dufferin area. Rabbi Charles Freundlich - spiritual leader; daily minyan. Active sisterhood and brotherhood, adult education, singles program, kosher and high quality catering under supervision of the Kashruth Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. Handicapped access.

B'NAI SHALOM NORTH CONGREGATION
275 Arnold Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L3J 1C3
Contact: Marissa Dalessandro
Tel: 905-731-2797
Rabbi - Chazzan Solomon Domb's "Hartzig Davening" inspires congregational singing and participation during High Holy Day services at the Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Enjoy family seating with youths 6-17 yrs. in the main hall, or in a separate youth service. Nursery for 2-5 yr. olds provided. Also, catering facilities at the synagogue all year under the COR.

COMMUNITY FOCUS

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY OF ADVERTISERS - CONT'D

RELIGIOUS LIFE CONT'D

B'NAI SHALOM V'TIKVAH
1787A Bronte Square,
Pickering, Ont. L1V 3C1
President: Michael Chasler
Tel: 905-420-4429 Fax: 905-420-2909
B'nai Shalom V'Tikvah represents the Durham and Metro municipalities through the principles and practice of Reform Judaism. At the core of our congregation are High Holiday and monthly services, Religious and Hebrew School programs, social events involving holidays, dances and picnics plus education workshops emphasizing Jewish customs and lifestyles.

CONGREGATION BINA
PO/CP 92127, 2900 Warden Ave.,
Scarborough, Ont. M1W 3Y8
Tel: 416-491-9109
Contact: Miriam Mozes, Secretary
Tel: 905-884-7737
The main objective of Congregation BINA, a non-profit organization for Jews from India, is to assist, maintain, and promote traditional religious, social, cultural, and educational activities among its members. Each year, High Holy Day Services and social gatherings are held, and a quarterly news bulletin, *Contact*, is published.

CONGREGATION B'NAI TORAH
465 Patricia Ave.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 2N1
Tel: 416-226-3700
An Orthodox congregation of over 300 families, offering: women's mikvah for Sabbaths and festivals; separate Shabbat services for adults, youth and children; High Holy Day services; vibrant youth program; daily shiurim for men and for women, and for pre- and post-bar/bat mitzvah youth; dynamic adult education program; library.

DOWNTOWN REFORM MINYAN
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C9
Steering Comm. Chair: Dr. Shelley Albert
Tel: 416-538-6553 Fax 905-709-1895
A group of Liberal Jews interested in coming together for a warm, egalitarian worship experience on a regular basis in the downtown Toronto area. We operate under the auspices of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism.

DANFORTH JEWISH CIRCLE
P.O. Box 65003,
358 Danforth Ave.,
Toronto, Ont. M4K 3Z2
Contact: Marlee Wyman
Tel: 416-466-6293 Fax: 416-466-8151
A progressive egalitarian community based in Riverdale, inclusive of interfaith and alternative unions. We're a friendly, family-oriented group committed to nurturing Jewish life and traditions through holiday and life cycle celebrations, monthly Shabbat services, and education and social action programs. For High Holy Day services call Allie Lehmann, 416-466-6427.

FIRST NARAYEVER EGALITARIAN CONGREGATION
187 Brunswick Ave., Toronto, Ont.
Tel: 416-927-0546
For the 10th year the congregation will sponsor High Holy Day services at the BloorJCC. Tickets are available at the BloorJCC or by calling the shul office. The shul offers Shabbat and holiday services, and programs, junior congregation, adult education and opportunities for participation. Guests are warmly welcomed at all times.

KEHILLAT AHAVAT HESED
788 Marlee Ave., 3rd floor, Toronto
Contact: Marion Abel, 50 Bannatyne Dr., North York, Ont. M2L 2P1
Tel: 416-449-0004
An Egalitarian, traditional congregation established in 1985 for mutual support and celebration of Jewish ritual. Focus on communal prayer, study, involvement in social and charitable causes. Inspiring, educational and interesting services. Adult education study groups. Celebrating simchot and lifecycle events. We welcome people of all ages and backgrounds, singles, couples and families.

KEHILLAT SHAAREI TORAH
2640 Bayview Ave.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2L 1B7
Contact: Rabbi Reuven Tradburks
Tel: 416-229-2600 Fax: 416-229-2167
A young, vibrant, modern Orthodox synagogue on Bayview near York Mills. With 200 families, we offer a wide range of services and programs, while maintaining the warmth of a small shul. Our bar/bat mitzvah ceremonies are unparalleled. Visitors always welcome.

KOLEL: A CENTRE FOR LIBERAL JEWISH LEARNING
36 Atkinson Ave.,
Thornhill, Ont. L4J 8C9
Director: Rabbi Elyse Goldstein
Tel: 905-709-1900 Fax: 905-709-1895
e-mail: learn@kolel.egat.net
An adult education centre for university-age and up; dedication to in-depth serious Jewish learning for those seeking a progressive egalitarian atmosphere. Kolel is a unique opportunity for men and women to examine the traditional texts together from a modern perspective. Semester classes, minicourses, lectures, retreats.

LODZER CENTRE CONGREGATION
12 Heaton St.,
Downsview, Ont. M3H 4Y6
Contact: Dina Wolfe
Tel: 416-636-6665 Fax 416-636-8861
A Conservative congregation located near Bathurst & Sheppard. Daily and Shabbat services; High Holiday services with separate youth service and babysitting. Banquet hall seats up to 300. Catering under the Kashruth Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

OR HADASH SYNAGOGUE
1110 Stellar Dr.,
Newmarket, Ont. L3Y 7B7
President: Herman Yeger
Tel: 905-898-2220
E-mail: or-hadash@veccon.on.ca
Or Hadash is a vibrant Reform synagogue located in Newmarket. Our Hebrew School attracts families throughout northern York Region. Home to a growing Jewish community, the congregation is friendly and family-oriented. Programs offered: High Holy Day services; parents & tots, adult education, interfaith outreach, and weekly Shabbat Services.

ORAYNU Community for Secular Humanistic Judaism
(formerly Secular Jewish Assoc.)
7751 Yonge St., Box 915,
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 4A5
Administrator: Sara Miller
Tel: 416-385-3910
VP Membership/Publicity:
Eva Goldfinger 905-889-7450
Our egalitarian congregation celebrates Jewish festivals, life cycles, weddings and Bar/Bat Mitzvot, non-theistically, focusing on Jewish culture and ethics. We offer educational, cultural and social programs for all ages, and an outstanding children's school from K-B'nai Mitzvah. We welcome new members, including intercultural couples, to join our warm, progessive community.

PRIDE OF ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE
59 Lissom Cres.,
Willowdale, Ont. M2R 2B2
Contact: Rabbi Flanzraich
Tel: 416-226-0111 Fax: 416-226-0128
A large, traditional Conservative congregation at Bathurst & Steeles. We run daily services and complete Shabbat services fo the whole family. We offer bar/bat mitzvah program, Shabbat story hour, BBYO, adult education, an active sisterhood and glatt kosher catering under COR.

SHAAR SHALOM SYNAGOGUE
2 Simonston Blvd.,
Thornhill, Ont. L3T 4L1
Administrator: Erma Bader
Tel: 905-889-4975 Fax: 905-889-4975
Shaar Shalom Synagogue under the spiritual leadership of Rabbi Martin Berman is a Conservative congregation in Thornhill. We offer full services on Shabbat and holidays, daily minyanim, a newly renovated social hall, excellent catering services, active sisterhood, brotherhood, youth groups and an afternoon Hebrew School (SK-Gr. 8).

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Shining a spotlight on our community

The love of Jews for their children is the stuff of legend. It is a theme that weaves through our literature and our music, and is simultaneously the source of innumerable bad jokes and the cause for quiet pride.

And yet, as Morris Zbar of UJA Federation points out in an article in this year's Community Focus supplement, the poor Jewish child is a fact of life, even in this relatively well-off community.

While community and volunteer agencies are aware of this sad fact, and make some effort to alleviate the children's plight, we can see that the problem is not being sufficiently addressed. And the situation is only exacerbated by the seemingly endless government cutbacks to the social security safety net.

This year's supplement, we hope, will encourage you, the readers of *The CJN*, to take some positive steps to help the growing problem of poverty in our community, especially that of children – not only on a personal level, but by encouraging your organization, synagogue or institution to take positive steps to help.

As always, this supplement throws light on the panorama of the Jewish community – from programs on university and college campuses, to volunteer opportunities, to new ways the community is reaching out to serve religious and educational needs. Reena, with its wonderful programs for the developmentally disabled, has a new home, and we are proud to feature them.

The supplement also marks the first in a series of three articles on kashrut in Toronto. You may agree with what is written, or you may object – but we hope it will give you much to ponder.

A community, any community, is the sum of its people, its institutions and organizations and its services. *The CJN* is glad to shine a spotlight on ours – even while hesitating over some of its shortcomings.

– L.S.

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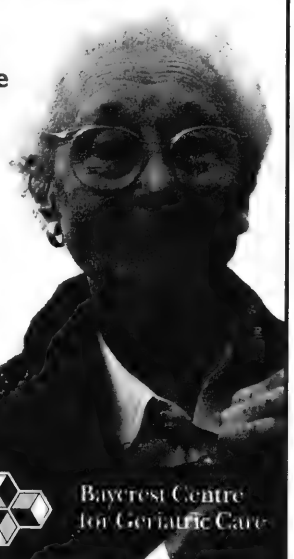

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Child poverty a grim reality

By MORRIS ZBAR & MARA KOVEN
Special to The CJN

Judaism's traditional sources are replete with messages that stress the centrality of children in our value system. Children are seen as a blessing and as a means of ensuring the survival of our people, and every Jew, regardless of his affiliation, would seemingly accept this contention.

Yet in this wonderful community of Toronto, there are approximately 4,000 Jewish children living in poverty.

While definitions of poverty abound and income levels are manipulated to serve as yardsticks for various institutional definitions of this phenomenon, for us, poverty is simply an insufficient ability to provide for basic needs, including emotional and educational security.

Who are these children living in poverty?

Approximately 13 percent of Jews live at or below the poverty line, according to 1991 census data, and this includes one in every ten Jewish children under the age of 14. These 4,000 Jewish children represent 16.6 percent of all Jewish poor. While this is lower than the general child poverty rate in Toronto, it is not acceptable for our Jewish community.

Statistically, these children tend to come from single-parent families. People in single-parent families were two to three times more likely to be poor than were persons who lived in husband-wife families. Twenty-two percent of Jews living in single parent families lived below the poverty line, compared to the 8.6 percent in husband-wife families.

Immigrants accounted for 9.6 percent of the Jewish community in 1991, but constituted 17.8 percent of the Jewish poor. One out of five Jewish immigrants to Canada since 1981 is poor. (The country of origin is a factor with immigration and poverty. A disproportionate percentage of Toronto's Jewish poor were born in Eastern Europe, the FSU and Israel.)

As governments restructure and as society changes its views on the social safety net, the suffering of the poor increases.

The 22 percent cuts in social assistance can be translated as follows: a single Jewish mother with a child receives approximately $1,000 a month. After rent, which averages $650 for a one bedroom apartment in North York, she has approximately $350 to provide for the family.

Think about what $11.66 a day can purchase. If she is lucky to receive a rent subsidy, her ability to spend is increased $8.00 per person per day. However, the cancellation of 385 non-profit housing projects has made subsidized housing harder to receive. Waiting lists can be several years long.

The ongoing cuts to daycare have made it more difficult for the Jewish poor to access subsidized spots in Toronto. The $2.6 million cut in counselling services to women trying to escape violent spouses has a negative impact on many children who are witness to and affected by this horrible cycle, a problem our community is not immune to, attested by the 300 cases seen by Jewish Family & Child Services (JF&CS).

What do we, as a Jewish community, do to alleviate the suffering of Jewish children?

The community provides approximately $1.3 million annually in supplemental assistance. This program, funded by UJA Federation and administered by JF&CS, supplements welfare payments to approximately 500 units monthly. Over 31 percent of this caseload consists of single-parent families.

The Jewish Immigrant Aid Service (JIAS) provides relief payments to newly arrived immigrants to help them get settled.

The community and its agencies provide subsidies for children in need to attend summer camps. Approximately 700 children are assisted in this way annually.

Approximately 600 children were recipients of a Passover assistance program that ensured they had sufficient food for the holiday.

These are but a few of the programs devised by the community to assist our Jewish children in need. Is it enough? The answer is an obvious NO! We need to do more as a community to ensure all of our children will thrive.

Jewish children carry a double stigma: the experience of their own poverty and the knowledge of being a member of a community that has a lower incidence of poverty than the general population.Shame and low self-esteem often result. Many parents suffer the indignation of being unable to buy sufficient clothing or to send their children to summer camps and on the same outings as their friends. Added to this is a lack of proper housing and nutritional concerns for these children.

Judaism values children. The way we care for and raise them will determine whether they grow into productive members of society. Self-sufficiency and the ability to positively contribute to society are strong goals for our children. Our failure to achieve these goals are reflections on us as parents and as a caring community.

Morris Zbar is vice president, and Mara Koven is senior planning associate of Community Planning & Allocations for UJA Federation.

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

The buck stops with us in addressing child poverty

By RABBI ARTHUR BIELFELD

Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld [File photo]

My grandfather used to observe a custom which our congregation has adopted. Whenever he made the blessing over the bread, he would break off a small chunk and pass it around the table.

As a child, I thought this had some deep religious significance and I once summoned up the nerve to ask him why he did it. I've never forgotten his answer: "Because that's all the bread we could afford to eat at one meal." Then in a softer voice he murmured: "Some day it will be different."

Well, "some day" has arrived, but for many children it's not very different than it was then. It's difficult for those of us whose refrigerators are loaded with food even to imagine what it must be like for hundreds of thousands of Canadian kids who go to bed hungry and wake up hungry. But it's happening in homes all across Canada.

In 1989, Canada's parliament declared war on child poverty. It pledged to eliminate it by the year 2000. The millennium is just a few years away and our report card doesn't look very promising. Surveys show that the number of poor children in Canada has increased by 50 percent since 1989, to more than a million and a half today.

It's not just that these kids can't go to McDonald's, or go on school trips, or have enough warm clothing. Many of them are more likely to die as babies, to develop serious illnesses or disabilities. Cuts in welfare benefits mean their families have to pay the extra costs of medications, child care and transportation. Because of illness, poor children miss school more often. They are more likely to drop out before finishing high school. They have trouble finding well paying jobs or continuous employment. In the end, we all pay the price of their poor health and education, their dependence and their anger.

I don't want to get into the business of government bashing. For better or worse, many of us voted for the current federal and provincial governments and we'd better pray that they get a fix on the escalating number of families living in poverty. Instead of muttering how terrible things are, what can ordinary Canadians do to begin to turn them around?

Let me tell you what our congregation has done. We agreed to redirect our Ontario tax reductions towards the relief of child poverty. We persuaded United Way and Mazon Canada, to set up special funds for child poverty to meet the most urgent needs of the poor: nourishment, medical treatment and child care.

It's time that we stopped looking for someone else to blame. Sure, there are welfare cheats and bad parents and political leaders who devote their time to following the latest poll. But in the end, the buck stops here.

If each of us would reach into our pockets to help wipe out poverty, would write a letter to our government decrying this scandal, things would begin to improve very quickly. And even if we don't succeed in radically changing our society, at least by our actions we could prevent our society from changing us.

Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld is the spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El, Willowdale, and the Founding Chair of Mazon Canada, a Jewish response to hunger.

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*as of December 1, 1997

COMMUNITY FOCUS

Tel-Aide reaches out

By REVA KAISER
Student Intern

When Esther said goodbye to her husband that morning as he left for work in his standard suit, tie and briefcase uniform, she was unaware of exactly how much her life would change within the next few hours.

Steve (not their real names) had been working at a prestigious Toronto law firm for years. In the past three months, although Steve would call her once or twice each day, he instructed her not to call the office: he'd be out for a meeting, he'd be busy with an important client.

But that afternoon, a small emergency arose and Esther had to contact Steve immediately; so she called the office. The receptionist informed a stunned Esther that Steve was no longer working at the firm. As a result of downsizing, he had lost his job three months earlier.

In a desperate need to talk to an understanding person and retain her anonymity, Esther called Tel-Aide, the Jewish distress line, where she found a responsive, kindly volunteer who listened to her confused, angry and fearful thoughts.

According to Bonnie Kates, chair of Tel-Aide, 25 to 30 percent of calls are related to financial difficulties and poverty, a number that has increased in the past five to eight years as the Canadian economy has plummeted and more of the population is dealing with reduced budgets.

Reduced budgets, though, can mean anything from one less yearly vacation to not enough food on the table. Parents call Tel-Aide because they are concerned about having to go on welfare, about losing their jobs, about having to move, about having enough money to feed their family. They are worried about how cuts will affect their children, and concerned about depriving them.

However, financial problems are often reflected in other difficulties.

One volunteer handled a caller who was concerned about her relationship with her husband. But after discussing the problem, the volunteer realized that the underlying source of friction was finances.

"When money is a factor, there's stress on the marriage, on family relationships – the family all suffers," said Marilyn Arkin, a longtime volunteer of Tel-Aide.

Children are obviously affected as well, Kates said, but Tel-Aide does not receive many calls from them. (Often, they will call the national Kids' Helpline.)

But parents frequently call with problems concerning their children.

One caller, Kates said, was upset because she did not have the financial means to afford a bar mitzvah bash for her son. Kates discussed the options with her and the caller came to the realization that there are many ways to celebrate a bar mitzvah, most of which are a lot more affordable than the party she had in mind. The caller was pleasantly surprised to hear that a backyard garden party with some cake and drinks would suffice.

Helping callers solve such problems is often just a matter of putting two heads together and thinking of creative alternatives.

But if the problem is lack of food, "no one should go hungry," Kates emphasized, and there are a number of organizations in the city, both Jewish and not, that the volunteers at Tel-Aide can refer the caller to.

Though hunger is the main concern, however, referrals go beyond food banks. Financial difficulties usually strain the family relationships, whether in the marriage itself, or between parents and children, and callers may need assistance with that. Often Tel-Aide will refer callers to the Jewish Family and Child Service or other organizations or professionals.

Aside from poverty-related issues, the bulk of Tel-Aide's calls deal with interpersonal relationships – marital, parent-child, boyfriend-girlfriend, or others. Callers phone in because they need an unbiased, kind and willing listener.

And that's what they find at Tel-Aide: the volunteers are there to listen.

When a caller phones, volunteers begin by assessing the situation and discussing the problem. During the course of the phone call, the caller and volunteer think out loud together and sort through everything, highlighting what the important issues are and setting goals to work through them.

[Cont'd. on page B9]

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Synagogues try to help those in need

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

There are those who live in three-car garage homes and wear designer labels. Others face eviction and frequently go hungry.

Certainly agencies are in place for families and individuals in need, but what is being done through our synagogues and temples to reach out and provide the extra, more personal help?

Not enough, according to Chabad Lubavitch of Markham's Rabbi Avraham Plotkin, who says that more on-the-spot aid is required.

His own shul which he says has limited resources, "does what it can." Although it is located in a generally comfortable neighborhood, he observes that "lately we are seeing people who are in danger of being evicted or have lost jobs.

"We need old-fashioned giving, a month's rent when they are short, or help finding a job, rather than another social worker to listen." He concedes that this is his personal perspective.

Shaarei Tefillah's Rabbi Moshe Stern, president of the Orthodox Vaad Harabanim, insists that much is accomplished, often "quietly." The Vaad makes plans, he says, "and we go back to our shuls to see what can be done."

The Chesed Fund in several shuls will provide a brit milah, a bar mitzvah or a wedding, for families who can't handle the expense. There is help as well for those with business or eviction problems.

At Shaarei Tefillah, members are encouraged to contribute to Tomchei Shabbos, which provides Shabbat meals for needy families. The congregation has also "adopted" about a dozen families, supplying money for food, clothing and Jewish education. They are also looking to resume their communal Pesach seders, where both those who can pay and those who cannot, are welcome.

Rabbi Stern observes that giving help is a private matter and people should speak to their own rabbis.

Pride of Israel Synagogue operates its own kosher food bank, started 3½ years ago by Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich when he first came to the shul.

Danger of eviction

"We see 25 to 30 people on an as needed basis, some weekly, others less often," says an office staff representative. "Now, persons are coming in who have never been to a food bank before." Most are referrals from Jewish social service agencies and groups such as Jewish Family and Child Service, B'nai Brith or the Bernard Betel Centre.

Hours are 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Fridays. The food is purchased and augmented by donations from Chai Kosher Poultry and individuals. Such non-perishables as canned soups, tuna, vegetables, potatoes and frozen chickens are available. On the "wanted" list are pasta, juice, pink salmon, cereal, cookies, peanut butter, jam — kosher only, please.

Holy Blossom Temple has just completed its first year as a participant in the Out of the Cold program, which offers food and overnight shelter from mid-November until the end of March.

Doors open about 6 p.m. and a nourishing hot dinner is provided for up to 70 people, plus sleeping accommodation for 30. In the morning a substantial breakfast is served and guests, who are required to leave by 7:30, are given a bagged lunch and subway token or ticket. There is also a clothing exchange, where good garments can be substituted for inadequate ones. New socks, underwear and toiletries are often available as well.

"Our program has been very successful to date," says facilities manager Aaron Walderman. "We've had a surplus of volunteers from the congregation, which is wonderful and everything has run smoothly without incident."

Moved by Canada's shamefully high incidence of child poverty, Temple Emanu-El's social action committee and board recently initiated a campaign, sending letters to all congregants, urging them to donate whatever they can from their provincial tax savings to Mazon Canada which fights hunger, or to the United Way. Temple Emanu-El's Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld, was instrumental in persuading the United Way to set up a special fund for the campaign.

In addition, each congregant was asked to contribute $25 toward an advertisement in a national newspaper, worded to stress the gravity of the situation.

A heartwarming response to a particular need is that of the Jewish Russian Community (JRC) which operates a day care centre for children of Russian immigrants. Founded in 1994 by Rabbi Yoseph Zaltzman with funds donated for one classroom by JRC members, the Gelfand family, it has expanded to accommodate 55 children ages 1½ to five in three classrooms.

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Rabbi Joseph Kelman, Educational Director

Tel-Aide reaches out

[Cont'd. from page B8]

"Ninety-nine point nine percent of us can deal with our problems, but we lack the motivation to do it," said Kates. Tel-Aide volunteers work on boosting callers' confidence in making the decisions they intrinsically know are right but are having a difficult time accepting.

All volunteers are Jewish from the full spectrum of backgrounds and can therefore connect with the callers. They must pass a six-week training course, modelled after the Distress Centres of Ontario's course (the umbrella organization of Tel-Aide) before manning the phones. Volunteers are trained in the technique of listening.

Tel-Aide's volunteers work three- to four-hour shifts, always with a partner, in case a situation arises in which emergency services must be alerted, such as suicidal callers.

Kates praises the 50 volunteers of Tel-Aide. "I believe we have among the best volunteers in the city…sensitive, caring, nurturing people."

Originally sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (now UJA Federation) when Tel-Aide was founded in 1985, the Stolero Family Foundation is presently the sole benefactor of the organization.

But it also fits with the anonymity the organization reflects, including a refusal to subscribe to Caller ID and the insistence that all calls are kept completely confidential.

Volunteering is immensely rewarding and it's a way of giving back something to a community that does so much for all its members, said Kates. "You get satisfaction when you know you have helped people through a difficult time, a difficult period."

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Immigrants view hardships with optimism for the future

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

This file photo of immigrants who recently arrived in Israel from Chechnya poignantly captures both the hope and the travail of starting a new life in a new land. *[Brian P. Hendler/UIA photo]*

Two community agencies, Jewish Immigrant Aid Service (JIAS) and Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa (TJFLC), deal with child poverty on a regular basis.

According to Perry Romberg, executive director of the Toronto branch of JIAS, immigrants and their children may cope better with poverty than other groups living at or below the poverty line.

He said new immigrants are inclined to be optimistic about their future and view their financial hardship as temporary while long-time Canadian residents who have experienced years of living in poverty tend to feel more despair and pessimism about their circumstances.

The positive attitude of the new immigrants is usually filtered down to the children, Romberg said. "They [JIAS clients] have a dream that life will get better. They have a determination to make life better for themselves and their kids."

He said 98 percent of JIAS' clients (the agency is mandated to help newcomers in their first two years), come from the Former Soviet Union (FSU) where the average standard of living is equal or lower than their living standards in Canada.

He said in the FSU, multiple generations of one family often live in a small apartment. It's not unusual for a family to share quarters with an elderly aunt and newlyweds, and while new immigrants may continue this living arrangement in Canada, they now live in three-bedroom apartments compared with 1½-room dwellings.

FSU residents tend to be well educated and skilled, so with time they are able to find employment, sometimes holding down as many as three jobs so that they can move up the rungs of the socio-economic ladder, Romberg said.

"They have the potential to build on." He stressed that they work hard to provide their children with a better future. "Immigrants are here for their children."

He reported that children attend programs sponsored by the community such as summer camp at Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) and youth groups, and some children through their participation interact with children who are wealthier and have more material possessions. Russian children may not have bikes and many toys, but Romberg said he does not equate that situation with deprivation.

He said the Jewish communal organizations give money for food and decent housing to low income families to ensure that they live at a standard of living he described as "basic adequacy." But he made it clear that life for immigrants is hard whether they're on welfare or working two jobs.

Romberg noted that with the last recession, JIAS clients had more difficulty finding employment and getting those first few months of work experience in Canada, so more were on social assistance for longer periods of time in the '90s than in the '80s when jobs were more plentiful.

In contrast to the immigrants who start at the bottom rung of the ladder and move up, many middle class families were hit by this last recession and have seen their social economic status dip considerably, said Helen Futerman, office manager of TJFLC.

She said that in the last five years there has been a substantial increase in the number of people applying for subsistence loans, to cover the cost of basic necessities. These loans make up roughly 30 percent of the money lent by TJFLC.

She attributed the rise in subsistence loans to corporate downsizing and job loss, bankruptcies as well as family break ups.

Financial hardship creates stress, often leading to a marriage breakdown, she said.

TJFLC intake worker Bea Wolfe noted that roughly 30 percent of the people who apply for loans have children. She said she is seeing many more families whom two or three years ago she would have categorized as lower middle class. "The children may have been living in a middle class situation and now they're not."

She described one family which suffered significant financial loss when the family business went under: Both parents are working and the children have paper routes. "At the end of the week, the parents and kids pool their resources."

Many families have to overcome their pride to ask for financial help, Wolfe said. "Within the community you're seeing people not used to asking. They're used to making ends meet...It's a difficult time [economically]. We see tremendous affluence and it's deceiving."

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

UJA Federation president focuses on community unity

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

The overriding objective of his term of office will be the unity of the Toronto Jewish community, says Joseph Steiner, the new president of UJA Federation.

"Relations between various streams of religious observance is an issue that won't disappear no matter what the decision on conversions is in the Knesset," he said.

As the president of the Board of Jewish Education (BJE), and in his work for UJA Federation, Steiner said he has seen cooperation across the full religious spectrum to achieve common goals.

A second major objective of his term, the 50-year-old lawyer said, is to implement the recommendations of the Commission on Jewish Education, particularly as they apply to day schools and supplementary schools.

Subcommittees of UJA Federation and the BJE are working on the commission's report, and Steiner expects a report by next summer on the whole question of financial support for Jewish schools.

He doubts whether the report will mean any new financial aid for parents of children attending these schools. "I cannot see a larger proportion of the campaign funds going for this purpose without impacting on other programs. Education already takes up 50 percent of the local budget. There may be ways of making the same money go further."

The son of the late former Labor Zionist leader, Harry Steiner, and Ruth Steiner, the new UJA Federation head takes over at a significant moment in the agency's history. It is embarking for the first time on a $150-million endowment and capital legacy campaign aimed at large givers, to guarantee that the

Joseph Steiner

human needs of a mushrooming Jewish community will be met.

For example, it includes a $50-million capital program that would ensure the building of a new campus of Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) next to the Bathurst Jewish Centre to replace the old and overcrowded quarters on Wilmington Avenue.

Other major items to be financed under this program would be badly-needed renovations to the Bathurst Jewish Centre and a new Jewish Community Centre in York Region, probably in Thornhill, to serve the fast-growing Jewish population there.

Approximately 170,000 Greater Toronto area Jews rely on a communal infrastructure built for 100,000.

Three-quarters of the $100 million designated for the Endowment Fund will be set aside for unrestricted use, permitting UJA Federation to act quickly when a crisis arises. The remainder will be for restricted use attached to programs defined by the donor in consultation with UJA Federation.

Steiner said the last UJA Federation campaign raised $35.5 million and it is hoped to increase this to $50 million by the year 2000.

"Of course progress to this goal depends on the economy and the way the campaigns go."

Although the money raised in the last campaign went 54 percent for local purposes and 46 percent for Israel, because of unusual needs locally and government cutbacks to social services, the new president thinks a 50-50 split is appropriate.

"We didn't move easily away from the 50-50 split and we want to get back to it. Of course a lot depends on how much we raise. We are doing better than a lot of federations in the United States."

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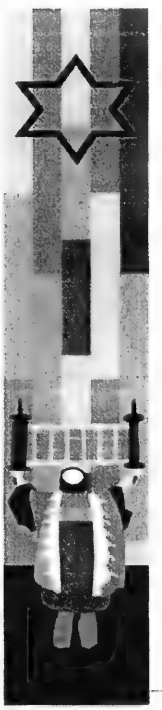

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

JCS network benefits Jewish students

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

In the two years since its creation, Jewish Campus Services (JCS) of Greater Toronto has built a city-wide network to benefit Jewish students at York University, the University of Toronto, Ryerson Polytechnic University and Seneca College.

As the umbrella organization for pre-existing Jewish student groups at individual Toronto campuses, JCS began to turn the entire city into its campus – creating inter-campus links, organizing off-campus events in recognition of the overwhelming number of Toronto students still living at home, and forging ties with some three dozen "partner organizations."

Zac Kaye, a longtime Jewish community professional and former Hillel director in Australia and Vancouver, was hired by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto (now UJA Federation) in 1995 to spearhead the project as executive director of the agency.

In an era of budgetary restraint, the campus was one of the few Federation beneficiaries to receive a budget increase.

Its annual allocation has stayed constant at just over $400,000, an increase of $140,000 over the 1994-95 year – a relatively small per capita amount, one which UJA Federation executive director Allan Reitzes said the federation hopes to ultimately increase.

Making a difference. Back row (from left): Barbara Freedman, Zac Kaye, Adam Silver, Stephanie Wener and Judith Shapero. Front row (from left): Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz, Lance Davis, Pearl Gropper Berman and Rabbi Michael Skobac. Absent: Rachel Blumenfeld, office administrator. [Frances Kraft photo]

With an estimated 15,000 Jewish students at Toronto campuses, the allocation works out to not quite $27 per student per year. When Kaye worked in Vancouver, he said, a budget of $250,000 served 1,200 Jewish students – a whopping $208 per student per year.

To make up the shortfall between its allocation and its operating budget of $450,000, JCS has had to become "more creative," said Kaye. The organization has done some fundraising and obtained grants from Hillel International, for example, to fund leadership training (one of the agency's priorities) and a variety of other programs.

"The federation realized there was a strong connection between Jewish continuity and the campus," said Kaye. "People realized if they were investing in day school education, it didn't end there.

Although the Toronto campuses already had individual Jewish student organizations, the lack of a cohesive structure was seen as problematic.

When Kaye arrived in Toronto, he found the campus situation worse than he expected, he said. "We weren't building for the future. There was a lot of disaffection and disinterest. There had been a lot of turmoil at York. There was a lack of cohesion."

"You maximize the resources you have by bringing them together in one organization," said Reitzes. "Each campus [now] has staff that are dedicated to them and that look beyond the individual campus. The idea is to have the best of both worlds."

York's Jewish Student Federation director Pearl Gropper Berman, who now also serves as staff person for Seneca Hillel, was hired about six months before the central agency was created.

"It was very isolating," she said. "I felt I didn't have a community of professionals to rely on. I've seen a huge transition. I think Jewish Campus Services developed the idea that the city is our campus."

JCS staff meet weekly to share ideas and plan together. Other full-time staff members include Lance Davis, director of U of T's Hillel-JSU, Stephanie Wener, who oversees Ryerson Hillel and also works with the U of T group, and Rabbi Michael Skobac, city-wide campus chaplain.

"Our job," said Kaye, "is to provoke [a] sense of Jewish pride." Much of JCS's work involves "engaging" uninvolved students by providing "multiple opportunities for connection." A workshop on eating disorders held at York earlier this year was one example.

Next March, JCS plans to run an arts festival for which students will be invited to submit photos, paintings, sculptures and videos reflecting Jewish themes.

"We hope that will provoke a lot of interest and involvement, hopefully from people who wouldn't necessarily get involved with us," Kaye said.

From a religious point of view, JCS strongly promotes Jewish pluralism, observing kashrut at all its programs (so as not to exclude anyone) and offering a range of denominational services at events like Shabbatonim. "We've worked hard to create a community and build a sense of mutual respect," said Kaye. "We have made a very clear statement in the community that we're a pluralistic agency."

Among JCS's partner organizations represented at this year's annual awards night for student volunteers, were Aish HaTorah, Koach (a campus offshoot of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism) and Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning. "We're not an agency seeking to bring people closer to any path of Judaism," said Kaye.

A new avenue of service for the agency is to meet the needs of parents, he noted, adding that before the academic year begins, JCS regularly receives about six or seven calls a week from Jewish parents. A series of parent workshops is being planned for the fall.

Other initiatives currently under way include a career mentoring project and the building of a database of alumni of the groups falling under JCS's aegis.

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UJA FEDERATION

Long-term health care needs remain a major concern

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

The need for beds in chronic care hospitals and nursing homes, and immediate care for heart attack patients are still a concern along north Bathurst Street, despite the fact that Branson Hospital will be converted to an ambulatory care centre by the end of 1999.

"We have 40 to 50 patients every day who are waiting for a place for long-tem care," said Branson president Jack Gallop.

A proposal by Branson to convert some of its acute beds to long-term care was turned down by the Ontario Health Services Restructuring Commission (OHSRC).

As for the fear expressed by North York Mayor Mel Lastman that heart attack victims will die in the extra 10 to 12 minutes it takes for them to get to another hospital, Gallop said it is of serious concern to the hospitals too.

"Part of the answer will be in our new walk-in medical facility where we can stabilize and resuscitate these patients," he said.

Branson is still considering appealing the commission's decision which is not final, not to allow long-term beds at the hospital.

The problem is aggravated by the OHSRC's decision to close down five chronic care hospitals in the Metro area.

Inauguration of Baycrest Home Care Service is one way the challenge of a shortage of long-term care is being met.

"This is fundamental to the desire of more and more people to remain in their own homes," a hospital spokesperson said.

There is a waiting list of 769 for the Baycrest Home for the Aged and the home has set up a Seniors Support Service for urgent cases.

An infusion of $250,000 from the Ontario Ministry of Health to Senior Care (Communiy Services to Jewish Elderly), as reported in the Aug. 14 *CJN*, will significantly expand respite care, transportation and support for people looking after those with chronic or terminal illnesses, or with early or mild dementia. The expansion begins immediately and will be phased in during the next few months.

"The whole homemaking service is being revolutionized in line with changes in society," said Senior Care coordinator Michael Scheinert.

This is one response to the problems caused for Jewish seniors by the cuts to social services instituted by governments.

Help is also on the way for those tied hand and foot to looking after a sick spouse or relative.

Volunteers are being sought by the Bernard Betel Centre to give these caregivers a respite for one to three hours, once a week or even more often. The volunteers will be paid transportation costs, but the service will be free to the caregiver.

Funded by a grant from the Ministry of Health, the program hopes to help 70 caregivers in a year with 1,450 hours of service.

Volunteers can be teams of two friends, or a grandmother with a grandchild, according to coordinator Paula Mintzberg.

Homemaking service is being revolutionized

The over-55 volunteers, must be checked out by Metro Police, which may take from four to eight weeks.

Those looking after people with strokes, Parkinson's disease or early Alzheimer's will be among those given respite care. Although no medical or nursing care will be given, it does not rule out clients needing toiletting or diaper change if this can be done before or after the volunteer is on hand. No meals need be given by the volunteers.

Both men and women are needed and having a car is not a prerequisite. Information on medical conditions facing the volunteers will be given by Mintzberg, a registered nurse.

For information, call 225-2112.

For the first time, Bernard Betel Centre is combining with Senior Care to operate a program to drive people to doctors or dentists, or to hospital or shopping. In some cases, an escort will be provided with the driver if required.

"We're looking for drivers beginning immediately to perform this mitzvah," said Barbara Zigler, volunteer services coordinator at 225-2112.

The Betel Centre is continuing its work in preventing abuse to elders through the Awareness Players and other means. The fame of the Awareness Players and their skits have spread far and wide and in August the cast will visit the Temiskaming First Native Reserve in Quebec.

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

There's more to JNF than just blue boxes

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

There's more to the Jewish National Fund (JNF) than tree-planting certificates and blue-and-white Keren Kayemet boxes, although those are certainly the most familiar symbols of the organization.

JNF's initial mandate was to reclaim the land of Israel, much of which was purchased in trust for the Jewish people in the early part of the century, explained Ben Prossin, executive director, Ontario region.

In recent years, JNF has branched out to provide infrastructure, including tens of thousands of housing units and over 8,000 kilometres of roads, for a growing Israeli population. Over the past decade JNF has also undertaken the building of dams and reservoirs in Israel to stave off water shortages.

The organization was founded at the 1901 Zionist Congress in Switzerland, and a Canadian presence was established shortly thereafter, said Prossin.

Here in Toronto, he oversees a staff of nine people, including an Israeli shaliach, Yaen Vered, who recently replaced Doron Kadmiel on the latter's return to Israel.

A large volunteer contingent, however, is crucial to the success of much of JNF's work. There are close to 100 JNF board members, and the organization's annual Negev dinner – its major fundraiser, usually attended by about 1,000 people – generally involves 100 to 200 volunteers. Tom Ungar, president of JNF Toronto, is also national secretary of JNF Canada.

Prossin noted that while Canada has a dozen JNF offices across the country, including national headquarters in Montreal, there are many more communities with a JNF presence. Two framed tree certificates he purchased as a youngster in Glace Bay, N.S., attest to that statement. "Where there is a significant Jewish population, you usually find JNF," he said.

The organization can be found in far-flung locales like England, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, South America, the former Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Hungary "and of course Israel," said Prossin.

The American operation, plagued by controversy last year over fiscal mismanagement, is completely separate from JNF Canada, stressed Prossin.

"We're like spokes on a wheel, and the centre is Jerusalem. In Canada over 80 percent of the funds we raise goes to Israel. That's quite a high percentage and we're quite proud of that."

With Israel's 50th anniversary less than a year away, JNF Canada's current priority is an international project called the Jubilee Forest, located between Beersheva and Arad, next to Israel's Toronto community forest in the Negev, an area on which JNF is focusing major efforts.

Marla Dadoun, co-chair, community Tu b'Shvat celebration, holds a mike for a BBYO member at symbolic planting ceremony. [JNF photo]

"We're going to ask every Canadian to plant the Jubilee Forest," said Prossin.

In addition, JNF's annual MEGA tour next September will celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary. Locally, JNF is on the steering committee of the consortium of Jewish community organizations coordinating events during Israel's 50th anniversary year.

Since 1948, JNF worldwide has planted over 200 million trees in Israel. As a result, Israel will be the only country in the world to have more trees at the end of this century than at the beginning, said Prossin.

The Shachamon 6 neighborhood in Eilat – parks, playgrounds, synagogues and schools – was a project of JNF Canada "and particularly Toronto," noted Prossin. The project was a beneficiary of funds raised at the 1990 and 1991 Negev dinners.

This year's Negev dinner will honor Edward Bronfman. Other annual activities, like the tree campaign, centre around Tu b'Shvat, the new year of the trees. Recent years have seen an increased JNF presence at Jewish schools, with the shaliach visiting to teach students about the significance of JNF's work.

This year JNF launched a community Tu b'Shvat festival, held at the Promenade shopping centre in Thornhill, with entertainment and games for children. It's scheduled to run again this coming year.

"Our role is reclaiming the land and protecting the environment. We strive to ensure an excellent quality of life for all of the people of Israel," said Prossin. "By the way, do you have a blue box at home?"

Canadian friends helps groups

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Canadian friends of Israeli institutions work here to raise funds and keep Canadians informed. A sample of such organizations includes:

Canadian Friends of Jerusalem Elwyn was organized in 1988 to support Jerusalem Elwyn in its enrichment of existing programs and the creation of additional innovative programs for children and adults with development disabilities. Fundraising through its holiday cards and a cooking demonstration has been earmarked for such things as a packaging and folding machine for Elwyn's direct mail division, which employs disabled clients.

The Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science is committed to helping the Weizmann Institute maintain its standards of excellence and its significant contributions to world science. Funds raised are used to build and maintain scientific facilities, acquire up-to-date research equipment and instrumentation, set up endowments for research centres and establish professional chairs and scholarships.

Canadian friends of Givat Haviva supports one of the oldest and largest institutions in Israel. Givat Haviva promotes democracy, tolerance and mutual respect among Israel's diverse communities, both Jewish and Arab; integrates new immigrants from the former Soviet Union; presents Holocaust workshops; and works

[Cont'd. on page B15]

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Rosh Hashanah		
Wednesday, October 1	Ma'ariv (Evening) Service	7:30 p.m.
Thursday, October 2	Shacharit (Morning) Service	10:00 a.m.
Friday, October 3	Shacharit (Morning) Service	10:00 a.m.
Yom Kippur		
Friday, October 10	Kol Nidre	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 11	Shacharit (Morning) Service	10:00 a.m.
	Study Session	1:00 p.m.
	Experiential Workshop	2:15 p.m.
	Mincha (Afternoon) & Healing Service	3:30 p.m.
	Yizkor (Memorial) Service	*5:30 p.m.
	Ni'ilah (Concluding) Service	*6:00 p.m.

*service times are approximate

The Downtown Reform Minyan is starting our fifth year at these High Holy Days. We are a group of singles and families (of all varieties) interested in studying and praying in an atmosphere of warmth and spirituality. Together, we are creating a fully egalitarian and participatory liberal Jewish community. All are welcome to join us.

Rosh Hashanah	$60/adult	$18/child (ages 8-13)	$18/student/Sr.
Yom Kippur	$60/adult	$18/child (ages 8-13)	$18/student/Sr.
Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur	$95/adult	$36/child (ages 8-13)	$36/student/Sr.

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Canadian friends groups provide info, raise funds

[Cont'd. from page B14]

with troubled adolescents and challenged youth. Canadian Friends raises funds through special occasion cards. It puts out a newsletter several times a year and brings in speakers here during Holocaust Education Week.

Canadian Friends of Peace Now aims at rallying support for a just and secure peace for Israel. The organization sponsors speakers, and recently held a peace concert at Holy Blossom Temple featuring the Flying Bulger Klezmer Band. Money is raised through direct solicitation.

With offices in Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver, Canadian Associates of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, is the fundraising and public relations arm of the university. The organzation sponsors special events and lectures and sells commemorative cards. Last March, the Toronto chapter, in celebration of its 18th anniversary, joined Beth Tikvah Synagogue, which celebrated its 30th anniversary, and presented a concert featuring Chava Alberstein. The New Ben-Gurion Associates, Toronto's leadership group, is organizing a theatre evening to see *Rent*, on Nov. 27.

Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University sponsors lectures, and organizes student programs in Israel for one year, one semester or a summer. It is holding its third annual North American conference in Toronto – the first time it will be in Canada – from Sept. 18 to 21. Speakers include Norman Spector, publisher of the *Jerusalem Post* and Yoram Dinstein, president and chair of the international board of governors.

Volunteers at the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, part of Yad Vashem in Israel help research names, assist in mailings and take part in fundraising activities. On Nov. 5, a dinner honoring the Righteous Among the Nations will feature keynote speaker Mike Harris. Volunteers are needed to sell tickets for that event. The society is presently setting up a resource centre for young adults.

A preview of the film, *The Long Way Home*, is being screened by Canadian Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Centre on Sept. 24. The film, which contrasts survivors' difficulties in reaching Palestine with the ease with which war criminals found refuge in Canada and around the world, won an award at the Sundance Film Festival. Money raised from the screening will go towards the Canadian Friends' budget. Sol Littman of the Toronto office will address the Ukraine Canadian Association in Winnipeg in October. "This is a watershed invitation by a Ukranian organzation to one that is avidly in search of war criminals," says Littman.

Canadian Friends of Boys Town Jerusalem helps support the school which has 1,000 students, most of whom live on campus. A recent fundraiser was held at the home of Lesley Dan, who was honored for his philanthropic work in Toronto.

A tribute to Israel's soldiers was held recently by the Association for the Soldiers of Israel (ASI). All funds went to the Canadian Zionist Cultural Association (CZCA), which provides scholarships for men and women who have completed their military service and want to pursue studies at university or college. Funds raised by ASI have gone towards sponsoring the "Toronto House," a dormitory building used by thousands of Israeli soldiers each year. Among other things, the organization plans to outfit five missile boats with TV sets and VCRs, provide a mobile gym and fitness room for an armored brigade based on the Golan, and refurnish the lobby at the Soldiers Centre in Beersheva.

Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel has recently moved its Toronto offices and Col. Ilan Egozi, executive director of Beit Halochem in Israel, will be here this fall for the office dedication. He is planning to travel to Montreal and Ottawa and will conduct parlor meetings to raise funds for the organization. In June, the office sponsored a concert featuring Theodore Bikel.

Canadian Friends of Ezrath-Nashim Herzog Hospital conduct fundraising activities, including an afternoon of tea and music, for Israel's first geriatric-psychiatric hospital. Toronto's connection to Ezrath Nashim is through the Silver-Cooper Geriatric Rehabilitation Centre, which provides physiotherapy and occupational therapy treatment for inpatients and outpatients, and the Albert and Temmy Latner Institute for research in social psychiatry and psychotherapy.

Canadian Friends of Canada-Israel Children's Centres aids the 12 centres in Israel that offer tennis and other sports to children from various social and economic backgrounds. Canadian friends' events include an annual golf tournament and a summer Sunday brunch with four or five children from Israel and their coach and supervision. In June, Leah Rabin, who along with her husband, was involved with the centres, was a special guest.

The Toronto Chapter of Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel, founded three years ago, raises funds for medical equipment and ambulances.

The organization raises money here and purchases items including stretchers, medical supplies and blood extraction units, as well as ambulances, and sends the items to Israel.

Funds are raised by personal approach, four mailings a year, bus trips to casinos, bridge nights and card games. Plans for the spring include a twilight cruise in Toronto harbor and a golf tournament.

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Reena gets set to open new centre

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Reena's new home, the 45,000 square foot Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre on Clark Avenue West in Thornhill, opens officially this month with a host of new programs and activities.

Reena, established in 1973 by parents of children with developmental disabilities, provides such services as group homes, day and evening programs, group and individual therapy, student training and community consultation.

The new centre is a fully accessible day facility which offers a wellness and health centre, gymnasium, creative arts workshop, computer centre and library, with activities tailored to individual skills and interests of its members. A horticultural centre will provide a therapeutic atmosphere for members to learn about growing plants.

Executive director Sandy Keshen says the wellness centre, which focuses on the special health care needs of people with developmental disabilities, will provide health classes on such topics as nutrition, hygiene, sexuality, stress management, exercise and other general health care issues.

The centre will include a medication/medical treatment room, a medical examining room, a rehabilitation area with equipment for occupational therapy and physiotherapy and space for counselling and assessment for speech and behavior therapy.

The wellness centre will also concentrate on both outreach to isolated families with health care needs and establishing linkages to the medical research community. "The professionals of our multidisciplinary team will work with researchers in different settings, such as the Hospital for Sick Children, Mount Sinai Hospital, Baycrest Centre and University of Toronto," says Keshen.

Keshen says Reena's goal is to make the new Battle Centre a "bright, airy, welcoming place where people feel welcome and good about themselves. We see our clients as valued people and we want them to see themselves that way."

Planned programs for the fall include a support group for adults with autism, Judaic awareness classes, computer/journalism club, art therapy, indoor sports, relationship building and drama. Pre-registration is required for all courses.

Arlene Margolese, Reena's volunteer coordinator, says the centre depends on volunteers and always has openings for people who want to lend a hand. "Volunteers can help out in the horticultural centre, in literacy training, lifeskill training and in the gym."

Reena also needs "PALunteers" to work one-on-one with clients; home visitors; or drivers who can accompany clients to appointments.

Lewis, an active centre member, enjoys working in the greenhouse and watching the fruits of his labor. [Photo courtesy Reena]

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

New community facilities reflect religious diversity

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

New facilities are being added to existing ones in and around Toronto to meet the religious and spiritual needs of a booming Jewish community.

Reflecting the diversity of the community, there are numerous synagogues, temples and educational facilities which fulfil the broad spectrum of religious observance from the most pious to the very secular.

The Bathurst Street corridor remains the magnet for the greatest number of religious and cultural facilities. From the downtown core, the community spreads northward with more than 120 synagogues and temples accommodating members of the three major branches of Judaism as well as egalitarian, Reconstructionist, humanist, gay and lesbian, and others.

Day schools and other Hebrew educational facilities, social service agencies, mikvot, organized kashrut supervision, burial facilities and a plethora of organized programs make Toronto one of the best served North American Jewish communities.

With a large influx of Jews from around the world, established organizations are expanding their programs and new facilities are being created to accommodate those who have settled here.

Jewish Information Service (JIS) keeps up-to-date records of the synagogues, temples, schools, organizations and programs available in the area.

Although services in many temples and synagogues are for members only, JIS prepares a list of religious facilities that provide services for those who are not affiliated with a religious institution. Throughout the city, religious services are also conducted at schools, community centres, social service agencies and temporary locations.

There are 12 Reform congregations in the Greater Toronto area. Holy Blossom Temple, which was the first established in Toronto, is the largest, with more than 2,500 families.

As well, smaller groups include a Reform service at Baycrest Terrace, the Downtown Reform Minyan and Temple Kol Ami. There are also Reform congregations in Durham Region (Pickering, Ajax, Whitby), Bramalea (Brampton, Bolton, Malton, Georgetown), Newmarket, Oakville and Mississauga.

Beth Tzedec Synagogue, which has 2,700 families, is the largest of a dozen Conservative congregations in Toronto, Downsview, Thornhill and Willowdale. In addition, Beit Rayim is located in Richmond Hill.

There are more than 80 Orthodox congregations and minyanim in the Greater Toronto Area. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue is the largest Orthodox congregation with 1,200 members. Along with the established synagogues, Orthodox services are held in many venues, including Associated Hebrew Day Schools, Baycrest Centre and Baycrest Terrace synagogues, Netivot Hatorah Day School, Bloor JCC Chapel, Kol Torah Sephardic Centre and Synagogue at Promenade Circle, Ner Israel Yeshiva, the Reichmann Minyan at First Canadian Place, the Riverdale Community, and a Sephardi Iraqi congregation at the Bernard Betel Centre.

There are also some 20 congregations listed by JIS as "others," which include Beth Hazicharon with services in Hungarian and Hebrew; Bina Congregation formed by Jews of Indian descent; Darchei Noam Congregation, a Reconstructionist synagogue; First Narayever, an egalitarian traditional congregation; Kehillat Ahavat Hesed, egalitarian; Keshet Shalom for the gay and lesbian community; Lincoln Place Nursing Home Chapel; Mount Sinai Hospital; and Shir Libeynu, a progressive egalitarian congregation.

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For those who follow the laws of taharat hamishpachah (family purity), there are 14 mikvot located throughout the city, an increase of four since last year.

For more information on the religious and educational facilities and High Holy Day services in and around Toronto, call the Jewish Information Service, 416-635-5600 or the UJA/Federation Web site, [www.feduja.org].

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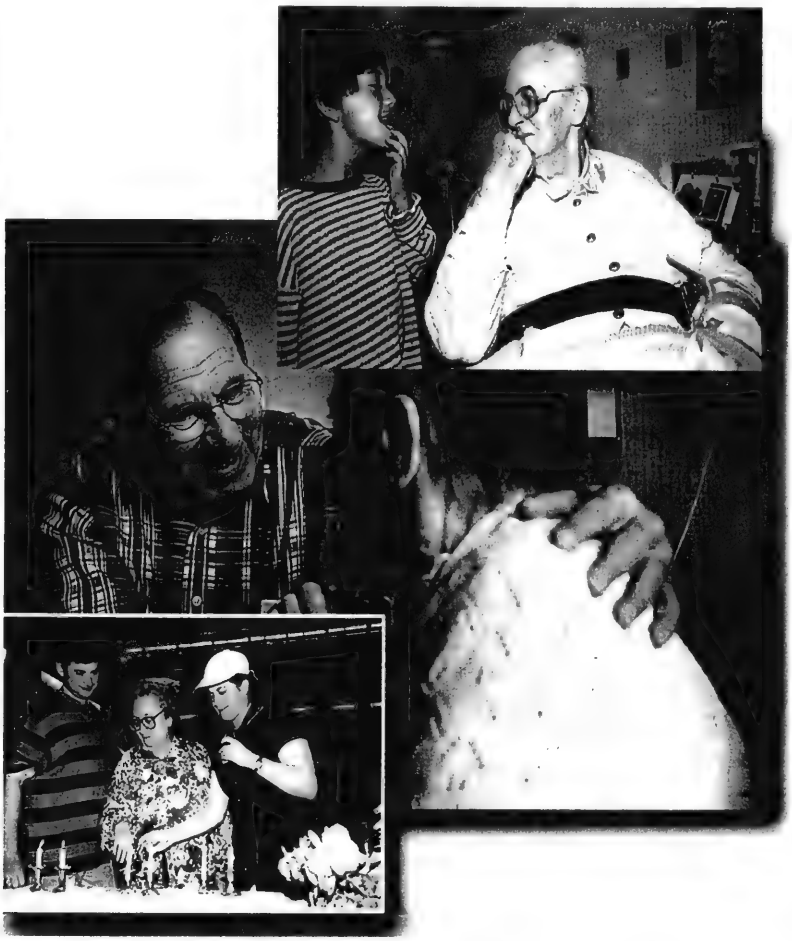

Volunteers of all ages are a welcome sight. [Photos courtesy Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care]

Groups seek volunteers

People are needed for all purposes

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

In addition to helping service organizations run smoothly, volunteers have the added bonus of improving their own skills and staying involved with the Jewish community.

Some organizations in our community that are seeking volunteers include:

ORT Canada (787-0339) seeks volunteers who have skills and knowledge in communications and public relations, education or special events. People are also needed to help out in the office on a regular basis.

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living (225-2112) has established a respite care program to address the well-being of senior caregivers in the community, where volunteers give caregivers a much needed break. Individuals can volunteer with a friend or alone to spend time with someone who needs companionship. These one to three hour visits are arranged on a regular or occasional basis. No nursing or physical care is involved but training and ongoing support is provided for volunteers. Transportation costs are reimbursed. Call Paula Mintzberg.

Joan Stevens, coordinator of volunteer services at the Jewish Family & Child Service (638-7800), says the agency always needs tutors and big brothers and sisters. The big brother or sister program, which involves youth aged six to 16, requires a minimum commitment of one year. Applicants are screened and orientation is provided.

Chaplaincy visitors to Jewish residents of hospitals and nursing homes are needed. Visits can be weekly, monthly or during holiday times. The agency also requires eight to 10 volunteers with good telephone skills for administrative work.

Senior Care (635-2860) needs volunteers for its kosher meals on wheels program. Participants must have a car and can work as many mornings as they wish. Volunteer visitors are needed to drop in on homebound seniors and phone pals are needed to telephone seniors on a daily, weekly or short-term basis. A new joint program with Bernard Betel Centre seeks drivers to accompany seniors to medical appointments and take them to Bernard Betel Centre.

Baycrest Centre (785-2500, ext. 2572) has a summer program for youth who volunteer in a wide range of programs, including outings, friendly visiting and creative arts. Hours are flexible and training is provided. Volunteers are also needed to help run music, exercise and art classes or to lead discussion groups.

COMMUNITY FOCUS

Landsmanshaften provided a 'home' for immigrants

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

As Jews from Eastern European countries began to settle in Toronto and other urban areas, they formed landsmanshaften, groups of individuals from the same area or shtetl.

Along with the friendships, camaraderie and the social aspects of the landsmanshaft, these societies fulfilled many other needs of the immigrants. They arranged for funerals and purchased burial grounds, provided loans and sick benefits, established synagogues, and created networks of like-minded people.

For many of its members, the groups created a link for them to their former communities and a place to memorialize their loved ones.

As survivors of the Holocaust arrived, they were welcomed by the members of the societies who could relate to them and who could help them keep alive the memories of their once vibrant cities and towns. And many shared a common language – Yiddish.

Many of the landsmanshaft groups still exist – among them Apter, Chenstochover, Chmeilnick, Driltzer, Ivansker, Keltzer, Lagover, Linitzer, Lipsker, Lodzer, Lubin, Maramoresher, Ostrovtzer, Piotrkov-Tomashov-Belchatow, Pultusker, Radom, Shedlitz Lukower, Shedlover, Stashiver, Stopnitzer, Tzosmerer, Warshaver, Wierzbniker, Zaglembier – and others from Poland, Lithuania, Hungary, Russia and other communities devastated by the Holocaust.

Many societies formed women's auxiliaries and sisterhoods that have been very active parts of the landsmanshaften. Women of the Apter, Chenstochover, Chmeilnicker, Massada chapter, Lodzer, Stashiver, Stopnitzer, Warshaver and others work tirelessly to raise money for local and Israeli charities.

Today, many of the members of the societies are retired seniors who have attempted to involve their children and grandchildren without much success.

Jack Stopper, 89, has been a member of the Driltzer Young Men's Society for more than 60 years. In 1934, he was asked by the members of Anshe Driltz, many in their 70s and 80s, to form a group for younger members.

Younger members

The Driltzer Young Men's Society has 80 members. Although Stopper's daughters Ruthie Greenberg and Rochelle Sufrin are members and attend some of the functions, like others of the second and third generations, they do not take an active role in the organization.

Stopper explains that the members meet on Sunday mornings for davening at the building they own on Wilson Avenue. They conduct services on the High Holy Days and hold meetings every two weeks. He adds that although they are trying to keep the society operating, many of their members have died and it is becoming more and more difficult for their aging members.

Like many of the landsmanshaften, a major role for their members is fundraising. Stopper says they contribute to Israeli soldiers, the Baycrest Centre and the United Jewish Appeal. Although their membership is $50 a year, they receive rental from their building and they hold fundraising events.

"It is my hope that the third generation will take over and continue to do good work and keep the good name of Driltz," he says.

Mike Rosenberg, co-chair of the Society Division Cabinet of UJA, believes that the phenomenon of landsmanshaften of the 20th century, "which were formed to help them find comfort from each other will disappear in the next decade or two."

A Holocaust survivor who came from Szydlowiec, Rosenberg was told shortly after he arrived in Canada in 1948 that "you must belong somewhere."As there was no society from his small town in Poland, he joined the Wierzbniker Friendly Society where his friend's wife comes from, primarily "to get clients for my printing business."

He praised the societies that hosted the Holocaust survivors for a short time until "they could create ties with others who had similar histories." He says that the children of survivors have entered the professions and as a consequence they have joined professional organizations and synagogues rather than join their parent's society.

"All of the mutual and sick benefits are going by the wayside and are no longer relevant," says Rosenberg. "With declining memberships," he adds, "it is only a question of time until these societies disappear."

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Parents hope for day school in Bloor-Spadina area

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Parents with young children who live in the revitalized Bloor and Spadina Annex area have organized a group dedicated to establishing a Jewish day school in downtown Toronto.

Scheduled to open in the fall of 1998 with a senior kindergarten and grades 1 and 2, they plan to add an additional grade each year.

Currently, there is only evening and weekend Jewish education available in the downtown area.

Cynthia Lazar, a member of the organizing committee, says that she began thinking about the need for a downtown Jewish day school last year when her oldest child started a two-year nursery school program at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (Bloor JCC).

Most day schools are located in the northern part of the city, with two below Eglinton. Lazar says that it is difficult to get children into these day schools, because they have to start at junior kindergarten or lose their places.

Lazar, a practising psychiatrist who has lived in the Annex for 15 years and works in the area says: "I want my children to have a Jewish education, to learn how to pray and to gain the wisdom of Jewish writing, but I couldn't bear the thought of sending my 4-year-old on a bus for two hours a day."

She spoke to other parents in the area with young children who were also interested in a day school education for their children and it became apparent that they had some of the same concerns.

Commuting, she says, is not their only concern. The committee, which includes families from a broad spectrum of Jewish practices and affiliations, stresses the importance of equality between men and women.

Cynthia Lazar

Modeled on Heschel schools

They agreed to model the day school on the Heschel schools of New York, Los Angeles and the recently established Heschel school in North York.

"We respect every child's practices from Orthodox to Reform," says Lazar. To accommodate the entire community, all the food served at the school will be kosher. The school, she adds, will be nurturing with small classes and an arts based program.

"The notion of community will play a central role in our curriculum. At the most basic level, children will attend school and make friends in their own neighborhood. On a broader level, they will see themselves as part of two communities – Jewish and secular. They will learn, as Abraham Heschel taught, to be responsible for social action in both communities."

She describes the parents as "a diverse group of high achievers."

The school, she emphasizes, will set rigorous academic standards.

"We recognize the need to give our kids a solid religious education found in a Jewish day school, but regret having to segregate our children to do so," she said.

If you are interested in more information about the downtown Jewish day school, call Lazar at 416-515-1477 or e-mail Gary Schwartz, [mycity@interlog.com].

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COMMUNITY FOCUS

UJA Federation sets up office in York Region

Will service estimated 44,000 Jews

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

York Region, the third largest and fastest growing Jewish community in Canada, now has its own UJA Federation office.

Located at 1118 Centre St. in Thornhill, close to Jewish institutions in the Bathurst and Clark area, the newly opened office — the first satellite office in UJA Federation's 80 year history — will provide service and support to the estimated 44,000 Jews in the region.

UJA Federation's York Region coordinator, a new position created earlier this year, works out of the Centre Street site, which also houses B'nai Brith Youth Organization, meeting rooms for outside groups and organizations, as well as a youth volunteer recruitment centre.

Thornhill resident Carole Sterling, a member of the continuity committee, said, "I'm personally very excited about the new office. Federation needs a presence to draw people... I'm aware of a lot of people who aren't affiliated."

She views the new office as the first step for York Region, she said. "It's a start. The hope is that with funding we'll be able to provide more support and programs for the community down the road."

Sterling said she would like to see the establishment of a Jewish community centre in Thornhill where people of all ages will be able to gather for a variety of activities including sports programs. "If I want a basketball program for my son, I have to enrol him in a local, non-Jewish centre or be prepared to shlep him a long distance."

Outreach to youth

Outreach to unaffiliated youth is an important function of the new satellite office, according to former York Region coordinator Saul Cohen, who has returned to university. (Ilan Meister assumed the coordinator position at the end of August.)

Cohen said the York Region Jewish community is comprised of many young families. More than one third, or roughly 15,000 residents, are under the age of 14.

One of the first tasks Cohen was assigned shortly after he was hired in January was to organize the February youth symposium which took place at Westminster Collegiate in Thornhill. The symposium was an opportunity for the 50 teenagers – affiliated and unaffiliated – representing many of the high schools in the region, to explore the needs of York Region's Jewish youth.

Cohen noted that one of the gaps in service identified was the lack of volunteer opportunities for youth in the region. He said the Centre Street office will have a teen volunteer recruitment centre manned by teen volunteers who will also be organizing a monthly social action program for unaffiliated youth in the area.

He described the recruitment centre as a clearing house for volunteer programs for youth, adding that volunteers will meet with organizations in the region to encourage them to create more volunteer opportunities.

He stressed that while youth activities are an important focus of the position, UJA Federation's York Region coordinator must provide service to residents of all ages and to that end Cohen met with people to guage the needs of the community as a whole.

"People need a way relate to and identify with the larger community. This is what the satellite office of UJA Federation represents," he said.

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How it all started

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

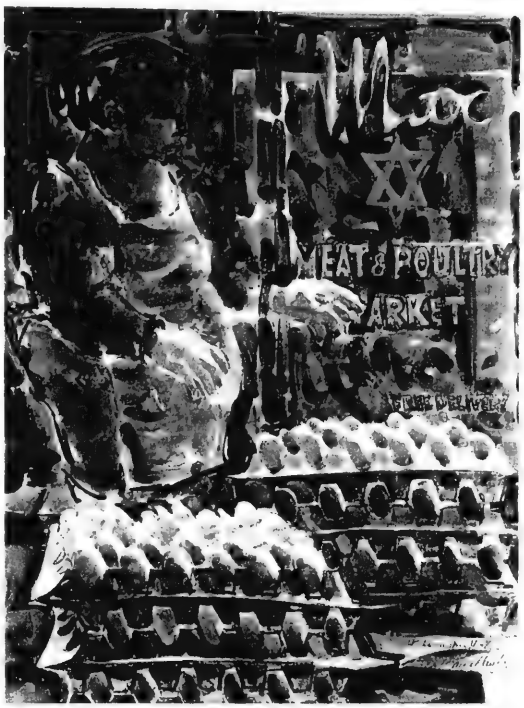
One of the important amenities that signals a Jewish community's coming of age is a strong, central body to regulate kashrut. Toronto is one such city, whose Kashruth Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, popularly known as COR, serves that function.

Kashrut in Toronto

But it was not always that way. In fact, so rancorous has the subject been over the years that at one time or another, various sectors of the community did not talk to each other, avoided eating food supervised by the "other" party or insisted on eating only salads at an institution or function whose kashrut was certified by the "other" side.

Acceptance within the community of COR supervision is almost universal. However, there are still disagreements from time to time about the decisions that COR makes. Not everyone is satisfied with the status quo.

In a three-part series, the first installment of which we publish today, CJN staff reporter Leila Speisman examines the history of kashrut regulation in greater Toronto, the mandate and operation of COR and some of the reasons why not everyone is satisfied with the status quo.



Max Meat and Poultry Market by Aba Bayefsky, watercolor on paper. From The Living City: Toronto Paintings from the 1940s to the 1990s.

Holy Blossom Congregation, the first synagogue established in Toronto, was originally Orthodox. In the 1850s and 60s, its members imported a shochet from Buffalo to provide them with kosher meat.

However, according to Stephen Speisman, director of the Ontario Jewish Archives and author of *The Jews of Toronto; a history to 1937*, the initiative of Holy Blossom members caused considerable problems for their neighbors to the south, for "when Toronto had kosher meat, Buffalo didn't."

Holy Blossom soon hired a congregational minister who was also a shochet, and arranged for a butcher at the St. Lawrence Market to keep a separate table and set of utensils for kosher meat. While anyone could purchase the meat, Holy Blossom members had first choice of cuts.

When the Jewish population of Toronto grew in the years before World War II, some attempts were made to have a universal kashrut system, but it worked only sporadically and eventually broke down.

Speisman explained that people operated on the principle that they shopped at a butcher or a baker whom they knew and trusted. Still, he said, there was a great deal of fraud, with non-kosher meat being advertised as kosher. The reliability of the supervision of kashrut was tainted by the considerable conflicts of interest that abounded in the attempt to administer the rules of kashrut.

This chaotic situation could not continue, so in the late 1940s, the community finally took appropriate steps to deal with it.

Meyer Gasner, an active communal leader until his death in 1974, took the initiative. He became the founding chair of the Division of Orthodox Synagogue of Canadian Jewish Congress, Central Division. Under his leadership, rabbis, community leaders and representatives of Canadian Jewish Congress joined to establish a body to supervise kashrut.

Fake advertising

In a report he presented to the community, Gasner charged that as much as 50 percent of poultry sold in Toronto as kosher, was not. He also charged that some of the butchers who represented themselves as being kosher were actually selling non-kosher meat.

This situation involving false advertising was not remedied until the mid 1960s, when the federal government enacted legislation forbidding the fraudulent use of labeling, packaging, advertising or selling of kosher food.

By 1954, after much negotiation, the new Division of Orthodox Synagogues signed cooperation agreements with Rabbis David Ochs, Meyer Greenwald and Avraham Aron Price, all of whom had previously supervised kashrut for various institutions and businesses. Each agreed to accept the kashrut of places supervised by the others.

For over 30 years, Rabbi Gedaliah Felder, a world renowned talmudic scholar, was chair of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth, the body of rabbis that served as advisors and consultants to the Kashruth department of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Central Division, as it was then called. Rabbi Felder was widely respected and accepted throughout the Jewish community.

So too was Nachman Shemen, an ordained rabbi and scholar who was the executive director of the kashrut department for nearly 50 years.

Rabbis Felder and Shemen were succeeded at their deaths by Rabbi Yitzchak Kerzner and Rabbi Mordechai Levin, respectively.

The scope of what is now called the Kashruth Council has grown. It currently has assigned some 450 COR numbers, as well as an ever-growing number of restaurants, bakeries, butcher shops and institutions. A number is assigned to each company that is supervised, and all supervised products manufactured by that company carry the same number.

COR also publishes a guide to the products it supervises and offers an information service and cooking classes.

COMMUNITY FOCUS

What is kashrut anyways?

The following is a very brief, very sketchy, non-authoritative synopsis of the origins of the laws of kashrut.

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

For thousands of years, the dietary laws have been among the linchpins of Jewish life. Observance of kashrut has not only led to the creation of a unique cuisine, it has also colored our relations with the non-Jewish world – and often with other Jews as well.

Kashrut in Toronto

Many people think that the main purpose of the dietary laws is the promotion of healthy eating habits.While healthier eating may be one of the results of observing kashrut, that is in fact not its key purpose. The dietary laws fall under the biblical "legislative" category of a *chok* for which no stated reason is given in the Torah. They are observed, literally, because G-d has commanded it.

Laws concerning food appear early in the Bible. In Bereshit (Genesis), 1:29, G-d says to Adam "Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, on which is the fruit yielding seed; to you it shall be for food."

From this verse, the sages decided there is no restriction on what fruits or vegetables may be eaten.

The substance of the laws of kashrut are based mainly on passages in the books of Vayikra (Leviticus) and Devarim (Deuteronomy) .

Categories of Food

The list of the animals permitted to Jews for eating appears in Devarim 14: 4-6. It includes ox, sheep, goat, deer and bison. The passage further explains: "And every beast that parts the hoof, forming therefore two entirely cloven hoofs, and chews the cud among the beasts, that may you eat."

Both Vayikra and Devarim contain lists of birds that are forbidden food. All are described as " abominable." Some of the birds on the list are the eagle, vulture, buzzard, raven, gull, sparrow hawk, stork, heron and hawk. Basically, the birds that are forbidden are scavengers – birds which eat other live things.

The birds not forbidden are chicken, duck, goose, pigeon, squab and turkey although there are Jews, descendants of a certain rabbinical family, who do not eat turkey.

The permissible category of fish is described in Vayikra 11:9-12: "These shall you eat of all that are in the waters" whatever has fins and scales in the waters, in the seas and in the rivers. Rabbinic authorities explain this as fish with at least one fin and one easily removable scale.

It is absolutely forbidden to eat insects.

Processing of Food

The consumption of blood is also absolutely forbidden. This means that special processes to remove the blood must be applied after an animal is slaughtered. While the slaughtering (*schechting*) process removes most of the blood, it is necessary to deplete even the last drops in the food intended to be eaten. This is done in a number of ways: for example, by salting and soaking it, roasting it over an open flame, or broiling it, depending on the type of food being *kashered*.

The prohibition against eating blood is categorical. Vayikra 17:10-11 warns: "Whatever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eats any manner of blood, then *I will set my face against that person that eats blood, and will cut him off from among his people*. For the life of the flesh is in the blood." (My italics)

In larger communities, most kosher meat and poultry are sold already soaked and salted.

Animals, birds must be slaughtered by a trained shochet

Animals and birds must be slaughtered by a rigorously trained *shochet*, using knives so sharp that they kill the animal instantly and painlessly. The schochet examines each animal afterwards to make sure that there are no defects in any of the main organs, such as the brain, windpipe, esophagus, heart, lungs or intestines.

Jews do not eat the sciatic nerve of animals, even ones permissible for eating. The reason for this is Jacob's night-time struggle with an angel during his return trip to Canaan, as a result of which his thigh was left permanently injured (Bereshit 32:32). This generally means that the entire hind quarter is not used, although there are some who know how to remove the sciatic nerve.

It is common to see a certification of kashrut on meats called Glatt kosher. This is a more technically exact standard of kashrut, which disallows even many minor adhesions in the lungs and demands that the meat be *kashered* (soaked and salted) less than three days after slaughter.

Probably one of the most widely known and observed restrictions of kashrut is the prohibition against eating milk and meat products together. This is derived from the passages in Devarim 14:21 and in Shmot (Exodus) 23:19, that enjoin: "You shall not boil a kid in its mother's milk."

The production of milk does not require kashrut supervision in the United States and Canada, since government supervision of the production and processing of milk is very strict Nevertheless, some people prefer to use milk that is *cholov yisroel*; that is, milk bottled under Jewish supervision and which ensures that no foreign substances have been added to it, especially the milk of an unclean animal.

However the production of cheese must be supervised, because some manufacturers use non-kosher rennet to curdle the milk.

Because wine is used for sacramental purposes, special supervision is required in its manufacture as well. The requirement for special supervision also applies to foods made with wine or grape juice.

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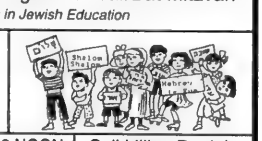
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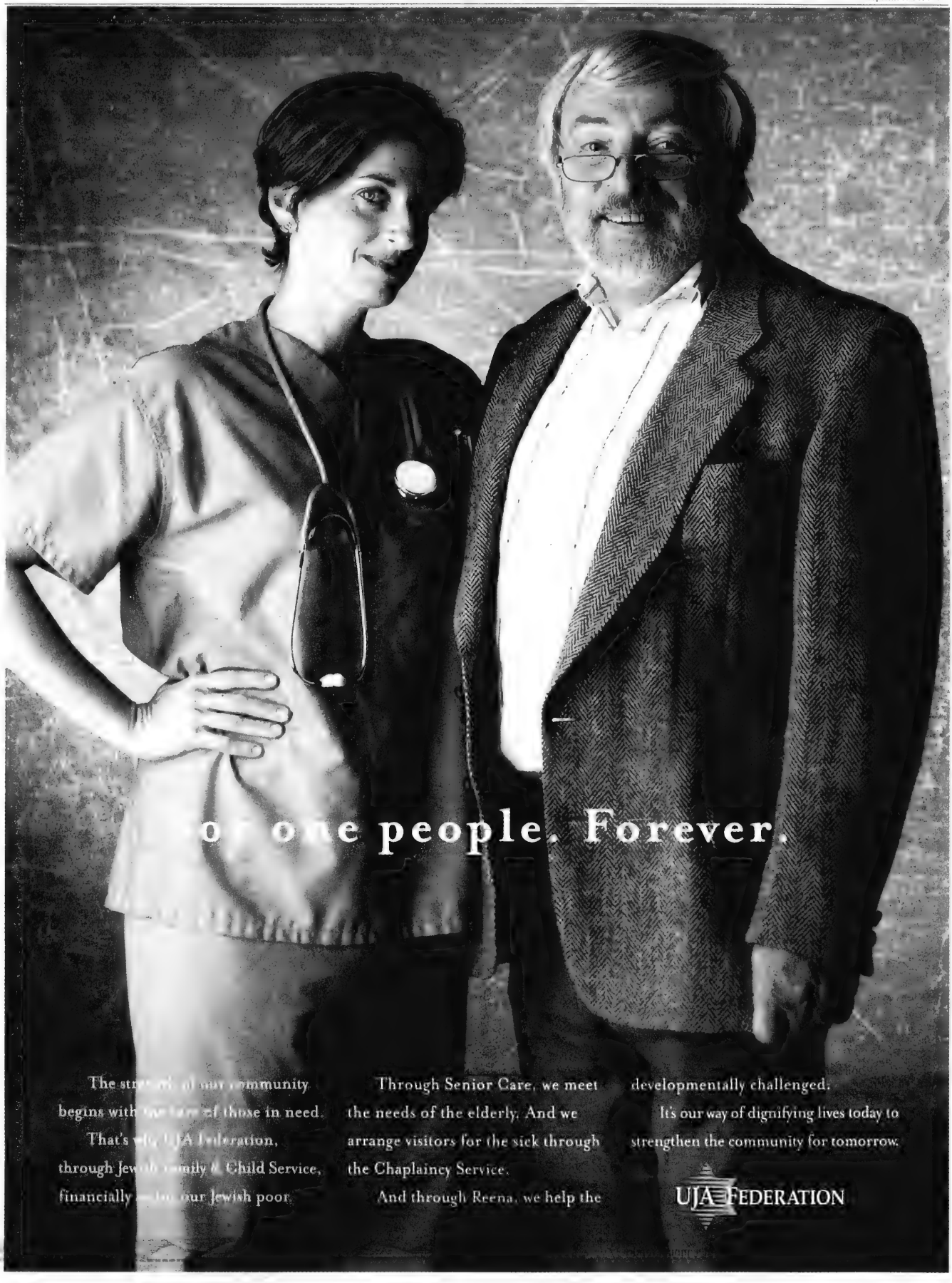
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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Moshe Dayan's daughter, Yael, calls for an end to occupation. *Page 3*

No elections for Canadian delegates to upcoming World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem. *Page 5*

Poll puts Mel Lastman ahead in race for megacity mayor. *Page 13*

National

Winnipeg community centre opens with much fanfare. *Page 38*

Arts

New book examines why the Allies couldn't do anything to rescue Jews from the Holocaust. *Page 54*

Sports

Sarah Pitkowski always knew the sport would be more than a hobby.

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 14
What's New 18
Rosh Hashanah Foods 23
Just Between Us 32
On Campus 36
Coast to Coast 38
International 47
Health 51
Travel, Arts & Business 52
Sports 62
Classified 57
Ask Jesse 63
Crossword 63

Shabbat: Ki Tavo
Candlelighting 7:01
Elul 17, 5757
Havdalah: 8:06

Jewish leaders meet Axworthy

'Deep anxiety' over terror attacks conveyed

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Israel's security and the role Canada can play in improving it were the focus of a precedent-setting Sept. 8 meeting in Ottawa between the leaders of Canada's major Jewish organizations and Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy.

Axworthy spent a little over an hour with the heads of B'nai Brith Canada (BBC), the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC), Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and the Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF). Jewish organizations have met with previous external affairs ministers, but this was the first such group meeting with Axworthy.

The meeting's "dominant message" was to convey the "deep anxiety" felt by Canadian Jewry over recent terror attacks in Israel, said Rob Ritter, national executive director of the CIC, under whose auspices the meeting was held.

Ritter told *The CJN* in a telephone interview the message to the minister was that Canada should have a more proactive and visible role in the Mideast.

As well, Jewish leaders conveyed to Axworthy that "too much emphasis" has been placed on Israel in international forums, like the United Nations, and that too little emphasis is placed on the "obligation" of Palestinians to combat terror in Israel.

In July, national Jewish groups sharply criticized Canada for supporting a UN vote that condemned Israel for its Har Choma housing project in Jerusalem.

The delegation told Axworthy of the Canadian Jewish community's "upset" at the vote, Ritter said, and criticized Canada's explanation of its vote for not including any reference to Arab terror.

Continued on page 45

AN ANNIVERSARY RALLY
Israelis display Palestinian and Israeli flags at a rally where thousands demonstrated in commemoration of the fourth anniversary of the PLO Israel interim peace accord, more popularly known as the Oslo Peace Agreement. *[Reuters/RNS photo]*

Canadian wins second Emmy

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

NEW YORK — It was deja vu at the recent Emmy Awards ceremony when Associated Producers, a Toronto-based documentary film company, won for excellence in investigative journalism a second year in a row.

The Emmy, awarded for *The Selling of Innocents*, a film about the sexual exploitation of young girls in India, was presented at the 18th annual News and Documentary Awards in New York last week.

An elated Simcha Jacobovici, co-founder of Associated Producers, spoke with *The CJN* in a phone interview from Toronto the morning after a late-night victory celebration in Manhattan. "Not bad for an Orthodox kid from Riverdale," he joked.

"I'm very excited. The Emmy award in investigative journalism is one of the most coveted of all news awards...To be in the big leagues [with major U.S. networks] and walk away with the Emmy twice is beyond one's dreams."

The Selling of Innocents

He pointed out that last year, the company scored an unprecedented victory by being the first organization outside the American mainstream news establishment to win the "plum" of news awards.

The victory is "a David and Goliath story," because Associated Producers was pitted against U.S. networks like ABC, CNN and CBS, which have multi-million-dollar budgets, he said. "They have amazing resources. Then you're looking at a little production company that spent $275,000 (US). It's not David against Goliath. It's midget David."

He said *The Selling of Innocents* had a "fairy tale scenario, from a filmmaking point of view," because initially broadcasters considered the subject matter too obscure and rejected his proposal, and now the film has won four of the most prestigious television awards: the Emmy; the Gold Plaque, Chicago International Film Festival; the Gold Apple, National Education Media Network; and the Silver Nymph, 1997 Monte Carlo Television Festival.

Continued on page 46

EARLY DEADLINE

Advertising deadline for the Oct. 1, 1997 issue are as follows: Classified/Organization ads, Tuesday, Sept. 23, 3 p.m.; Regular display advertising, Wednesday, Sept. 24, at noon.

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Mubarak expresses optimism — please see page 47

The News in Brief

CANADA

Holy Blossom Foundation

TORONTO — The first synagogue-related foundation in Canada, established by Holy Blossom Temple, was recently approved by the federal and provincial governments.

The founding chair of the foundation is Wendy Eisen and the vice-chair is Hershell Ezrin. Funds raised through the foundation will be used for the 60-year-old building and to enhance educational, worship and communal activities, Eisen said.

Rabbi Leaves London

LONDON, Ont. — The London Jewish community said goodbye to Rabbi David Rosenberg, this past summer.

Rabbi Rosenberg, who served as spiritual leader of Beth Tefilah Synagogue, left London to become Hillel director at the University of Chicago.

Also in London, Hillel Boroditsky recently assumed the position of executive director of the London Jewish Federation.

Born in Winnipeg, Boroditsky was an associate campaign director with the Montreal Combined Jewish Appeal for seven years and then spent four years as executive director of the Edmonton Jewish Federation.

New Federation President

EDMONTON — Steven Mandel was recently elected as president of the Jewish Federation of Edmonton.

Originally from Windsor, Ont., Mandel has lived in Edmonton for 24 years.

Poster Contest

TORONTO — JIAS Canada has launched a national poster contest in honor of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services' 75th anniversary.

The theme of the contest is Life as a Jewish Immigrant in Canada and is open to children in three age categories: five to seven; eight to 11 and 12 to 15. The deadline for submissions is Nov. 15.

For further information call 416-630-9051 ext. 4, fax 416-630-1376 or e-mail [briks@jon.cfny.org].

Library Web Site

TORONTO — The Albert and Temmy Latner Jewish Public Library of Toronto launched its own home page last week, allowing the facility to extend its services beyond the Toronto area by answering reference questions by e-mail [alephtav@idirect.com].

The site address is [http://webhome.idirect.com/~alephtav/index.htm].

Helping Mazon Canada

TORONTO — A "lounge night" at the Taboo Wine Bar and Grill on Yonge Street is the first in a series of promotions aimed at benefiting Mazon Canada while fostering "commuter campus culture" at York University.

Mingle Productions, a project of Elliott and Sandy Hurst, is planning a number of the theme-oriented evenings.

The Hursts, who attended York University, said the first event scheduled for Sept. 27 is co-presented by CHRY 105.5 FM, the campus radio station. Mazon Canada was chosen as a beneficiary of the funds raised because "hunger and poverty are a reality for 2.5 million Canadians. Also, Mazon is looking to increase its exposure in the 19 to 28 age segment," said Elliott Hurst.

ISRAEL

Training Accident

JERUSALEM — Two Israeli air force pilots were hurt, one seriously, in a training accident with an F-16 fighter jet in southern Israel.

The pilots, an instructor and student, were on a training flight when a malfunction occurred, possibly because a bird flew into an engine.

The two bailed out, sustaining their injuries when they landed among cliffs near Mitzpe Ramon in the Negev.

Daylight Saving Ends

JERUSALEM — Daylight saving time ended in Israel on Saturday night. There is now a six-hour time difference between Israel and Eastern Daylight Time.

Unemployment Rising

JERUSALEM — Unemployment in Israel has reached its highest rate in three years with the development towns in the periphery being most affected. In Netivot, unemployment is running at 11.6 percent, double the rate of a year ago.

At the same time, Israel's growth rate has dropped to 2.5 percent, from six percent three years ago.

British Jews Mourn Princess Diana

LONDON — In what is being called "an unprecedented gesture of tribute," Britain's Jews joined their countrymen – and the world – in paying respects to Princess Diana.

Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, who declined to attend Diana's semi-state funeral service because it occurred on Shabbat, instructed all members of the Orthodox United Synagogue, the country's main synagogue body, to "join in the national mood of remembrance," his office said.

He also wrote a prayer for her, which began: "Almighty God, we come before You today, sharing in the grief of the British people and the world, at the untimely and sudden death of Diana, Princess of Wales."

It was recited in synagogues when the funeral ceremony for Diana started at Westminster Abbey on Saturday morning. Sermons were dedicated to her memory and synagogues observed a national silence at the end of the Abbey service.

The Canadian Jewish news

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Dayan calls for end to occupation

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A fiery speech by Labor MK Yael Dayan, daughter of the late Moshe Dayan, sparked cheers and jeers from audience members on different sides of the political divide.

A strong proponent of peace, Dayan told some 400 people at Holy Blossom Temple last week that Israel must end its occupation of the West Bank and adopt a more conciliatory policy towards Yasser Arafat and the Palestinians.

Palestinians in the West Bank have "natural rights to their own land" and deserve to be treated with dignity, she said. "How can we think of depriving others of what we want for ourselves?"

Not one to mince words, Dayan castigated the Likud government for perpetuating Israel's "immoral occupation" of the West Bank. "It does not adhere to any value system Jews believe in."

Israel should be a model of tolerance, she added.

"Jews can make a contribution to the world because we have paid a price. We should be tolerant and understanding and not inflict suffering on others."

Humiliating Palestinians by confiscating and bulldozing their property strips them of their motivation to support the peace process and fight Hamas, and increases their susceptibly to extremist influences, she charged.

Israel should be supporting Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who is "under pressure from all sides" and not make the "end of terrorism a precondition for peace," Dayan said.

"We are weakening him. His power is limited. He cannot pay for Hamas' acts [of terror]. It [weakening Arafat] lowers the degree to which he can combat terrorism" and reduces his means "to inject hope into his people.

"When Arafat is weak, we are losing. Peace is a win-win situation...Arafat can only be strong with Israeli and American support."

Palestinians deserve "a viable piece of land" and to achieve this, Israel must be prepared to give up many of its settlements, she said.

The majority of Jews have not flocked to the West Bank because they "don't want to live in someone else's home," she noted. "We [Israelis] want to live. We don't want to die for Hebron."

Dayan accused Prime Minister Benjamin Natanyahu of killing the peace process with his hardline policy and reneging on his 1996 campaign promise to proceed with the Oslo Accord, which is supported by 75 percent of Israelis.

She said the majority of Israelis want peaceful coexistence with their neighbors and recognize there's a cost to peace. Exchanging land for peace is a price worth paying to improve the country's moral fabric and quality of life, she added.

Siyum Hashas of Daf Yomi expected to draw about 5,000

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Up to 5,000 people are expected to attend the 10th Siyum Hashas of Daf Yomi at the Metro Convention Centre on Sept. 28 at 6 p.m.

They will join an estimated 70,000 Jews in 35 cities across the United States and Canada marking the event. The program will include a satellite hookup with the gathering at Madison Square Gardens in New York City, where every seat was sold out within three days of going on sale, and with Nassau Coliseum in Los Angeles.

The guest speaker in Toronto will be Rabbi Aaron Dovid Dunner, from London, England.

The Daf Yomi program was initiated in 1923 by Rabbi Meir Shapiro, the rabbi of Lublin, in Poland. Participants undertake to study the entire Talmud, one page a day, in a 7½-year cycle. Everyone in the program, wherever they are in the world, studies the same page on the same day.

The first Daf Yomi Siyum Hashas took place in Lublin at Yeshiva Chachmei Lublin on Feb. 2, 1931. The last one, the ninth, was based in New York and was marked all over the world, including Toronto.

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NEVER TOO OLD

"Often, there are only one or two Jewish residents in a nursing home. I am glad that I can do something that gives me satisfaction, but also brightens and enriches the lives of the seniors," beams Helen. "I feel terrific that I can provide the Yiddish connection for them."

Rose Bell, 85, a resident at Cheltenham Nursing Home couldn't be happier with Helen's visits. "It's wonderful to be able to talk about Jewish holidays and reminisce about the past," says Rose. "You're never too old to learn new things."

REMARKABLE DIFFERENCE

"The real joy is that I truly believe what I am doing makes a difference. I see some 85 and 90 year old people sing to Hebrew music or recite passages from the Hagadah – it's remarkable," says Helen. "These are people who would not have the opportunity to be exposed to their Jewish customs."

The Chaplaincy Service emphasizes the belief that all Jews wherever they live are important members of our community. It's another example of UJA Federation Funding in Action.

Greater Toronto Area

Peretz essay on Zionism a tour de force

In this paper, as indeed throughout the Anglo-Jewish media, articles have appeared all year on the subject of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the modern Zionist movement.

The first Zionist conference in Basel 100 years ago was actually held on the weekend of Aug. 29, and into the first days of September. That explains why a flurry of such features have appeared in recent days .

By far, the most ambitious and the best of those features that I have seen is the special "section" on the subject published in the Sept. 5 and 12 issue of *The New Republic (TNR)*. It is entitled Zionism at 100 and it has three parts.

The first part is an essay by Martin Peretz. The second is a symposium of 16 prominent writers and thinkers each of whom contributes approximately 1,000 words on the subject of Zionism. The third part comprises The Diarist's page, what regular TNR readers will recognize as the desultory-like musings and thoughts that appear on the inside back page. The contributor in this issue is Leon Wieseltier, TNR's literary editor.

Peretz' essay is a sharp contrast in scope and in mood to that of Halkin. It is a tour de force. In more than 10,000 words, it sweeps across the past 100 years, recalling history and human labor and reflecting upon the result. It is called "The God That Did Not Fail." It is a primer on the Zionist movement; it is informative, expansive and even entertaining.

Naturally enough, it begins with an outline of the silhouette cast by the giant, Theodor Herzl. Peretz writes forcefully but not fawningly, as can be seen by his concluding paragraph, part of which I excerpt:.

"Herzl had eight years in the limelight, eight years in the cause. He died in 1904 at the age of 44 and we have many testimonies to the press of Jewish humanity that massed at his funeral in Vienna. The movement that he founded went on, and on, to victory, but his own family collapsed..."

Peretz provides the reader a "deep" context for the rise, struggle, achievements, failures and ultimate success of Zionism. And he is certainly not reluctant to make broad, bold assertions.

"If socialism was the God that failed, then Zionism was the God that did not fail. I do not mean to say that Zionism was, or is, a God. It was too rambunctious, too contentious and too democratic to become an orthodoxy.

"But Zionism was an ideology, emerging from the high tides of ideologies, and its secular, worldly promise was certainly revolutionary. Of all the modern promises of transformation, Zionism is the only one to have accomplished what it set out to do – and to have done so with reasonable decency. The narrative of this century is cluttered with brutalized hopes, brutalized bodies, brutalized language. Socialism, communism, Third Worldism, pan-Arabism, even neutralism: all these isms, with their grandiose aims and their callous means...are already receding into the mists of time."

Peretz does not so much "conclude" his essay as he does provoke more last page thought.

"The Zionists brought to Zion at least three advantages.The first was pragmatism, practicality, a willingness to compromise. Their state is itself a monument to compromise...

"The second advantage was that the Zionists came with a confident notion of what their nation was, a confidence springing from the fact that this was the nation that more or less invented the idea of peoplehood.

"The third advantage was the advantage of the modern. For this reason, Zionism was a genuine revolution in its region. Was modernity a foreign, Western import, as the critics like to say? Of course. That is why it worked." *MBD*

Kol Hakovod, Voice of Dignity

TORONTO — Thirteen Canadian rabbis from diverse backgrounds have formed a group to help promote respect and cooperation within the Jewish community.

Meeting recently in Montreal under the auspices of Canadian Jewish Congress' religious and interreligious affairs committee chair Ottawa Rabbi Reuven Bulka, the group was assembled to discuss the divisiveness that exists among rabbis and Jewish communities around the world.

"This urgent meeting was greeted with a genuine spirit of camaraderie and resolve," Rabbi Bulka noted. "During discussions, it became evident that we must move beyond bland declarations of support for Jewish communal unity, and toward active promotion of community cohesion in an atmosphere of respect and mentshlechkeit."

The group,'called Kol Hakovod, Voice of Dignity, is comprised of Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbis. It hopes to implement a number of ideas, among them:

- having all Canadian rabbis affiliated with synagogues listed in Congress' national synagogue directory;
- setting up an Internet site to enable the public to access information and contribute ideas;
- establishing a national Kol Hakovod Day, which might include solidarity rallies.

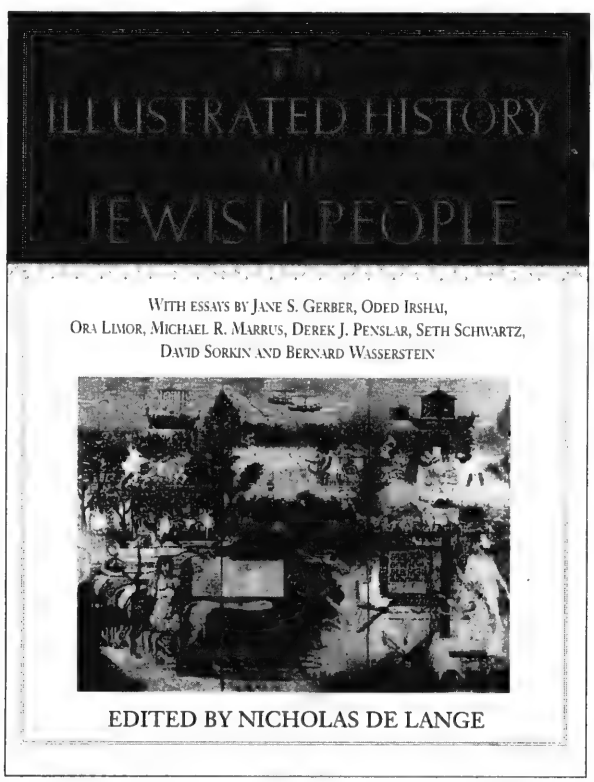
Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple observed that "this first meeting was small, but a small step in a process which we hope will be inclusive and lead to mutual respect and a better understanding of each other."

Rabbi Philip Scheim of Beth David Congregation suggested that in many ways, the tenor of the initial meeting reflected the overwhelming sentiment of Canadian Jewry.

"We believe that there is a consensus in the community to find a way to acknowledge our differences and move forward together," he said.

A session involving pulpit rabbis from the various streams of Judaism is being considered for the Congress national plenary next May in Winnipeg.

"It is our hope that our organization can be the bridge of understanding to ensure unity and civil discourse among Canadian Jewry," noted Congress president Goldie Hershon.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Greater Toronto Area

CZF won't hold elections for delegates to WZO

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There will be no elections for Canadian delegates to the upcoming World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem.

As well, Canada's share of delegates to the congress, to take place in December, has been reduced from the 21 it had last time, to 15 or 16 this time.

The Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF) has decided not to hold nation-wide elections for delegates, saying they would be too costly and expend energy in the wrong direction.

The CZF cancelled elections for the last congress, in 1992, citing the expenses involved. This time, apart from expenses, CZF president Kurt Rothschild says constituent agencies and their roughly 25,000 members "don't have the stomach" for a vote.

Rothschild says he's "implacably opposed" to elections for delegates anyway, saying they are expensive, divisive and can produce skewed results.

Rothschild assures that Canadian delegates to the congress will be divided fairly across the religious and political spectrum by CZF member agencies.

Canada has "strongly urged" the WZO for more delegates, and its reduced allotment will be appealed, but Rothschild doesn't expect the number to change.

The reason the number of Canadian delegates was reduced is because of the overall reallocation and reduction of delegates the world over, and not because Canada has less clout, Rothschild explained in a *CJN* interview

World Zionist congresses are held every four or five years and bring Zionists to Israel from around the world to hammer out priorities and policies of the World Zionist Organization (WZO). Some 500 delegates are expected at the coming congress, the 33rd, to take place Dec. 23 to 27. It will also mark the 100th anniversary of the first congress in Basel.

Traditionally, Israel receives 38 percent of delegates, and the United States 29 percent, with the remainder from the rest of the world.

The WZO shares responsibility for the $500 million (US) annual budget of the Jewish Agency, its organizational partner, with most of that money earmarked for immigrant absorption and education. A sizeable portion of those funds comes from North American United Jewish Appeals.

At the 1992 congress, Orthodox Zionists (from the organizations Mizrachi and Emunah) had the most delegates among the Canadians, with five, followed by Reform Zionists (from Kadima) with four, and Conservatives (from Mercaz) with three. The remainder were divided among smaller factions, which, because of the reduced number of delegates allotted to Canada, may be frozen out this time.

Rothschild, in the meantime, is critical of the election of delegates from the United States, which will send 145 representatives to the congress.

Nasty campaign

Roughly 150,000 ballots have been mailed to would-be voters in the United States, and the campaign has become nasty, fueled by "hot-button" issues like Israel's conversion bill.

For Reform and Conservative Zionists in the United States, religious pluralism has become the central issue. The two were also the most ardent champions of elections, seeking to shift power away from the Orthodox (and Likud) camp.

Mailings from ARZA, the U.S. Reform body's Zionist arm, show a Star of David fractured in two to reflect, presumably, the divisions sown by Orthodox and right-wing parties in Israel.

The American Friends of Likud, meantime, are distributing a videotaped appeal by Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert to "defend" the city "against the viciousness of [Yasser] Arafat and the Palestine Authority."

While Rothschild doesn't deny there are heated opinions in Canada, at least they won't be aired publicly.

"Zionist strength should be derived from working together and being united in purpose – to support the state of Israel – rather than engaging in inter-group, public controversies."

Rothschild said he's not aware of any country but the United States to hold elections for delegates. The American vote has produced "disharmony and divisiveness that undermine the strength and relevance of the WZO" and "are not a reflection of true democracy."

The cost of the U.S. election "is inappropriate" at a time funds could be better spent on education and social needs, Rothschild added.

Elections are prescribed under the WZO's constitution, which Rothschild terms "out of step with reality" and "not necessarily conducive to the democratic process." The delegate selection process "should be less democratic and more a mosaic. Our primary task is not necessarily an exercise in democracy but to give expression to different viewpoints in a fair manner."

The U.S. delegation, Rothschild predicts, will be sharply divided along religious and political lines. Canadian Zionists, he stressed, will be "represented fairly. There is a good understanding among all groups."

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Greater Toronto Area

Baycrest, Kehilla join to build seniors' housing

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care and the Kehilla Residential Programme have joined forces to build a seniors housing project planned with an eye on the future.

Stephanie Olin-Chapman, executive director of Kehilla, a non-profit housing agency whose mandate is to provide affordable housing for the Jewish community, says the project is among the first of its kind in Canada. It will be located on Neptune Drive, on land previously occupied by Associated Hebrew Schools.

"It is similar to American models in that the building is designed to permit aging in place," says Chapman.

As people age, she explains, their physical abilities change and the apartments will be built to accommodate these changes.

"All doorways will be wide enough for wheelchairs, the bathroom will be prepared to install a grab bar and there will be room throughout the apartment to manoeuvre a walker. As well, the light switches will be at the right level, the floor will be non-slip and pre-wiring will be done for an emergency all-call system. These are things that will permit a person to continue to live independently in their own home. If someone visits, however, they will not notice anything is different."

Moshe Greengarten, vice-president, public and community affairs at Baycrest Centre, says that the Jewish community is older than the general population in the area and it is important to address its needs. "This will be a supportive, seniors-only environment, and the design and services are geared to them. We plan to offer a homemakers service, meal service and visiting nurses. There is also the possibility of an on-site doctor's office. It's a great location because it is close to Baycrest; so people can buy into its services without being part of the institution."

The apartments, which will be available in one-bedroom, two-bedroom and two-bedroom with a den, are "life equity" units, which differ from condominiums in that the resident purchases a right to occupy a specific unit, rather than purchasing the title to their unit. They hope to have a number of units available as rentals, says Greengarten.

The purchaser of a life equity unit, he says, makes a lump sum prepayment which covers the cost of developing and constructing the units and common areas. The life equity operating agreement provides seniors with the right to occupy their unit for as long as they desire or are able. When it is time to move, the non-profit corporation buys back the lease or arranges for a transfer to the next resident. There are no real estate agents or marketing concerns.

Residents, he says, share in the monthly operating costs through payment of a break-even monthly occupancy fee, which includes common area costs and maintenance fees.

He adds that the life equity concept allows them to restrict residency to seniors. "A condominium corporation cannot do this. Anyone can buy a condominium."

He says several focus groups will be held throughout the fall for seniors and their relatives, so that prospective purchasers can have input into what features they would like to see in the apartments. "The first purchasers will have the opportunity to have their suite custom-built."

Apartments should be ready for occupancy by spring or summer of 1999. For information call 932-2560.

REENA'S BATTLE CENTRE OPENS

Ontario Community and Social Services Minister Janet Ecker and Reena client David Taub helped cut the ribbon last week to Reena's Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre in Thornhill. The facility will offer several day programs for the developmentally disabled. [Gabriel Csillag photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Groups meet with 'synagogue' plaza owner

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — Jewish community officials were tight-lipped but confident that a resolution will soon be reached on the City of David Messianic Synagogue in Thornhill, following a meeting last week with the owner of the plaza in which the congregation is located.

The owner, Aetna Canada, "did not rule out the possibility" that the congregation could be induced to leave the plaza, said Moshe Ronen, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region.

Community leaders who met with Aetna, including those from B'nai Brith and Jews for Judaism, "made it clear that we are demanding that this tenant cease to be a tenant," Ronen said, adding Aetna did not discount that option.

Inducing City of David to leave is "among the options being considered," Patricia Smith, Aetna's senior vice-president, told *The CJN*. "But I don't think the tenant wants that. One of the reasons he's in that location is because he wants to be there."

Smith said lawyers for Aetna are examining the congregation's recently signed six-year lease, and are looking "at a number of options."

One of them, she explained, is to force the congregation, whose adherents say they are Jews who worship Jesus, to change its two signs, from synagogue to church.

Aetna undertook the meetings with Jewish groups in order to better understand the situation, she said. "Our understanding has grown every day. We're now in a position where we are trying to resolve the needs of a community [in which] those needs are diverse."

Aetna is scheduled to meet the congregation's spiritual leader, Jeff Forman, this week, while a followup meeting with CJC is slated for mid-week, at which time a resolution may be arrived at.

Ronen was upbeat about the meeting, saying CJC is "satisfied" Aetna is taking the matter "very seriously."

He said the company indicated it would explore "other avenues," but that there was an agreement that details would not be disclosed.

Ronen said he's willing to give the owners the benefit of the doubt, but warned that "pressure" would continue and "various legal options" explored should a resolution prove unsatisfactory.

The congregation, at the corner of Bathurst Street and Steeles Avenue, in the heart of Jewish Thornhill, has been at the centre of a huge storm in the Jewish community, with charges that it is an evangelical church masquerading as a synagogue, and will target vulnerable Jews for conversion.

Critics of the congregation say it chose its location carefully and deliberately in order to reach out to Jews and Jewish immigrants.

There have been several boisterous protests outside the congregation, with area politicians, members of the public and former members of the Jewish Defence League denouncing it as deceptive. Regular demonstrations are planned.

Julius Ciss, director of the counter-missionary group, Jews for Judaism, says he's received warnings that there will be arrests for loitering and blocking traffic should the militant nature of the protests continue.

Ciss said he got a good sense that Aetna wants the matter defused.

"We want [the congregation] out," he said. "But it may have every legal right to be there."

Jews for Judaism will hold a town hall meeting on the controversy on Sept. 29 at 8 p.m. at the Sephardic Kehila Centre, just north of the plaza.

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Dry Bones
ARAFAT HAS PROMISED TO FIGHT TERRORISM
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Dangerous deceivers

It is not an exaggeration to say that the demographic heart of the Jewish community of Greater Toronto is at or near the intersection of Bathurst Street and Steeles Avenue.

Joining North York to Thornhill, the intersection teems with Jewish life. It pulsates with the rhythms, colors, customs, scents and cuisines of many different Jewish cultures: Canadian, Israeli, Russian, Moroccan, to name the most prevalent. The area is as close to a modern reincarnation as we have ever seen of the post-World War II cacophonous Jewish immigrant neighborhoods bursting with exploration, urgency, excitement and creativity. The smooth, perfect dome on the roof of the newly-opened Sephardic Kehila Centre dominates the landscape, sublime architectural proof of the Jewish vitality of the neighborhood.

Into that neighborhood however, has come a group of dangerous deceivers. And the Jewish community must now be alert.

Just over a month ago, an outpost of Christian proselytizers, appeared in one of the small shopping plazas in the intersection's northwest corner. But they had neither the honesty nor the integrity to identify themselves as what they truly are, namely a church. Rather, they presented themselves to the public as a synagogue. They call themselves City of David Messianic Synagogue. City of David is written both in English and in Hebrew.

The deception is double.

A synagogue is where Jewish prayers are heard, where Jewish doctrine is practised, where Jewish theology is taught and where the Jewish faith is worshipped. City of David is not a synagogue. The use of the term is fraudulent as is the use of Hebrew on their sign. Both usages are insidious, calculated only to create the association with Judaism and therefore the assumption in the mind of the unknowing public that the place is Jewish. And that association, of course, is a magnet, drawing toward it the confused, the curious and always the lonely.

The danger, of course, lies in their purpose, which is to convert Jews away from our Judaism. They openly admit to wanting to "reach Jews."

But we as an organized community must resist their furtive grasp. Julius Ciss, executive director of Jews for Judaism, identified the group as being "part of the fundamentalist Protestant movement. As reported in *The CJN*, he issued "an urgent warning to Toronto's Jewish community." We must be wary, Ciss said. By employing Hebrew and other Jewish trappings, they succeed in pulling in vulnerable people, such as seniors, recent immigrants and the young.

The issue for us is not the attempt to proselytize Jews away from the faith of our forebears, although we find the attempt to do so an indignity and contemptible. Jewish history is full of the pain and the loss caused by proselytizers. But Canadian law enshrines the right to proselytize. We take no issue with Canadian law.

The issue for us is the manner by which this group exercises its right. They venture into the very core of Toronto's Jewish world and by guile and deceit, lure their prey into their anti-Jewish snare.

We commend our community leaders who are seeking to counter the behavior of the church. They must not waver in their efforts.

Nor should we, the community, yield to this obtrusive, offensive conduct. The deceivers who dwell in that false city of David must be told that we consider what they have done and what they are trying to do, to be villainous and vile, an assault against Jews and no less harmful to us merely because our bodies do not bleed.

THE FIRST ZIONIST CONFERENCE, BASEL 1897

"Many (western) Jews try to save themselves by flight from Judaism. But racial anti-Semitism denies the power of change by baptism, and this mode of salvation does not seem to have much prospect."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Born Sept. 17, 1879, Peter Bercovitch was the first Jewish member of the National Assembly of Quebec (1917 - 1938).*(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Let the woman give the man a *get*

Let me offer three reasons why a woman should be permitted to give a man a *get* under Jewish law.

The first reason is simply that it is a gross injustice to associate the interpretation of Deuteronomy 24:1 to mean that only the man can give a *get* to his wife. The abuses of this power are well known. This interpretation of Deuteronomy 24:1 has caused great suffering.

The second reason is the way in which this interpretation undermines the dignity of Jewish law. There have been moves by the secular state as a remedy for this deficiency in Jewish law to establish laws against the placing of religious obstacles to marriage. Thus, this interpretation undermines the scriptural idea that "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people" [Deuteronomy 4:6], by virtue of its possession and understanding of the Torah.

The third reason is the text of Deuteronomy 24:1 itself, the source of the belief that only the husband may give a *get*. The text of Deuteronomy 24:1 states "that he write her a bill of divorce and place it in her hand *ve-shlichah*..."

There is a peculiarity about the word *shlichah*, which the Talmud in Kiddushin 41a notes. The rabbis observed that it can be interpreted in two senses and discussed the matter in relation to certain rights of betrothal available to women.

The text of Deuteronomy 24:1 applies, in the first place, to divorce not to betrothal. But the rabbis read out of this verse concerning divorce, prerogatives concerning betrothal enjoyed by women.

If they were able to find this meaning from the text, should we not then also understand that the prerogative of divorce may be held by women a priori?

David Bakan
Prof. of Psychology Emeritus
York University
Toronto

Rejects idea of Torah codes

Barry Levy was not only very diplomatic, but truly scholarly in commenting on the issue of so-called hidden Torah codes, which have the power of predicting the future. He did note that so far the "decoders" have only been able to predict the past. (*CJN*, Aug. 7 and 14)

In a letter to the editor, David Weinper asserted the belief that Torah does contain hidden, secretly coded messages predicting future events.

If Torah does contain so many hidden secret messages predicting the future, it must be concluded:

- In view of the Shoah, Torah scholars have done a lousy job of studying the holy text because they did not spot the Holocaust's occurrence prior to its massive devastation.
- We are worshipping some kind of demon who loves to play games with its devotees, by very cleverly hiding such information as its planned mass torture and destruction of these people.
- Life is some kind of giant crossword puzzle created by that demon.

Hence, it appears that the ideas of divinely hidden codes in the Torah text lead to rather impossible theological implications that are not only absurd but especially perverse.

If such hidden codes truly did exist, then I would have to reject all of Torah and Judaism because that way of life would be no better than a life lived in accordance with the fortune card teller's hand, let alone some kind of giant crossword puzzle.

Since I am not prepared to reject Torah and Judaism, I therefore must reject the ideas of hidden codes in Torah.

Remy Landau
Toronto

A statistical approach to Torah codes

I would like to criticize the otherwise well written two-part article on Bible codes (Aug. 7 and 14) by Barry Levy, professor of Jewish studies. First, why did you not assign this topic to a mathematician who could discuss whether the codes are statistically significant?

Second, there is an assumption by Levy and others that deciphering codes in the Bible is an arcane method and off-limits. I have attended lectures on the Torah codes and I was enthralled by the research.

If the Bible serves as a work of literature, a fount of inspiration, and a source of morality and how to conduct one's life, why can it not also be observed from a mathematical perspective? After all, it is in mathematics that one finds elegance and beauty.

It is interesting to note that the first word and first sentence of the Hebrew Bible are composed of six and 28 letters, the first two perfect numbers (a perfect number is equal to the sum of its divisors). Moreover, the sentence is also composed of seven words, a highly significant number in the Torah.

Jacob Mendlovic
Toronto

A.M. Klein edited Canadian Jewish Chronicle

Re: the excellent article "A.M. Klein was a giant in Canadian literature" (*CJN*, Aug. 28).

Klein wrote his hundreds of articles, editorials and poems in the English-language *Canadian Jewish Chronicle* (which he edited for nearly 30 years), not in its sister publication, the Yiddish-language *Kanader Adler* (*Canadian Jewish Eagle*).

Lewis Levendel
Toronto

Editor's Note: Levendel is author of A Century of The Canadian Jewish Press: 1880s-1980s *published in 1990 by Borealis Press, Ottawa.*

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

The healing American influence

By ABBA EBAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Public opinion surveys have consistently shown that support for the Oslo peace process is greater than the combined strength of any two or three political parties. This reality was expressed in Foreign Minister David Levy's warning this week that he "would not remain in a government that would destroy the peace." There is probably a majority in the Knesset who share this view.

This means that if any of the parties intends to use the current crisis to jettison treaty obligations, it may have to revise its thinking, especially if the U.S. position is still firmly anchored in the principle of exchanging captured territories for durable peace.

Enthusiasm for Oslo is understandably not at a record high today. But it is sustained by the total absence of any alternative and by the certainty that other formulas would darken the only realistic prospect that has illuminated Israeli life since the White House encounter in 1993. The nation is simply not in a mood to abandon the Oslo accords.

Until recently, Israel had to seek its alliances far outside the Middle East. In World War I, the auspices were British. After World War II, the UN, in a rare surge of U.S.-Soviet cooperation, gave in to a decisive impulse to recognize Israel as a sovereign nation.

For a "brief shining moment" in the 1950s, France supplied the weaponry and strategic deterrent that made victories possible. In all the ensuing decades, the United States has supported Israel's security with unflagging vigilance and constancy.

The administrations of Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres were the first to remind Israelis that no extraneous friendship, however warm, can compensate for the absence of a harmonious regional order.

The priority of regional concern seems to have receded since our recent election. While it lasted, the results were sensational. Within a single year, we had peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan, relations at various diplomatic levels with Morocco, Tunisia, Oman, Qatar and Mauritania, and enhanced relations with Turkey, together with the effective suspension of the Arab economic boycott.

The European Union (EU)– our chief market for expanding trade and technological support – also developed a creative diplomatic role. Economic conferences at Casablanca, Amman, Cairo and Washington brought bankers, industrialists and economic experts together to examine serious regional projects. There was an improved environment for Israel in the Vatican and at the UN.

It is outrageous for A.M. Rosenthal to write in the *New York Times* that "Egypt's idea of peace is nastiness and insult." Those who profess friendship for Israel should not pollute the air with their undisciplined virulence.

The unravelling of these achievements has been dramatic. It cannot be overcome by appeals to one of the parties alone. The movement for peace began with Egypt and could not have begun anywhere else. Egypt is now irascible; Jordan is alienated; Morocco does not welcome Israeli leaders; Qatar is reluctant to assemble investors; the members of the EU are puzzled by the vagaries of Israeli policies.

It is sad to reflect that our most consensual hour may be behind us, not ahead of us.

The achievements of 1996 could not have collapsed without negative "contributions" from the Palestinian and Israeli leadership alike. The key to success for Madeleine Albright's mission is convergence. Both parties must move; neither has the option of standing still.

Yasser Arafat is the principal person to whom Albright must turn for remedy and change, but the idea that peace can be reconstructed on the basis of a virtually imprisoned Palestinian population, held in a squalid vice of economic decay and administrative subjection, is too grotesque for the imagination to sustain. The punitive measures imposed since the Machane Yehuda tragedy were always disproportionate and unselective.

American interests are one of the major considerations now at issue. The peace process could never have developed any dynamism without active U.S. sponsorship. Both parties, Israeli and Palestinian, were the beneficiaries of its early successes. Arafat's embrace of a Hamas leader was an error of grandiose proportions. It violated every canon of sanity, decency and common sense.

The readiness of the United States to enter the complexities of this situation did not come a single day too soon. In the present alignments of world power, there is no substitute for the moderating, pragmatic and potentially healing exercise of American influence. Nothing could be more perilous than for any party to represent the United States as impotent or lacking in reach. Whichever of them takes that risk will incur dire responsibility and heavy international guilt.

Abba Eban is a former Israeli foreign minister.

American Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Yasser Arafat met last week during her visit to the region. She minced no words in saying more was expected in the fight against terror. *[RNS/Reuters]*

Feeling fed up with Arafat

By HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

"It takes two parties to pursue peace, and both parties must want peace. I had thought up to this point that Yasser Arafat wants peace. I must say, honestly, I no longer believe that to be the case."

Following the bombings on Ben Yehuda Street two weeks ago, the above appeared in a statement issued by California Senator Dianne Feinstein. The senator has always been a leading supporter of the peace process, but until now, not really a critic of the PLO leader.

Feinstein says that viewing the television images of the casualties was one ugly experience too many, especially after Arafat's now-infamous embrace of Hamas leader Abdel Aziz Rantisi in Gaza two weeks earlier.

That hug undermined the PLO's already shaky image in the U.S. Congress, say lawmakers and observers.

Many of the condemnations issued by members of Congress after the bombings went beyond the usual outrage. They called for both an immediate cut-off of aid to the Palestinian Authority and a reassessment of U.S. involvement with Arafat.

Feinstein also expressed the view prevailing on Capitol Hill even before the recent attack, when she stated that Congress should not renew the now-lapsed Middle East Peace Facilitation Act (MEPFA), the law governing U.S. relations with the PLO.

While very little of the roughly $100 million in annual U.S. assistance to the Palestinians goes directly to the PA, Congress made its point that Arafat has crossed a dangerous threshold. A senior U.S. official said that following Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's visit to the region this week, the administration would approach Congress about legislating a new MEPFA.

A pro-Israel lobbyist called the Arafat-Rantisi hug "a watershed event for Congress. Most people I've spoken to on the Hill reacted the same way: Enough," he said. "Up to now, there's been a tolerance of this stuff. The combination of that meeting in Gaza with the bombing, has made people feel it's untenable. There had been a sense things would be okay. Now there's not. There's a sense maybe the guy's not serious."

In statements and letters to Albright after the latest bombing, several members of Congress pressed her to get tough with Arafat and keep security concerns front and center on the agenda.

Congress' bipartisan leadership coauthored a letter to Albright last week stating that if the Palestinians do not adopt the anti-terrorism steps she demanded in her Aug. 6 speech, "the U.S. has little else to talk to them about.

"Arafat and the leaders of the PA must live up to their solemn obligation or risk an end to the relationship with and support of the U.S.," they warned.

Feinstein still has faith in the peace process. But now, following the Ben Yehuda Street bombing, she says she's had enough.

"This one, for some reason, becomes almost like the straw that breaks the camel's back. And I think when it came following Yasser Arafat's embrace of Hamas leaders ...things that people in public office do become symbolic gestures. And these symbolic gestures send signals.

"I thought that Yasser Arafat wanted peace, [but] I am becoming more and more convinced that the chairman may not. And that disturbs me very much, because you can't negotiate unless both [sides] want peace.

"Now I'm the first one to say that I think there have been provocations, whether it's the [Western Wall] tunnel opening or Har Choma, things that could have been done differently. But I do not see the signals being sent out by the Palestinian leadership in a way that's definitive and positive and followed up with action, that have convinced me that Arafat isn't trying to carry water on both shoulders. When it comes to terror, I don't believe you can do that...

"I think this is an Israeli issue and Israelis have to speak for themselves," Feinstein says. "But I, for one, as a U.S. Senator on the Foreign Relations Committee, will not vote for renewal of MEPFA until I see some real progress made against terrorist organizations. And that includes rooting out their infrastructure, it includes arresting and imprisoning their leaders, their activists."

Asked whether cutting off MEPFA or financial assistance would hurt the Palestinian people, Feinstein is unapologetic.

"The Palestinian people also have to make up their minds whether they want peace and are willing to take a stand," she says. "There has to be a desire for peace on both sides. We know that terrorism is aimed at destroying peace; therefore, I think the time has come when the Palestinian people really have to indicate that they want peace."

Opinions

Stones From the River

Annually, Jews are exhorted to conduct a *cheshbon nefesh*, an accounting of our deeds over the past year. This is a painful process. Not only our deeds, the petty, nasty things we perpetrated on those close to us, but the sharp words we spoke, the vengeful intent behind our words, should be entered in the column of failures.

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

What about those attitudes we carry from year to year, hugging them close to our hearts and refusing to let go, even when they harm us? They are the hardest to deal with. This year a book I read brought this painfully home.

Stones From the River, by Ursula Hegi, is a fictional account of the life of Trudi Montag, a dwarf born in a small German town before World War I and growing up in the interwar and World War II periods. Considered a freak by the townspeople, she becomes at once the town scapegoat and its repository of secrets. Her already difficult life is irrevocably altered when she is assaulted by three boys, one of whom had been her only childhood friend. Her anger at her treatment, all the wounds and slights she has suffered, explodes. She hurls stone after stone into the river, cursing her life and her body.

The anger remains, although she and her father persevere, sheltering Jews fleeing the Nazis and trying to protect the Jews of the town. The war ends; the Jews are dead. The town comes back to life, with few men returning from the war and the majority of folk refusing to recognize their complicity in the Holocaust. Despite their suffering, they cling to their old attitudes. Trudi has lost her lover in the bombing of Dresden, her father has died; and yet it is to her that many now turn. At the end of the book, she is ready for the rest of life.

> Storytelling used to deal with her anger

In one scene she carefully constructs a tower of stone, this time to remember those she loved and those who loved her. And she reflects: "Yet, as her eyes followed the river, she could all at once see how the end of every motion became the beginning of the next, how the water that came up against a rock found a new pattern as it joined the rest of the stream, how the crest of every wave became the descent into the rocky hollow."

Why am I recounting this story? Because some few readers might remember that my very first column in this paper dealt with my encounter with the Holocaust. Coming to it as an adult, I remained more angry and bitter than many survivors I interviewed. This kind of hate and anger remains with me. How do I deal with it?

One way Trudi deals with her anger is to tell stories. Some are fantasies to amuse her few friends; others are cruel, to punish those who persecute her. In fact, the novel itself seems to be a story told by its author, a German-born American woman, to deal with her own feelings.

I begin by telling a story of my own.

I have a German-Canadian colleague. Like me, she was born as the war broke out. While as a child she and her family sent soldiers to the war, my family patrolled with the home guard. Her air-raids were real, mine were precautionary. We saved tin foil from things like gum wrappers and supposedly the large foil balls were turned in war material. She remembers allied planes dropping sheets of aluminum which, she was told, were to foil tracking of the bombers pounding Germany. By war's end, her family farm was the sole source of food for her large Catholic family. In Canada she is a successful businesswoman with many Jewish clients and friends, some of them survivors.

There are many things we do not say to each other, but there are many we share.

She is one stone in my tower of stones of forgiveness. I will have to seek out other stories, and like Trudi construct tower after tower until my *cheshbon nefesh* does not need to include this weight of hate.

Some crumbs for Tashlich

With Rosh Hashanah soon upon us, it is time to plan where to go to perform the ceremony of Tashlich and to determine which of our past actions need forgiveness.

By Shel Krakofsky in London

Tashlich is Hebrew for "cast" and it refers to the act of visiting a place of flowing water on the first day of the New Year and symbolically casting away the sins of the preceding year. The tradition is to throw crumbs of bread representing our sins into the water.

A friend of our family, call her Wendy, claims to have had such a bad year some time ago, she went down to the water very upset with herself. She did not lightly toss some crumbs. Wendy took an entire loaf of bread and with great force, heaved the whole thing into the water!

Tossing an entire loaf into the drink may be cathartic but it does lack a certain subtlety, delineation and introspection. Recently I received a list that is much more specific. Because I don't want to be accused of the sin of non-attribution, I tried to track down the source. It turned into a biblical quest of "begats." One person received it from another who gave it to somebody else who passed it on to etc. etc.

I still don't know the original source. Anyway, here is my list with changes and additions. Readers are welcome to add their own even as they proceed to the water thinking about what to throw in.

- for ordinary sins — white bread
- for exotic sins — croissants
- for the sin of apostasy — hot cross buns
- for sins of indecision — waffles
- for sins of haste — matzah
- for excessive irony — rye bread
- for sins of blandness — sponge cake
- for the sin of arson — toast
- for arson in Quebec — French toast
- for sexual impropriety — tarts
- for sins of injury — torts
- for twisted logic — pretzels
- for exaggerated hubris — baguette
- for very dark sins — pumpernickle
- for living an uncentred life — bagels
- for kissing up — brownies
- for the sin of fraud — fudge brownies
- for being spineless — eclairs
- for being a malcontent — sourdough
- for being silly — nut bread
- for telling bad jokes — corn bread
- for the sin of racism — crackers
- for being too tearful — onion rolls
- for being too cheerful — jelly donuts
- for complex sins — multigrain bread
- for tasteless sins — rice cakes
- for hardening one's heart — mandelbrot
- for being too soft — challah
- for too much chutzpah — fresh bread
- for no sins — angel cake (not so fast!)

To one and all, Shanah Tovah.

The Pope and the Jews

Anyone who attempts to write about someone else's religion touches a tender subject. Both reader and writer are, so to speak, put on trial. This is particularly true when writing about the Roman Catholic Church, which in the last decade, under the leadership of John Paul II, has forged strong links with our people.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

A recent article in the *New Yorker*, written by a Roman Catholic priest, combines in a unique way the adulation of the Pope by the writer and the yet unresolved agony that still exists in the souls of many, including his own. The piece, entitled *The Silence*, has the sub-heading "John Paul II has forged a new relationship between Catholics and Jews. He also upholds papal infallibility. To do so he must maintain the silence surrounding the Church and the Holocaust. Will that be his tragedy?"

The first part of the article by Father James Carroll is nothing less than a panegyric of John Paul: his enormous success in spreading the influence of the Church in all parts of the world; his indefatigable travels; and his ability to command the attention of the world when he makes a pronouncement. The article traces his path from his youth in Krakow — where his opposition to the Nazis first called him to the attention of his superiors and sent him on his way to Rome – all the way to the attempt on his life, his appeal across religious borders, which includes Muslims, his conservatism on the one hand and his liberalism on the other. And then there are the Jews to whom – with the exception of Pope John XXIII – he has been closer than any of his predecessors.

But there is the problem of the Holocaust. He has spoken of it movingly on many occasions and there is no question of the sorrow that he feels when this dreadful subject comes up for discussion. The only missing piece in the edifice of total reconciliation, writes Father Carroll, is his persistent silence about the role of the Church during the Nazi period. He has vigorously condemned the dehumanization that the Church practised with regard to the Jews in centuries past, but he has skirted the subject of the role that Pius XII played.

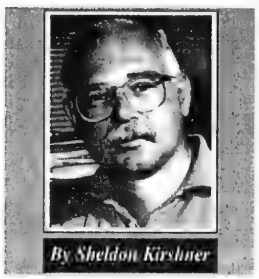
The Anti-Defamation League's Abraham Foxman has established a special relationship with John Paul. "When you talk to him it is as though the whole world does not exist. He talks only to you," he says.

But then Foxman turns to the subject of hidden Jews – those who as children were given to Catholic families in order to save their lives, but whose background has never been revealed to them or to the world. Foxman has become their advocate and so far, every appeal to the Church and to the Pope to take some remedial steps in this direction by opening the hidden records of the Church has fallen on deaf ears. That is "the silence" to which Father Carroll refers. It touches the past and concerns the present. The writer of this long and moving article is clearly agonizing over the moral dilemma that becomes apparent and will remain a blot on Catholic-Jewish relations as long as it is allowed to exist.

The Kirshner File

The kings of klezmer music

The Epstein Brothers, the irrepressible klezmer kings, were at full throttle on this Saturday night in Toronto,



By Sheldon Kirshner

pumping out a crescendo of rollicking music in a concert straight from the heart.

When Willie, the older brother, announced that the band was about to play its last number of the evening, a palpable groan of disappointment filled every crevice of the theatre at the Harbourfront Centre.

For a little more than an hour at the recent Festival of New Yiddish Culture (Ashkenaz), the Epsteins had dazzled the crowd, riding to artistic triumph on an infectious wave of nostalgia.

Clad in tight-fitting tuxedos, they played Romanian doinas, chassidic and Bessarabian dances and Russian and Hungarian medleys, among other show stoppers.

All eyes were on Willie, 78, who wailed on a trumpet until his face turned ruddy, and on his younger brother, Julie, 70, who sat buddha-like as he stirred up a storm on drums. They were backed up by Ray Musiker on clarinet, Peter Sokolow on piano and Paul Pincus on saxophone.

When they finished the final piece, which was as rousing and soulful as the preceding numbers, their fans rose in a collective tribute of hand-clapping admiration.

The Epsteins, the inimitable Epsteins, had done it again.

A day prior to the concert, Willie and Julie, attired in sports jackets and open-necked shirts, talked about themselves and their craft over breakfast at a hotel in downtown Toronto.

A living link to the golden age of klezmer music, the Epsteins achieved a measure of renown long before leaving an astonishing impression in *A Tickle in the Heart,* the delightful documentary which had its world premiere at last year's Toronto International Film Festival.

"We were known already before the movie," said Julie, a gruff, talkative Damon Runyonesque character.

"Now we're in the category of celebrities," allowed Willie, a gentler version of Julie.

Through attrition and injury, the Epsteins have been reduced from a foursome to a duo. Max, 85, the centre of attention in *A Tickle in the Heart,* was hurt in a car accident not too long ago and can no longer travel, while Isadore (Chi) died nine years ago. "We miss him terribly," said Willie, speaking of his deceased brother. "He lent a certain sound to the group. He was irreplaceable."

The Epsteins, who recently came out with a two-hour cassette of their recordings, were born in New York City's Lower East Side, the sons of East European immigrants. Samuel, the patriarch of the clan, arrived in America from Pinsk in 1906, a humble tailor who could not carry a musical note and who, Willie observed, tended to whistle in a monotone.

Most probably, the Epsteins' affinity for music can be traced to their energetic maternal grandfather, who was in his 70s when he took his first formal violin lesson.

"Max got into music first and he handed it down to us," said Julie. "It was like a trade. We grew up with klezmer. We learned from the masters. Alex Fidel. Yitzhik Drutin. Dave Tarras. Naftul Brandwein. We copied their style and adapted it to fit our own."

Back in those days, a musician usually had a day job and regarded music strictly as a sideline. The Epsteins, however, were different. "We were never anything but musicians. Our father wanted us to be honest and hard-working, and we were," said Julie.

They performed at weddings, bar mitzvahs and clubs, appeared on radio programs and churned out numerous records. "Unless you're a Yitzhak Perlman, you have to wear a lot of hats to make a living," noted Willie.

During the 1950s and 1960s, when they were at the previous height of their fame, the Epsteins never referred to themselves as klezmorim. "Klezmer wasn't in our lexicon. We called it 'Jewish music,'" explained Julie. "The 'klezmer' was the guy who played it."

When the Epsteins were younger, klezmer as an art form was in a state of decline, having been practically wiped out by the Holocaust. But by the late 1970s, the faint outline of a revival could be discerned. Bands such as the Chicago Klezmer Ensemble (which opened the Epsteins' concert at Ashkenaz), Kapelye, the Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band and the Klezmatics surfaced, creating a new generation of aficionados.

In the meantime, the Epsteins had moved to Florida, to a retirement community near Fort Lauderdale known as Tamarac, where they still reside with their families. From their base there, they wowed oldtimers who, in Willie's words, appreciated " the music you know and remember."

The Epsteins were "rediscovered" and cast into the wider world by Stefan Schwietert, a young Swiss documentarian who lived in Germany. He had thought in terms of making a film about the immortals of klezmer, but after interviewing the loquacious, colorful and telegenic Epsteins, he reportedly tore up the script and constructed *A Tickle in the Heart* around them.

A Tickle in the Heart, which garnered rave reviews in the general and Jewish press, was an affectionate portrait of the brothers and of klezmorim. It unfolded against the backdrop of a Berlin concert, Tamarac and environs, the old family homestead in Pinsk and the Lower East Side. The film not only revived their careers, but greatly revitalized klezmer.

Willie likes the film unreservedly. "It's marvellous."

Julie is still upset by the director's decision to excise several choice scenes, yet he acknowledges its importance. "How can I be critical when the film is a success."

Nowadays, the Epsteins do about 25 concerts a year. From Toronto, they embarked on a tour of Switzerland, Austria and Germany. "We haven't figured out why the Germans like our music," said Willie. "We accept German audiences for what they are. We're apolitical."

The Epsteins rarely rehearse. "We know everything we play," said Julie, not trying to sound boastful. Paradoxically, though, they never cease to be amazed by their capacity to learn "something new" in every concert.

"There is always a new wrinkle," said Willie. "As musicians, we try to be as knowledgeable as humanely possible."

Their objective always is to please fans. "We want people to leave singing and tapping." They attribute their popularity to an ability to produce "a different" sound.

Perhaps it appears arrogant, but the Epsteins consider themselves unique. "We're a one-of-a-kind band," said Julie.

Asked if klezmer will continue to flourish, the brothers were momentarily flummoxed. "It's impossible to say," Willie finally commented. But he is absolutely convinced that "young people" and their quest for "roots" gave klezmer its new lease on life.

The Epsteins, whose concerts usually last an hour and a half with an intermission, admit that "concertizing" can be a grind, particularly at their age.

"It's hard work, and the hardest part is travel and jet lag," said Julie. "We sleep whenever we can." He chuckled. "Our brains don't want to go as fast as we want to run, but on stage we're alert."

Despite their advanced years, they have no intention of quitting.

Julie: "I don't have to play golf to pass the time. Our avocation is our vocation."

Willie: "We'll go on until we drop dead."

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Humans bestow jewels that computers cannot

By REVA KAISER

I wonder if the art of human interaction is dying. The explosion of modern-day electronic, magnetic and wave technology has made machines increasingly prevalent, and although there are advantages to their accessibility and many uses for them, not all are beneficial.

As machines invade every aspect of our lives, the result is a greater dependence of man on machine, and less of man on man; as people become more dependent on machine, the loss of human interaction is the price we pay.

Modern technology is pervasive. People have been replaced by machines in almost every facet of society. As more time is spent in front of PCs and less with people, we are honing our technological skills but ignoring our social ones. This is dangerous, considering the fact that technology is tightening our world into a closely knit global village, and we must not forget the pre-technological survival code: social interaction.

Each social setting provides us with different opportunities to learn about people and from them. We must make a conscious effort to glean from humans all the jewels that computers cannot bestow on us.

Raised in a Torah-observant home and educated in Jewish day schools, I have been inculcated with many priceless social skills and values. I commend my parents and teachers for their efforts in teaching me the skills required to succeed and blossom in these environments.

But I am now well out of the Jewish day school system and spending more time away from home. This summer, I entered a third and new social environment: the workplace.

I anticipated all the useful technical skills I'd gain during my internship at *The Canadian Jewish News*: conducting interviews, writing articles and editing stories. But at the conclusion of the eight-week internship, I realized that I had learned far more. From observing others and from my own interactions with the same people, I developed more of an understanding and appreciation of positive human relationships; I witnessed how, even under stressful conditions, people can work together successfully. I discovered just how essential this cooperative element is to our social existence and mental well-being.

Reva Kaiser

There is much to learn from other people that computers cannot teach us. Machines convey little about cooperation, kindness, understanding or compassion. They are useless when guidance, assistance, assurance and motivating praise are required.

As a member of the younger generation, I realize that we cannot focus our lives on all-encompassing technology, we must remember that we are humans – and, as such, we must develop our humanitarian skills to their fullest potential. Life is not all about nuts and bolts; it's about people – and loving and respecting them.

Granted, not all situations are perfect, and there are many negative and destructive social habits polluting the world. But the treatment of others in my first exposure to the "real world" showed me how simple it is to incorporate basic moral standards – Torah values and the essence of "do unto others..."– into the workplace. I arrived each day excited to be part of a cohesive business team and more importantly, a well-functioning social unit.

Much remains for me to see, experience and learn. But what I've learned about respect, cooperation and simple consideration for other people this summer is far more valuable to me than any of the technological skills I acquired.

I sincerely hope that all members of my generation have opportunities for similarly positive experiences and that all my future employment situations will be as beneficial and formative.

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Greater Toronto Area

Lastman hopes to become mega-city's first mayor

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The first mayor of Toronto's megacity (according to polls) may well be short, fast-talking, flamboyant, wiry-haired and Jewish: Mel Lastman.

"I have more experience than anyone else. I make things happen, no matter what it is, no matter how impossible people said it would be," Lastman says. "Who else can sell the city better than I can?"

Lastman says his job as North York mayor has become "obsolete," because, he says, he has performed so well for the record 10 terms he's served since 1972.

"This city can do without me," he tells *The CJN*, "because I've organized it so well."

The latest *Toronto Star* poll put him well ahead of the only other major contender, Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall. Lastman was the early favorite for mega-mayor among 54 percent of respondents, compared to 25 percent support for Hall. The rest said they didn't know, or gave no answer.

Not too shabby for a high school dropout, the son of a poor hat-maker from Kensington Market, whose showbiz-like shtick seems to appeal to Metro residents. The stories are the stuff of urban legend: the flashy clothes, the self-deprecating pokes about his height and hair, the selling of a fridge in the Arctic, the garish ads for the Bad Boy furniture chain he founded ...As the *New York Times* put it in a recent profile: "In the annals of carny barkers and pitchmen, there is a special place reserved for Mel Lastman."

For most politicians, that would not be a complement. But for Lastman, now 64, it's translated into political gold. A 1994 survey showed he was one of the most recognized names and had the highest approval ratings of any mayor at the time in the Greater Toronto Area.

He peppers his speeches with Yiddishisms and can't say anything, it seems, without a jibe at his 5-foot-6-inch self ("Can you all hear me? Can you *see* me?") The perennial

Mel Lastman

salesman claims credit for a host of successes in North York: The gleaming "downtown," the hard-won Sheppard Avenue subway line, the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, the low taxes. He calls his city "a well-oiled machine."

Now, he wants to make history as the first mayor of the megacity, with no predecessors and no blueprint. Lastman's unfazed.

"I can make it work," he says flatly. "There's no plan. The province has not done a darn thing about laying out a plan. All they've done was figure out how they can download [services] and pull money out of it. And we need someone with business experience who can get things together.

"This has never been done before. You've had mergers before, like in New York City, but you've never had getting rid of six municipalities and one regional government, and forming a whole new government."

And who better, he asks, to administer a budget that will exceed $6 billion — more than the budgets of six provinces — and a population of nearly three million?

Lastman isn't shy about listing his accomplishments: zero tax increases for the past five years, a $175-million surplus, twice-weekly garbage pickup, and "no one removes snow the way North York does."

Indeed, his record is impressive. He established Canada's first municipal committees on race relations, child and elder abuse and drinking and driving, helped set up CARD, an organization that works with disabled kids on horseback, and single-handedly drove the $1.2 billion Sheppard subway line through Metro council.

Lastman says he's encountering "phenomenal... unbelievable" support from voters across Metro. He sees no conflict in the fact that he was an early and vocal opponent of the megacity's creation, and is now the leading contender to run it.

"I'm not a booster," he insists. "But I will be, once I'm elected. I've accepted it and now, we've got to make it work. I'll take it on as a challenge, and make it work. I don't give up on anything. I don't know how to give up. I'll fight until I get it. And if I don't get it today, I'll get it next week. Or next year."

So is the megacity good for the Jews or bad for the Jews? Lastman doesn't pause. "It can't be bad!"

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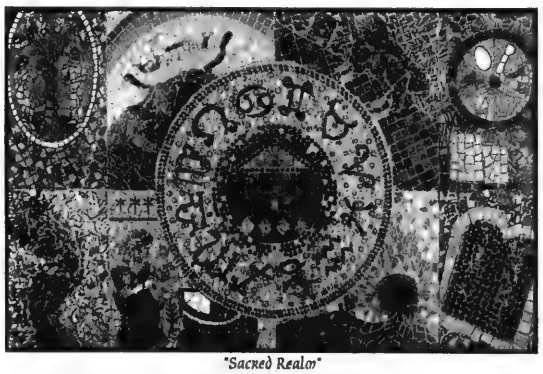

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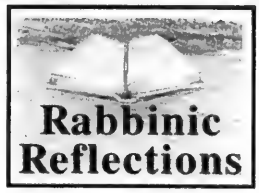


Rabbinic Reflections

Kindness an essential element of Judaism

By RABBI AVRAHAM PLOTKIN

One of the central themes of Judaism is saying "thank you." Recognition of a kindness and being thankful for that kindness might seem like basic decency to most, yet Judaism and Torah have found it essential to include it in every aspect of our daily rituals and conduct, to reinforce this important principle.

The moment we wake up in the morning we are instructed to say *Modeh ani*, thanking G-d for restoring our soul and granting us another day of life. Our daily prayers are replete with thank yous and recognition of the kindness of G-d. Every time we eat, we thank G-d for food, and when a person survives a dangerous situation, a special blessing is made, usually when the Torah is read, called Hagomel, thanking G-d for bestowing his kindness upon the unworthy.

Yet, notwithstanding the importance of the verbal thank you, there is a higher form of thanking – one accompanied by action, which is demonstrated by the mitzvah of bikkurim. Upon entering the land of Israel, the Jewish people were commanded to take of the first fruit as an expression of thanks, place them in a basket and present them to the cohen. This mitzvah teaches us that verbal thanks must also be accompanied by a tangible action.

In real life, many of us are prepared to offer thanks to a friend who has done us a kindness, but are not ready to reciprocate with a similar act of kindness when this same friend is in need. The mitzvah of bikkurim teaches us that "talk is cheap" when compared to action. It teaches us to give of our first fruits when offering thanks and appreciation. The Torah demands of us to live a higher level of decency and mentshlechkeit (humanity), not only to be well mannered and polite, but also to reciprocate with action.

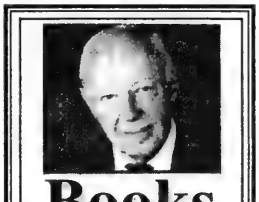
Even something as important as thank you can become mechanical and meaningless when it is not translated into a tangible act of kindness. How often do we see parents concerned about etiquette and manners telling their children, after showering them with gifts, "What do you say? Thank you!" (The parents usually answer their own question.)

This form of thanking can be a meaningless exercise, if the child is not taught to show appreciation for the gift with an appropriate action, whether it be an improvement in behavior or reciprocating with a gift to the parent.

The same applies to the thank yous that we offer to G-d. Many of us, after experiencing a kindness from HaShem, ranging from simchahs to good health or prosperity, will offer heartfelt thanks to HaShem in shul. Of course, this natural expression of gratitude is very important, but it is only a first step in the Jewish approach to thanks. Judaism views thanks that is not followed by action as ringing hollow.

Our thanks to G-d must be followed by an action or mitzvah, which shows that we are truly sincere about our thanks. We must give something back to G-d in return for the kindness that we have received. The Lubavitcher Rebbe used to suggest to many of the countless people he counselled that they take upon themselves the fulfilment of a new mitzvah (good deed) as a first step in receiving the blessing of G-d. Wouldn't it be a wonderful idea to give back to G-d a good deed or a commitment to begin observing a mitzvah as a form of saying thank you? After all, that is the Jewish way of saying thank you.

Rabbi Plotkin is spiritual leader of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham.



Books

By Bernard Baskin

Somber future seen for Diaspora Jews

***Faith Or Fear. How Jews Can Survive In a Christian America*, by Elliott Abrams (Simon & Schuster, $34).**

The hottest topic on the Jewish communal agenda these days is continuity. Will North American Jews remain a viable group after the next generation? What must be done to stanch the hemorrhage of Jewish loyalty and affiliation?

Elliott Abrams served as U.S. assistant secretary of State from 1981 to 1989 and is now regarded as a leading neo-conservative spokesperson. In this closely reasoned analysis he grapples with the crisis in the community and paints a dark and somber picture of tomorrow.

Fifty years ago Jews constituted almost four percent of the American population. Today this figure has plunged to two percent. Despite substantial growth in the general population, the Jewish numbers have remained static at around 5½ million. Of this number, however, over a million say that they have no religious or cultural ties to Judaism. Moreover, a majority of North American Jews now marry non-Jews and only one in four of these intermarried homes rears its children with a primary Jewish identity.

In Canada the intermarriage rate is somewhat less than across the border and synagogue affiliation higher. But, alarmingly, Canada's Jewish population before long will decline to an insignificant one percent of the population.

It is instructive to compare some of Abrams' basic ideas with those of Alan Dershowitz, whose recent book, *The Vanishing American Jew*, (reviewed in this space some weeks ago) dealt with a similar theme. Dershowitz believes that most Jews in North America adhere to valuable ethnic loyalty that is comprised of nostalgia, distinctive ideals and a singular cultural heritage. He asks, "Why has the Jewish background or heritage of so many individuals who have contributed so much to the world been so important to their success, while the core of Jewish religious observance has been relatively unimportant?"

Abrams, on the other hand, sees little hope for a Jewish future that is not religious in nature. He states "Whether American Jews can commit themselves anew to the goal of survival, to reversing the demographic patterns that threaten their collective future, depends on whether they still believe they are above all else, members of a religious community. As an ethnic, cultural, or political entity they are doomed."

Dershowitz, a civil libertarian, is convinced that American Jews must continue to fight for the complete separation of church and state. Not so, Abrams, who holds that Jews have much to gain from the emergence of a new brand of Christian belief that is philo-semitic and strongly pro-Israel. Preoccupation with anti-Semitism has led Jews to a radical secularism that has helped to create an amoral American and a de-judaised Jewry.

Both authors believe that Orthodoxy in its extreme form, with its willingness to separate from modern culture has the best chance among Jewish groups for survival. But they agree that Orthodoxy is not an option for the vast majority of North American Jews. What is necessary, evidently, is a new form of non-Orthodox religiosity.

Both of these books engender pessimism. But assuredly, positive factors for survival have been overlooked or downplayed.

Concern is necessary, but despair is not warranted. The game is far from over — a "saving remnant," if not a larger group, will endure.

Biz & Halachah

Trying to balance free enterprise with need for a caring spirit

By RABBI JAY KELMAN

Jewish law generally favors increased competition in the marketplace. Actively taking away business from someone else, however, is a different matter. Jewish law proscribes snatching away an anticipated gain from someone else who has rightfully earned it. The Talmud (Kidushuin 59a) teaches us that if one is in the process of acquiring something and a second person comes and snatches it away – while no *legal* recourse is available – he is labeled a *rasha*, an evil person.

In codifying this law, Maimonides gives an example of a person who gives money to a messenger to purchase land on his behalf. The messenger, upon seeing the property, decides to buy it for himself. The messenger has misused the trust placed in him and has snatched property away from its rightful purchaser.

In another application of this principle, the Talmud rules that a fisherman must not place his bait and net in a desired spot if bait has already been cast in the area by a prior fisherman. The original fisherman rightfully anticipates catching the fish and by putting your bait too close to his, you effectively steal his anticipated gain. In contrast, a business firm may locate in close proximity to the competition as here, customers are not forced to go to the newcomer, but can choose whom they would like to patronize.

Similarly, if one is involved in negotiation and the talks are ongoing, a second party is morally enjoined from entering the fray. Therefore, if someone has put an offer in to purchase a house and the seller has not rejected the offer but proposed a counter offer, a third party would not be allowed at this point to put in an offer. To do so would be improper interference.

Stealing clients from your competition is prohibited

In fact Rabbi Moshe Feinstein ruled that even if the second party was unaware of the original offer, he must withdraw his offer when he is made aware of the original offer. The case with which he dealt involved a miscommunication between a prospective employer and employee. Each thought the other would contact them if they were interested in the job. After not hearing from the potential employee, the employer mistakenly assumed the applicant was not interested and hired a second person. When the facts were clarified, Rabbi Feinstein ruled that the second person should defer and let the first prospective employee have the job.

The injunction against "snatching" also applies in the labor market, as can be seen from the following example. It has always been common practice for people to hire private tutors to teach their children. Once a parent has selected a particular teacher, Jewish law prohibits competing teachers from offering their services to the parents. Only when the parents express a desire to hire a different teacher could the second teacher's services be offered.

This seems to indicate that stealing clients from your competition is prohibited. For example, if a business has been using a particular firm of chartered accountants, it would be improper for another accounting firm to call the client and "introduce" themselves. Of course if the client has expressed an interest in possibly switching firms, one can then try one's best to attract that particular client.

By encouraging increased competition yet limiting the "raiding" of existing businesses, Jewish law tries to find a balance between free enterprise and a caring spirit.

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Useful bites and bytes for the holidays

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Over the past couple of weeks of this year-end review, I have listed some of my favorite sites on the Jewish Highway. Please understand that with thousands of Jewish sites out there, I am bound to miss some of your favorites. So e-mail me the Web sites name and address, and a short explanation of why you like to surf there. I don't have any major appliances or other prizes to give away, but if I do use your selection in a future column, you'll get full credit.

I never would have guessed that a site written for the World Zionist Organization could be so hip. Holidays with a Twist **[http://www.wzo.org.il/encountr/holidays.htm]** is a series of sometimes provocative essays on the major holidays. Even the titles are fun: You Don't Have a Prayer for Yom Kippur, A Pyro's Dream Come True for Chanukah, And the Beet Goes on... A Guide to the Gastronomic Trauma of Pesach.

Speaking of food, if you're putting together your menus for the holidays and are looking for something a bit different, here are a couple great kosher cooking sites. The massive Jewish Food Recipe Archives **[http://www.eskimo.com/~jefffree/recipes/]** contains over 3,000 recipes. Everything from Bubbe's Chicken Soup **[http://www.eskimo.com/~jefffree/recipes/chknsp05.htm]** to (believe it or not) Yogurt Curry Cholent **[http://www.eskimo.com/~jeffree/recipes/yogchol.htm]**.

If I had to choose a couple of the best kashrut sites, they would be American-Asian Kashrus Services **[http://www.kashrus.org/]** and the Jewish Communication Network's Food Page **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Index.**

These wonderful sites cover both basic and advanced concepts of kashrut. (Yes, porkfish really is kosher!)

These pages also include essays on everything from the challenges of becoming kosher to articles on kosher organic living.

The end of the year is near and that means it's time to buy a new calendar. Internet calendars still aren't as pretty as the ones in the store but they can be extremely handy. There are many Jewish Calendar conversion sites on the Internet but my favorite is the Havienu L'Shalom Hebrew Calendar **[http://www.havienu.org/resrcs/hebcal.html]**. This amazing program starts by asking what year you are looking for, where you live, whether the Hebrew words should be written in "Ashkenazis" or "Sephardit." You can choose from all the major Jewish centres, and if you want, get candlelighting times for Malmoe, Sweden and Colombo, Sri Lanka. Match that, Judaica store calendar!

Next week, more of the best.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Community Matters

Super Sunday Launches Super September

WHAT A WEEK!

It's been a $2 million week for UJA Federation, beginning with Super Sunday, September 14.

While the weather outside was picture perfect on Sunday, hundreds of volunteers were inside dialing up a storm and acquiring new gifts from 6,000 contributors. Together with nightly Super Week telethons that followed Super Sunday, UJA Federation raised about $2 million.

Super Sunday totals starting adding up quickly. By 11:30 a.m., campaigners had rung up more than $600,000 in campaign contributions on behalf of Jews in need. By 9:00 p.m., as the last few calls were being made, UJA Federation's annual campaign total to date had jumped to over $23 million.

"The sun might be shining outside," noted Jeff Cohen, who co-chaired Super Sunday with Vicki Campbell, "but nothing beats the energy and excitement being generated in this room."

Cohen was particularly pleased by the presence of representatives from nearly 50 agencies and organizations supporting UJA Federation. "Everybody is so motivated and willing to help out," said Cohen. "This is what community is all about," added Campbell.

For the second year, UJA Federation's Women's Campaign increased its number of Super Sunday campaigners through its successful mentoring program in which new recruits are matched with veteran volunteers.

Mentoring team captain Heather Rakhsha, said she was "proud to be a part of a community that cares so much. "Being here today makes me realize how fortunate we really are and how important it is to give something back."

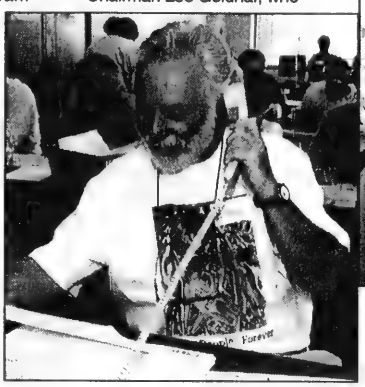
First-timer Celia Bobkin, also a member of the mentoring teams, said she felt "very proud when I told my son where I was going this morning."

School teacher Chava Benaiah has been a regular at Super Sunday for eight years and will keep coming back as long as she can. "It's my way of saying thank you to UJA Federation for supporting our Jewish education system," she explained.

"Each phone yields huge returns," noted UJA Federation Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar, who was also pleased by the large volunteer turnout. "I'm very proud to see so many people interested in helping out."

Gary Grundman, who is heading UJA Federation's drive for New Gifts with Rosanne Ain, says he hopes the momentum from Super Sunday will carry through the entire month of September. "Our timing couldn't be more perfect to begin reaching new contributors."

Super Week will be followed by a New Gifts telethon on Sunday, September 28. To sign up for a shift call (416) 635- 2883 ext 155.



Above: Cheryl Jackson and her daughter Devra were one of many families who came out to Super Sunday.

Left: Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar dialing for dollars.

MORE WONDERFUN

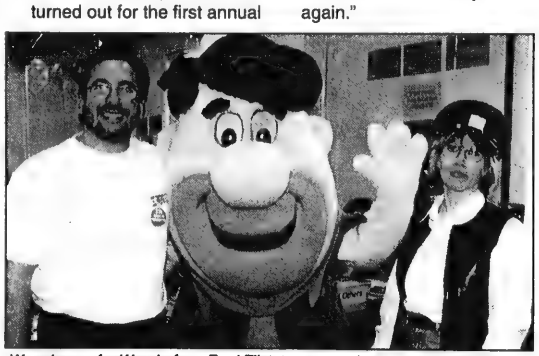
Food, fun and plenty of entertainment for the entire family await thousands of community members as UJA Federation and Paramount Canada's Wonderland prepare for the second annual Jewish Community Wonderfun Day this coming Sunday, September 21.

Tickets for Wonderfun Day at $18 a person – half the regular price – with children under three admitted free, can be purchased by calling the UJA Federation hotline at (416) 631-5700.

In addition to Wonderland's 160 attractions and 50 rides, fun seekers will be treated to a kosher barbeque in the Kings Courtyard and a live line-up of entertainment including Corey Mandell Entertainment at 11:00 a.m., the Associated Day School Choir at 12:00 p.m., and a performance by the Stars Band at 1:00 p.m. A special UJA Federation interactive Island celebration will be held at the International Showplace at 2:00 p.m. *The Radio Show's* Phil Kravetsky will be broadcasting live from Wonderland all day.

Last year more than 2,000 community members turned out for the first annual Jewish Community Wonderfun Day at the park.

"Paramount Canada's Wonderland is looking forward to continuing the momentum," says Sharon McBride, assistant manager of public relations and special events. "This event is already gearing up to be a tremendous success yet again."



Warming up for Wonderfun. Fred Flintstone came by to personally invite campaigners to Jewish Community Wonderfun Day at Paramount Canada's Wonderland, Sunday, September 21.

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UJA FEDERATION

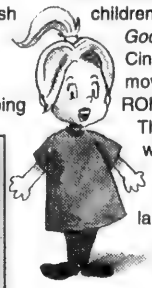
Community Matters

YOUNGSTERS CREATE MITZVA MAGIC

Eleven young artists were recently chosen as winners of junior UJA's first Mitzva Magic art contest.

The winners, ages 4 to 12, were invited to submit drawings depicting Jewish mitzvot – acts of goodness, such as giving tzedakah, lighting the Shabbat candles or helping to feed the hungry. More than 50 submissions were considered.

Prizes included Toronto Raptors tickets, passes to visit the set of the popular children's television show *Goosebumps*, Cineplex Odeon movie passes and CD ROMs.



The original works were displayed at UJA Federation's 1998 Campaign launch at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts.

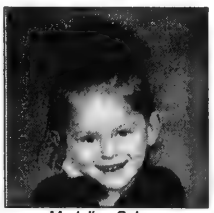
Junior UJA is a pioneering project of UJA Federation created to expose Jewish children to the mitzva of tzedakah. Junior UJA's more than 2,000 members receive full colour newsletters, invitations to holiday celebrations and much more.

Congratulations to the following junior UJA Mitzva Magic contest winners.

For more information on junior UJA call (416) 631-5736.

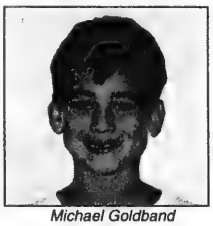
junior UJA club

Nicholas Constantine



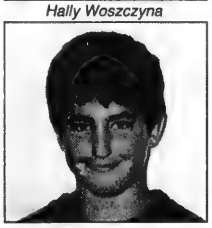
Madeline Solway

Hally Woszczyna



Michael Goldband

Anna Bortnik



Marlon Danilewitz

Erica Umansky

Aron Zaltz

Sherri Tobis

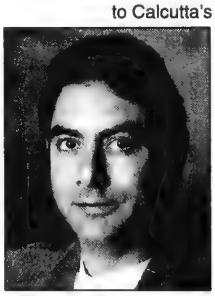
Adam Bogach

Danielle Miller

The Arts & Entertainment Team

Ellis Jacob and Jeff Rayman have been very successful behind the scenes of Canada's entertainment business. Now they're helping UJA Federation and its commitment to people in need take the spotlight.

Rayman, President of Alliance Equicap and Jacob, Executive Vice-President of Cineplex Odeon, are chairing UJA Federation's growing Arts and Entertainment division, which raised more than $800,000 for last year's campaign.



Jeff Rayman

Ellis Jacob

Although Rayman and Jacob have been long time UJA Federation contributors, the two decided to fast forward their campaign involvement after participating in last year's highly successful A&E *Spotlight on Israel* mission to Israel and Jordan.

"When I saw first hand all the ways UJA Federation helps Jews, I wanted to do more," explains Jacob, who was born in Calcutta and moved to Canada in 1969. Jacob still recalls his father's deep commitment to Calcutta's Jewish community and the rich Jewish life his family led.

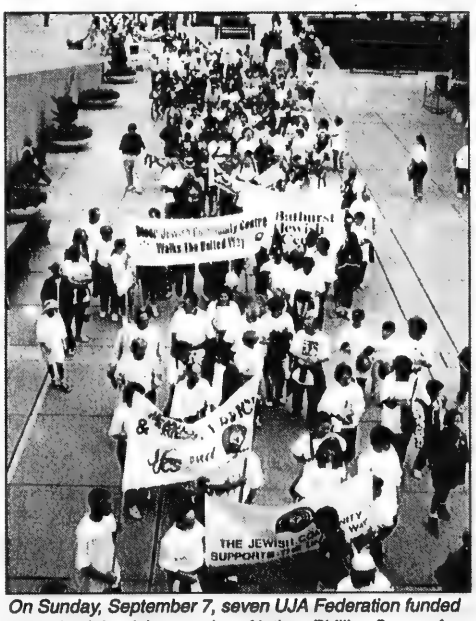
"Coming from a different background and knowing how Jews live on the other side of the world, gives me a real appreciation of shared Jewish values and heritage," he adds. "We are all responsible for each other."

Rayman agrees and says he's willing to "do whatever I can" to bring new donors on board. Both he and Jacob believe the creation of sub-divisions within the A&E division will help campaigners reach more potential contributors.

"Last year's A&E mission reinforced my belief in UJA Federation and the causes it supports," says Rayman. "Your one contribution can help in so many different ways."

Rayman hopes to repeat the division's success during last year's campaign, which brought in more than 125 new donors. He and Jacob are planning an A&E mission to Los Angeles in early February and another *Business of Entertainment* event featuring some of the biggest names in Canada's entertainment industry.

United We Walk



On Sunday, September 7, seven UJA Federation funded agencies joined thousands at Nathan Phillips Square for the 1997 United Way Walkathon. Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa, Jewish Vocational Services, Bathurst Jewish Centre, Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Jewish Family and Child Service and UJA Federation participated in the four kilometre trek.

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
PLAQUES on Earl Bales Park Monument available
Call 905-660-6028

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Sept. 22, is deadline for Oct. 1 issue, and Friday, Sept. 26, is deadline for Oct. 9. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Sept. 20

CONSERVATIVE MINYAN

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, and Federation of Jewish Brotherhoods Shabbat services, 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Synagogue. Kiddush following. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, Jewish Chapel, 480-4421, ext., 3552.

Sunday, Sept. 21

TEL AVIV U CONFERENCE

At Tel Aviv University's North American Conference, public addresses by **Shai Feldman**, Jaffa Centre for Strategic Studies, on Israel's Strategic Changes, and **Abel Schejter**, Biochemistry Department, on Genes and Diseases: New Breakthroughs, 10 a.m. to noon, Sheraton Centre. 787-9930

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation open house 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Services, programs, activities, events. Pick up day's itinerary at the door

JEWISH FILM SOCIETY

Toronto Jewish Film Society's *Jewish Entertainers on Film Part II*, presented by **Aldo Maggiorotti**, 7:30 p.m., Art Gallery of Ontario. 924-6211

FRIENDS OF YIDDISH

Membership breakfast, From Renaissance to Klezmer, musicians **Brian Katz** and **Martin Van De Ven**, 10 a.m. Habonim Congregation, 5 Glen Park Ave. RSVP **Freda Tobe** 665-3605.

KOSHER FOODFEST

Aish HaTorah and Wampole Vitamins present Jewish Life and Kosher Foodfest '97, noon to 5 p.m., Centerpoint Mall, Yonge/Steeles. Exhibits of kosher products and services, children's activities, and lots more. 905-764-1818.

UJPO OPEN HOUSE

Toronto United Jewish People's Order open house-bagel reception, 10:30 a.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. 789-5502.

GO-CARTING TO THE MAX

Jewish Youth Centre's Go-Carting to the Max for grades 5 and up. Bus leaves 11 a.m. $10 for bus ride and five laps on the track. **Rabbi Danny Bahar** 633-5722.

WINGATE BRANCH

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, general members breakfast meeting, nosh 9:15 a.m., meeting 9:45, Centennial Arena.

SIN AND SALVATION

Adath Israel and Beth Radom congregations, Conversations in Music and Words on the Spirituality of the Days of Awe, **Rabbi Steven Saltzman, Cantor David Bagley**, davening 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, seminar at 10, at Adath Israel.

Monday, Sept. 22

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Adath Sholom Sisterhood opening meeting. Speakers from Canadian Friends of Gevat Haviva **Ruth G. Roth** and **Yehuda Marle**, 7:30 p.m., $2.

JUDY SILVER MEMORIAL

Celebration in memory of **Judy Silver**, teacher, director, writer at Leah Posluns Theatre School and Young People's Theatre School, 8 p.m., Young People's Theatre. Judy Silver Scholarship Fund has been established. 363-5131.

MEDINA THEATRE ENSEMBLE

Meeting, staged reading of **Morris Jacobs** play, *Zimmerman's Neighborhood.*, 7:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. **Roselle** 633-2057.

Tuesday, Sept. 23

PEACE PROCESS

Whither the Peace Process? by **Simon Rosenblum**, national co-president, Canadian Friends of Peace Now, 7:30 p.m. Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

TORONTO ORT

Arts and Entertainment chapter, 10:30 a.m., Shalom Farm in Gormley. Meet **Les Wagschall**, trainer of Arabian stallions. After lunch, visit to

[Cont'd. on page 19]

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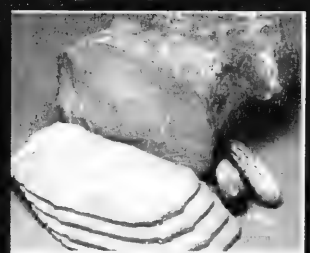

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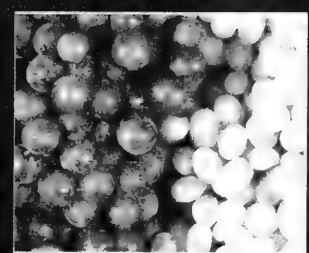

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Chocolate Fudge Layer Cakes
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pkg. of 12
1.89

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 18]

Stronach Farm. $10. **Gilda Tyber** 733-9924.

SANDWICH GENERATION

Living Wills, Substitute Decision Making and Philosophy of Care Issues, nurse **Cheryl Anne McCulloch, Prof. David Novak, Dr. Peter Singer**, 8 p.m., Beth Tzedec Congregation.

Wednesday, Sept. 24

SENIORS – TAKING CHARGE

Workshop on Good Aging, **Dr. Sandra Samuels, Susan Jackson**, fitness break **Yarom Rostas**, Lipa Green Building. $5 including lunch. Register, **Arnold Foss**, 635-2900, ext. 413.

JEWISH GENEALOGY

Jewish Genealogy Society, Toronto chapter meeting, **Sasson Mayer** presents an overview of Babylonian-Iraqi Jewry, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Les Train** 484-9167.

CONSERVATIVE WOMEN

Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Canadian Seaway Branch, Torah Fund Recognition Dinner honoring **Margo Grosbein**, immediate past president, National Torah Fund Canadian Liaison. 6:30 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue. $25, RSVP **Rose Haspel** 905-764-8141.

KEEP MEMORIES ALIVE

Memorial service for those who have died of AIDS, 8 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple chapel. **Deborah Tameanko** 789-3291, ext. 513.

IN THE BEGINNING

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich discusses In the Beginning: What Are We Here For? Your Purpose in Life, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement, Miracles Still Happen, musician/teacher **Ester Ben (Shifrin)**, fifth generation born in China. At noon, bring lunch. $1.

ARE YOU AN AGUNAH?

Join other agunot to share information and concerns. Facilitator **Rena Schochet**, 8 p.m., Lipa Green Building, 4th floor. **Joyce Eklove** 782-9039.

AISH HATORAH

Make the High Holy Days Meaningful for Your Kids, **Elaine Rubinoff**, 8 p.m., 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

Thursday, Sept. 25

ORT LUNCHEON

Golden Circle luncheon, 12:30 p.m. at the home of **Elise and Harvey Kalles**, 6 Beaumont Ave. Guest of honor, **Anne Michaels**, author of *Fugitive Pieces*. $150 (tax receipt) Reserve. ORT office 787-0339.

BOOK LAUNCHING

Launching of *The Illustrated History of the Jewish People*, 8 p.m.,speakers, the editor **Nicholas De Lange** of Cambridge University, England; and **Prof. Michael Marrus** (who contributed a chapter) and **David Novak**, both of University of Toronto, 8 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple.

And What Else Is New

THIS COULD BE THE ONE

This Could Be the One , a play about contemporary Jewish singles, presented by Jewish Theatre Projects in conjunction with Leah Posluns Theatre and Bathurst Jewish Centre, Thursday, Sept. 25, 8 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 27, 9:15 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 28, 2 p.m. at the Leah Posluns. $10 in advance, $12 at door. 483-4151 or 636-1880 ext. 235 or 924-6211.

NEWS FROM BARRIE

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services in Barrie, conducted by **Rabbi Bernard Baskin**. For tickets and schedule, call Simcoe County Jewish Association 905-721-6126.

ORAYNU HAPPENINGS

YLIT program information meeting at the school, Sunday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m.. RSVP **Karen** 905-731-7066.

Exploring Secular Humanistic Judaism: What are the Origins of Humanistic Jewish Ideas?, Sunday, Sept. 21, 8 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre. RSVP **Sarah** 385-3910.

Adult social, games, Saturday, Sept. 27, 8 p.m., BJC. Bring a dessert to share. RSVP Sarah.

JEWISH SINGLE PARENTS

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Jewish Single Parents' Group opening get together (ages 30-50), Cosmic Bowling, Saturday, Oct. 4, 8:30 p.m., Woodbridge Bowl, 191 Marycroft Ave., Hwy 7 (west of Weston Rd.). $7. RSVP by Sept. 25, synagogue office 633-5500.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Shaarei Shomayim Youth activities: To register, youth director **Chanani Kleinman** 789-3216

Jewish Girl Guide Pack for girls kindergarten through Grade 3.

Bar and bat mitzvah lessons: in-depth look at Jewish issues and topics, starts week of Sept. 29.

Self-defence classes, boys and girls, beginner course, Jiu-Jitsu martial art, professional instruction, 12 weekly classes, Mondays 7-8 p.m. $95.

Learn more about youth activities at Sunday, Sept. 21 Open House.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING

At Yorkhill Public School, for beginners 7:45-8:45 p.m., intermediate 9-10:30 p.m. Thursdays. $5 per session. **Sofie** 221-6287.

MDA AMBULANCE

Canadian Magen David Adom, Toronto chapter, was the recipient of a cheque to cover half the purchase of an ambulance donated by Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Brotherhood. MDA is hoping to raise funds to complete the purchase. 780-0034.

BEACH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Beach Hebrew Institute Sunday School (Cheder) classes start Sept. 21. 694-7942.

PROGRAM FOR TEENS

Adolescent Social Skills Group, ages 13-18, sponsored by Jewish Family & Child Service and Learning Disabilities Association of York Region, at Promenade Mall JF&CS offices. Registration Sept. 23, 5:15 p.m. **Beth Feffer** 905-882-2331.

YIDDISH FOR ADULTS

Beginners, intermediate and advanced classes start soon. Teachers **Richard Bassett, Marc Kates, Ellie Moidel**. New class, Yiddish Literature in Translation with Ellie Moidel Tuesday afternoons. 635-2883, ext. 700.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups:

Dealing with Anger: An Intervention Program for Men, begins Sept. 23. **Bernie Finnigan**, 905-882-2340, ext. 214.

Living With Your Teenager: Who is This Stranger in My House? begins Sept. 23; Separation and Divorce Group begins in October. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 211.

Incest Survivors Group, 20 sessions, begins Oct. 7, 7:30-9:30 p.m. **Gail Solish** 638-7830, ext. 281, or **Karen Wynnychuck** ext. 806.

FOR SENIORS

Join the **Interlink Choir**, an intergenerational program, no experience needed, just the joy of singing and love of music, Wednesdays, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Wagman Centre. **Nancy Zepp** 229-0882.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Sept. 25 is a musical comedy movie video. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning – Monday, Nov. 3, movie video *Mr. Holland's Opus* ; Monday, Nov. 10, opening musical luncheon, entertainers **Ivory** and **Silver. Lena** 785-5773 . Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Haliburton Sept. 22-23; Canada Cap Factory and Fortinos in Woodbridge, Sept. 24; Casino Niagara Sept. 25; Seminar, ABCs of Fraud, Oct. 4, 10 a.m.; Thornhill Square Oct. 6; Washington and Atlantic City Oct. 26. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami Trip 1998, **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

High Holy Day Lunch with **Marshal Reis** accompanied by **Michael Khinkis**, Wednesday, Sept. 24, at noon. Members $8, non-members $10. Concert only 1:30 p.m., members $2, non-members $3. Tickets at Information Desk.

Hearing Assistance Clinic, **Brenda Vernon** of the Canadian Hearing Society, Thursday, Sept. 18, 1:30-4 p.m. Book appointment.

Osteoporosis Support Group, Tuesday, Sept. 23, 1:30-3 p.m., Chiropractic Approach in the Management of Osteoporosis, chiropractor **Dr. Pisarek**. Resource person **Joan Turner**.

Healthy Cooking demonstration, dietician/nutritionist **Sharon Zeiler** and two Community Food Advisors, Tuesday, Sept. 23, 1 p.m. $1 for materials.

Arthritis Society Pain Management Clinic, **Bev Tobe,** registered therapist, Arthritis Society, Thursday, Sept. 25, 1-4:30 p.m. Book appointment at Wellness Desk.

Senior Pedestrian Education and Awareness Program, **Joanne Banfield**, registered nurse, Injury Prevention Centre at Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, Thursday, Sept. 25, 1:30-2:30 p.m. **Joan**.

Fitness Class with **Carol Shapiro** and **Hanna Weil**, Tuesdays 9-10 a.m., Sept. 30-Dec. 2.

Israeli Etrog Club meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays. Programs include movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-alongs, dances, bingo. Sept. 23 is a sing-along. **Anna**. Movie *Auntie Mame* Sunday, Sept. 21, 2:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Israeli dancing Mondays starting Sept. 22, beginners 8:15 p.m., intermediate 9 p.m. Instructor **Yossi Stranch**. $5 per class.

Women's Cabaret, Sept. 25, co-hosted by **Libby Scheier** and **Kate Lushington** and featuring great mix of multi-talented women writers and performers.

Matt Cohen starts off Books 'n' Bagels Sunday, Sept. 28, reading from his book, *Last Seen* .

Bizarre Autumn Af-fair Arts and Crafts Show Sunday, Sept. 28, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Seniors Club, Thursdays 2 p.m. Sept. 18, The Current Situation of Israel and Its Impact on the Soldiers, **Irving Matlow**, Israel Soldiers Fund; Sept. 25, *The Jazz Singer* with **Danny Thomas** and **Peggy Lee**. Call **Judy**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Athletic Department fall programs offer an exciting choice of recreational and sports activities for all ages and abilities.

New this year, Stress Reducer and Healthy Living Forum programs.

Senior Adult Services Lunch 'n' Learn, Friday, Sept. 26, 12:30-1:30 p.m., The Wonderful Month of Tishrei, **Ed Yuditsky.** Bring lunch, tea, coffee served. **Teme** ext. 364.

Needlework 10-week course, all levels, starts Tuesday, Sept. 30, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Car Care, **Lou Stone**, auto consultant, Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Sept. 23 Understanding the Needs of Your Car, How to Choose a Mechanic; Sept. 30 How to Check Your Car for Good Maintenance. **Yvonne** ext. 259.

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Greater Toronto Area

Family reunion draws over 130 members

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — More than 130 members of a family that boasts almost 350 descendants gathered recently for its first-ever family reunion.

Descendants of the seven children of Mona Kreina Kozhemyak Ovseyovin, who ranged in age from seven weeks to 89 years old met, some for the first time in 50 years, at the Reena Camp in Orangeville.

Plans for the reunion began last winter when Harvey Glasner of Thornhill met cousin Ferne Mittleman of Buffalo, co-founder of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Buffalo. She had contacted him after seeing his name as a new member listed in *Shem Tov*, the newsletter of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada. She told him of the extensive family he was not aware of having and plans took off from there.

From left: John Fienberg, George Richards and Leona Klein.

They formed a committee of cousins who sought names, addresses and photographs and made color-coded name tags corresponding to the different branches of the family.

Its history, many cousins learned from a display of photographs and a 27-foot, eight-generation computerized family tree prepared by Mittleman, began in Pagir, Lithuania, where the Feinberg/Fienberg/Fineberg children were born. (The name had different spellings after family members left Lithuania.) Ovseyovin, a widow, arrived in Toronto in 1905 with her family.

Relatives from as far away as Dallas, California and Vancouver have made tentative plans to meet again next year, when two cousins celebrate their 90th birthdays.

JEWISH LIFE & KOSHER FOODFEST!

Sun. Sept. 21st – 12 noon to 5 pm

AT Centerpoint Mall

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FUN EVENTS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY INCLUDING:

• Free Food Sampling • Children's Activities • Music • Door Prizes • Raffle & a Food Tasting Contest featuring a celebrity panel of judges including: ❖ Elizabeth Baird ❖ Diane Douglass ❖ Marty Galin ❖ Frances Kraft ❖ Joan Monfaredi ❖ Shirley Solomon ❖ Vivian Anhang - Cooking Instructor / Consultant - Kashruth Council of Toronto

Corporate Sponsor: Wampole www.wampole.ca

For further information please contact: Debby (Devorah) Ohayon, Promotions Director JEWISH LIFE AND KOSHER FOODFEST (905) 764 1818 ext. 230

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5758

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Canadian Masons visit Jerusalem

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — For the first time in the history of Masonry, Canadian members of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in Ontario, attended meetings of the Grand Lodge of the State of Israel in Jerusalem.

Of the 102 Grand Lodge jurisdictions recognized by Israel, 64 were represented at the Jerusalem meetings.

Seen at King Solomon's Quarries in Jerusalem are (from left) Masons Jonathan Kirshblum, Ephriam Fuchs, the Grand Master of Israel, and Samuel H. Cohen.

Samuel Cohen, Masonic representative to the Grand Lodge of Israel, and Jonathan Kirshblum who at 25, was the youngest Mason present, participated in the program, which included a celebration in honor of the 3,000 anniversary of Jerusalem. Cohen and Kirshblum are members of Toronto's Mount Sinai Lodge.

Cohen says a ceremony took place in King Solomon's Quarries in Jerusalem where the Montefiore Lodge of Jerusalem was consecrated. Many of the Israeli Masons in the newly formed lodge were formerly from England.

"It was thrilling that the ceremony was held at the location where King Solomon quarried stones for the Temple," he says. "The Grand Master of Israel, Most Worshipful Brother Ephriam Fuchs, sat in the chair of King Solomon.

"This is where Masonry was founded, and to be touched by history was inspirational — it merged the past with the present."

Cohen says that although the rituals of the Masons are based on religious concepts — "the purest principals of piety and virtue," — it is not a religious organization.

He says Masonry "teaches us to be open to the realities of pluralism in our society. It teaches us tolerance and understanding."

Shared views

All discussions of political or religious beliefs are excluded. "We maintain that the spirit of unity and harmony characterizes our lodges."

Cohen brought fraternal greetings and best wishes to the Grand Lodge of Israel. He and Kirshblum met with Masons from all over the world including Australia, Hawaii, Scotland, Europe and the United States.

"We shared views and ideas, and discussed mutual problems facing Grand Lodges throughout the world.

"We made new friends, and having seen first hand how Masons throughout the world act towards each other, it epitomized for me the principles of Freemasonry — brotherly love, relief and truth."

Despite decades of war between Jews and Arabs, Cohen said, "it is reassuring that there still is a place where Jews and Arabs, Moslems and Christians can meet on the basis of fraternity and brotherly love with mutual respect for one another."

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FOOD IDEAS FOR Rosh Hashanah

Traditional Mid-eastern dishes leave you satisfied

Chicken is one of the most popular holiday foods, especially these days, when it is appreciated for being low in fat, high in food value and versatile.

Empire Kosher, an American firm that has been supplying kosher frozen poultry products for nearly 60 years, has published a calendar for 5788, called *Timeless Recipes for Year-Round Healthful Living*. Besides some great poultry recipes, it includes candle lighting times for many cities, including Toronto and Montreal.

Here are two samples from the calendar:

MOROCCAN CHICKEN

4 lbs. chicken, cut up
½-¾ cup matzah meal
oil
1 cup chicken broth
2-3 cups chopped onion
ground cinnamon to taste
1 tbsp. ground ginger
2 tbsp. grated lemon peel
2 tbsp. grated orange peel
2 cups pitted prunes
2 tbsp. lemon juice
red, green and yellow peppers, cut into long strips
¾ cup slivered almonds (garnish)

Preheat oven to 350.

Wash chicken pieces in ice water, and pat dry. Put matzah meal in large plastic bag or sealable plastic container. Place chicken pieces one at a time into meal, and shake until well coated.

Heat oil in frying pan. Brown chicken on all sides and remove to plate. Saute onion until tender in pan juices. Arrange chicken and onion in roaster. To chicken broth, add lemon juice, ginger and cinnamon. Pour over chicken. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes.

Add prunes and peels and bake 30 more minutes. If necessary, add more chicken broth or water to roasting pan. Five minutes before cooking time is complete, lay pepper strips over chicken. Sprinkle almonds on top.

Serve on a bed of seasoned rice or polenta.

(This is great for Pesach as well – serve over farfel.)

SWEET AND SOUR MEATBALLS

Meatballs
2 lbs. ground turkey
1 cup corn flake crumbs
1 to 2 onions, finely diced
1 clove garlic, crushed
2 eggs
2 tbsp. dried oregano and/or parsley flakes (opt.)
2 tsp. salt
½ tsp. (or more, to taste) pepper
½ tsp. nutmeg
½ tsp. cloves
¼ tsp. cayenne (opt.)
oil

Break meat into small pieces, and blend in eggs, one at a time. Add in all other ingredients except oil. Shape mixture into one-inch balls. Heat oil in large skillet. Brown meatballs, shaking the skillet often during cooking. (This helps the meatballs keep their round shape). Remove from skillet and drain on paper towels.

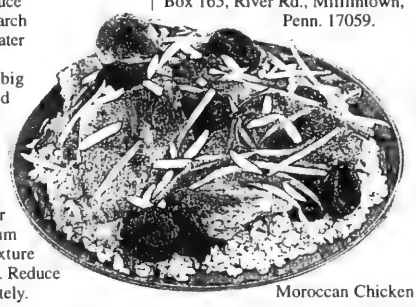
Sauce
1 can (19 oz.) pineapple tidbits
2 cups brown or yellow sugar
½ cup vinegar
3 tbsp. soy sauce
2 tbsp. cornstarch
½ cup cold water

In a pot big enough to hold all the meatballs, mix together the first four sauce ingredients. Simmer over medium heat until mixture begins to boil. Reduce heat immediately.

Completely dissolve cornstarch in cold water and add to sauce. Stir on medium heat until sauce starts to thicken and boil. Reduce heat. Add meatballs and stir until they are covered with sauce. Simmer until the meatballs are fully cooked.

Serve with steamed rice and asparagus.

To get the calendar, write Empire Kosher Poultry, Inc., PO Box 165, River Rd., Mifflintown, Penn. 17059.



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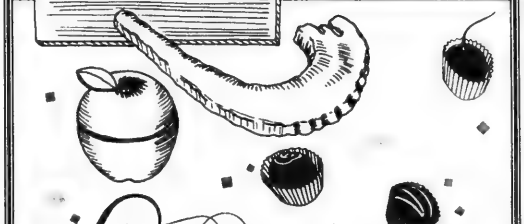

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The technology factor

One of the important amenities that signals a Jewish community's coming of age is a strong, central body to regulate kashrut. Toronto is one such city where the Kashruth Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, popularly known as COR, serves that function.

It was not always that way. In fact, so rancorous has the subject been over the years that at one time or another various sectors of the community did not talk to each other, or avoided eating food supervised by the "other" party, or insisted on eating only salads at an institution or function whose kashrut was certified by the "other" side.

Acceptance within the community of COR supervision is almost universal. However, there are still disagreements from time to time about the decisions that COR makes. Not everyone is satisfied with the status quo.

In part two of our three-part series, CJN staff reporter Leila Speisman examines the mandate and operation of COR.

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Rapidly changing food production technologies and rapidly changing attitudes among Jewish consumers are key features in the often-strained face of modern kashrut supervision.

This is the message from Rabbis Yitzchak Kerzner and Mordechai Levin, chair of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth and executive director of the Kashruth Council of Toronto respectively.

Kashrut supervisors must have a wide knowledge of the complexities of food technology and biochemistry, said Rabbi Levin, who himself is an expert in ingredients and flavors used in processed products.

The Kashruth Council is constantly being asked to expand its operations, but it has so far refused to stretch its staff and resources too far, as "we want to keep our standards high," Rabbi Levin said.

Kashrut in Toronto

Rabbi Levin directs a full time and part-time staff of approximately 75 people including 70 mashgichim among whom are five ordained rabbis. The mashgichim all have yeshivah training. After they are hired by COR they undergo additional training.

This additional training for the mashgichim, along with hashgachah and kashrut supervision are part of the responsibilities of the five ordained rabbis who are on COR's staff.

The mashgichim supervise cooking or manufacturing processes in over 400 industrial businesses and in hundreds of institutions and retail outlets.

The products whose manufacture they supervise range from tomato sauce to dish detergent, from cooking oil to vitamins. The process includes keeping files on all the ingredients used to prepare, process and preserve a product as well as any changes in those processes that manufacturers may introduce from time to time.

As well, the mashgiach has to make sure that the equipment used by the company in the manufacturing process is acceptable by halachic standards. For instance, a company may begin to process baked beans in the same equipment in which it processes pork and beans. Or it may consolidate all its potato chip manufacturing in one plant, rather than segregate the kosher chips from the non-kosher ones.

Rabbi Levin has travelled to Bangkok to supervise the packing of canned tuna. Even though tuna is a kosher fish, per se, care must be taken in its processing because some fish packers have been known to use dolphin, or other non-kosher fish in place of pure tuna.

Bakeries must be supervised to ensure the kashrut both of the product and of the process.

For example, an especially important requirement in the baking process is the taking of *challah*. Halachah demands that whenever a certain amount of flour is used in a recipe, some of it must be separated and burned in the oven. This practice was implemented to replicate somewhat the sacrifices in the Temple.

COR is not a profit-making organization. Income raised from supervision goes solely to pay the salaries of the mashgichim and administrative costs. Its overall budget is approximately $1 million annually.

The cost of supervision, Rabbi Levin explained, is related to the time allocated according to the demand and the needs of the specific product or process. For example, there are great differences between supervising a restaurant as opposed to a soap manufacturer, or the production of a complex product as opposed to a simple one, or a business involving meat as opposed to one involving dairy.

COR is autonomous from any other organization. "Decisions are made by the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth, and not by any other body," Rabbi Kerzner said.

COR tries to be understanding when a business finds paying its supervision fees to be a problem, and according to Rabbi Kerzner will wait until business improves. "But we can't compromise our standards."

The fees that COR charges companies for its supervision are related to the nature of the supervision required, which in turn depends upon the type of food processes employed by the company.

Industrial companies pay COR an annual base fee of between $1,000 and $2,000, depending on the size and complexity of the food-related prodcedures. This base fee does not include however, inspection fees and travel costs. Inspection fees are calculated on a per hour basis.

Retail companies also pay COR a base fee whose amount is based on a formula, the purpose of which is to cover the costs of the mashgiach at those premises.

[Cont'd. on page 26]

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Apples are ready for harvest for the holidays

The luscious summer peaches and berries are already starting to fade from our memories – but don't despair. The incredible Ontario apples are appearing on store shelves just in time.

Enjoy these delectable ideas from Foodland Ontario.

GRILLED CHICKEN AND APPLE POUCHES

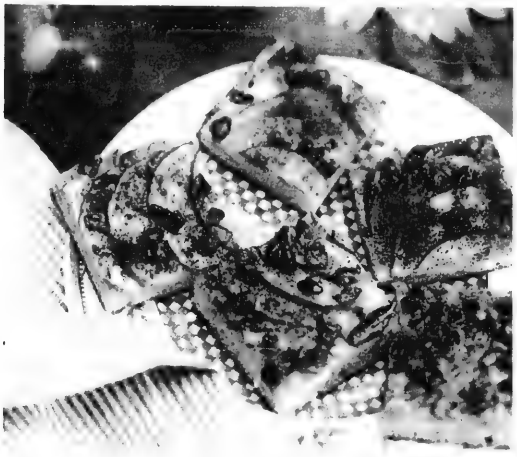
2 tbsp. vegetable oil
1 large onion, thinly sliced
3 medium apples, cored and sliced
¼ cup honey mustard
4 boneless skinless chicken breasts
½ tsp. dried basil
½ tsp. dried thyme
½ tsp. salt

In large skillet, heat oil over medium heat; sauté onion for 5 min. Add apples, cook 3 minutes.

Spread mustard over both sides of chicken. Place individually on 4 pieces of greased double thickness of foil. Sprinkle each with ⅛ tsp. basil, thyme and salt. Divide apple mixture among chicken. Wrap tightly, making 4 pouches.

Grill over medium-hot coals for about 30 minutes, turning pouches every 10 minutes, until chicken is no longer pink inside (or bake at 350 for 30 minutes).

To serve, remove chicken and apples from foil and place on plates; pour juices over top. Serves 4.



These simple apple dessert squares are so fun and easy to make that the kids will be clamoring, "Can we help?" A perfect, packable picnic or brown bag dessert featuring Ontario apples.

SIMPLE APPLE DESSERT SQUARES

1⅓ cups all-purpose flour
½ cup granulated sugar
1½ tsp. baking powder
½ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. nutmeg
⅓ cup milk
3 tbsp. butter or margarine, melted
1 egg
4 apples, cored and sliced
¼ cup chopped nuts

Topping:

¼ cup granulated sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon

In bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and nutmeg; mix in milk, butter and egg until smooth. Spread evenly in greased 13 x 9-inch baking dish. Arrange apples on top. Sprinkle with nuts.

Topping: Mix sugar with cinnamon; sprinkle on top. Bake at 350F for 45 minutes or until apples are tender. Cool in pan. Cut into squares.

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Stir Fried Vegetables (3-4 servings per lb.)	$8.75 per lb.
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Shift towards greater stringency

[Cont'd. from page 24]

Some observers of COR's supervisory practices have noted a shift recently toward greater stringency in its approach.

When asked to comment Rabbi Levin told *The CJN* "Certain leniencies used to be necessary, because there was no choice. Now there is," he said.

This is not only the case in Toronto, Rabbis Levin and Kerzner agreed. "It is also true with the O-U (Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations) and all other major kashrut organizations," said Rabbi Kerzner.

Certain approaches may be legally correct, the rabbi said, but "may violate the spirit of the law. A legal loophole may violate a higher moral code." As well, the rabbi said, "we are living in a a time when the Jewish community has among its members, sophisticated, knowledgeable people, who are committed to the meticulous observance of kashrut, and demand the maximum standards. We try to accommodate them.

"That isn't infringing on anyone else's rights to be less exacting – it's striving for the highest standards."

For this reason, Rabbi Kerzner said, "only those rabbis with a commitment to Halachah in accordance with the Shulchan Aruch (the code of Jewish law) sit on the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth."

Shoppers are confronted with a wide range of products with unfamiliar hechshers. This accounts for some confusion. "It is impossible to know every one who supervises products. That is why we prefer to deal with organizations (like O-U, Chof-K, MK, Star-K, or the Chief Rabbinate of Israel.)"

On the subject of the letter "K" that appears on some foods, it is not a valid hechsher because there is no indication of who is responsible for enforcing it, they said.

In the final instalment of the series next week, we will examine the controversies surrounding some of COR's decisions.

POTATONICK

Sponge:
1 cup warm water
1½ pkgs. yeast
1½ cups flour

Dough:
¼ lb. potatoes, skin on
¼ cup chopped onion
2 slices bread, crumbled
½ cup bread or all-purpose flour
1½ tsp. salt
½ tsp. baking powder
¼ tsp. ground black pepper
½ cup vegetable oil
2 beaten eggs
Shortening for greasing pan

In a large bowl sprinkle the yeast over the warm water and stir slightly. Add the 1½ cups of flour and mix until the mixture is smooth. Cover and set aside until it puffs up (about 20-25 minutes).

Stir down the dough. Scrub the potatoes, then grind or grate them with the skins on. Add the potatoes and onion to the dough and stir until blended. Add the bread crumbs, flour, salt, baking powder and ground pepper and mix well. Add the oil and egg and mix well. Split the mixture into 3 well greased 8- or 9-inch loaf pans. Leave room at the top for the potatonick to rise.

Place a bowl of water on the lowest rack of the oven and then preheat the oven to 350. Bake until the crust is brown and feels firm when gently pressed in the centre with your fingertips (about 1 hour). Let cool on a wire rack covered with a cloth for 5 minutes to allow the loaves to steam. Invert and tap out onto the rack. Serve warm. The Potatonick can be refrigerated for several days or frozen for 1 to 2 weeks. Reheat at 325 until warm, or it develops a hard crust if desired. Makes 3 loaves.

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By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

One of the most basic and satisfying of foods to come out of a Jewish kitchen is bread. Challah, of course, is number 1 on the hit parade. Its significance in our life and life cycle events is undeniable. Recipes tend to be handed down from generation to generation and while they may vary slightly, they all are pretty much the same.

There are, however, a multitude of other breads that have woven their way into our collective Yiddish hearts (and mouths) and landed on our hips, as a result of our ancestors' proclivity for wandering from country to country, picking up recipes from wherever they managed to find a home. We may not have had a lot of permanent residences, but we had great bread.

Making bread is far easier than most people think. You need to follow a few simple guidelines and you shouldn't have any problems.

First, yeast is not the enemy. It's just a plant and it's really not too difficult to use once you realize that the temperature of the water used to activate the yeast should be between 105 and 115 degrees. Any cooler or hotter and you run the risk of not having it activate.

Letting the dough rise twice is also a must. The dough needs to form gluten (the structure of the bread), and letting it rise twice lets that happen.

RYE BREAD

2 tbsp. yeast
2½ cups water
¼ cup honey
1 tbsp. salt
2 tbsp. shortening, melted and cooled slightly
2½ cups rye flour
2 tbsp. caraway seeds
6 cups flour

In a bowl combine the water, honey and yeast. When the yeast bubbles add the salt and shortening. Mix well. Add the rye flour and caraway seeds. Add enough white flour to form a soft dough. Knead for about 5 minutes and add more flour if the dough is too soft and sticky.

Place the dough in a greased bowl and cover. Let rise until the dough is double in size. Punch the dough down and place the dough on a floured surface. Kneed 3 or 4 times and shape into two free form loaves and let rise until double in size. Preheat oven to 400. Take a sharp knife and make several criss cross cuts across the top of the loafs. Bake for 35 minutes. You can glaze with water just before and after baking if you like. Makes two loaves.

BLACK BREAD

⅛ cup cornmeal
¼ cup cold water
¼ cup boiling water
1 tbsp. butter
1 tbsp. salt
2 tbsp. brown sugar plus 1 tsp.
1½ tsp. caraway seeds
1 tbsp. unsweetened cocoa
1 tbsp. instant coffee
2 pkgs. yeast
¼ cup warm water
2 cups dark rye flour
1 cup whole wheat flour
2 cups flour
1 egg white beaten with 2 tbsp. water

In a bowl combine the cornmeal and the cold water and mix well. In a saucepan boil the water. Pour the cornmeal mixture into the boiling water and mix until the mixture thickens and bubbles. Stir in the butter, caraway seeds, cocoa and instant coffee. Remove from heat and cool slightly.

In another bowl dissolve the yeast in the ¼ cup water and add to the other mixture and stir. Place the liquid mixture into a large bowl or mixing bowl and gradually mix in the flours. Add a little more water if necessary. The dough should, however, be slightly sticky. Place the dough on a floured surface and knead with additional flour if necessary until the dough is firm and elastic. Place dough into a greased bowl and cover. Let rise until double in size.

Punch down and form two round loaves or place the dough in two greased loaf pans. Preheat oven to 375. Let rise until double in size and brush the top of the bread with the beaten egg whites and water mixture. Bake 375 for 50 to 60 minutes. Err on the side of overbaking if you have doubts about

[Cont'd. on page 28]

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Breads are a true slice of life

[Cont'd. from page 27]

whether or not the bread is done. Makes 2 loaves.

PUMPERNICKEL BREAD

2 tbsp. yeast
1 tsp. sugar
½ cup lukewarm water
1½ tbsp. salt
¼ cup molasses
1 cup potatoes, mashed
1 tbsp. shortening
2 cups boiling water
1¼ tbsp. caramel coloring
½ cup yellow cornmeal
4 cups rye flour
2 tbsp. caraway seeds
5 cups flour

In a small bowl, combine the yeast with sugar and warm water. Set aside. In a large bowl combine the salt, molasses, mashed potatoes and shortening. Pour the boiling water over these ingredients and mix well. Cool. When the potato mixture is lukewarm add the yeast mixture to it and mix. Stir in the coloring to the desired color.

Combine the cornmeal with the rye flour, caraway seeds and all but 1 cup of the white flour. Stir in the liquid to the flour mixture and mix well until it comes away from the side of the bow. Turn the dough out on to a floured board and knead with enough flour to form a soft dough. Cover and let rest for 20 minutes.

Knead again and add a little more flour if necessary and place the dough in a greased bowl. Cover and let rise until the dough is double in size. Punch the dough down, place the dough on a floured surface. Knead a few times and shape into two round loaves. Brush the top of the loaves with water, place the loaves on greased baking sheet and let rise until double in size. Bake at 350 for 50 minutes. Remove the loaves from the oven and cool on racks. Makes 2 loaves.

ONION BREAD

1 tsp. sugar
½ cup lukewarm water
2 pkgs. yeast
4 eggs
⅓ cup sugar
1 tbsp. salt
⅔ cup oil
1¼ cups warm water
8 cups flour (approx.)
2 grated onions
1 tbsp. salt
½ cup poppy seeds
½ cup melted butter or margarine

In a small bowl dissolve sugar in the ½ cup water. Sprinkle the yeast on top (let set 10 minutes). Mix in the eggs, sugar, 2 tbsps. salt, oil, water and half of the flour. Mix well and add the rest of the flour. Let the dough rise for about 30 to 40 minutes and punch down.

Divide the dough into 3 portions and roll each section out to about ½-inch thick (sort of like a pizza). Prick the top with a fork and place on greased cookie sheet. Preheat oven to 400 and let the dough rise 10 to 15 minutes. In a small bowl combine the remaining ingredients. Divide the onion/poppy seed mixture between the three loaves and spread it over the top. Bake 20 minutes and cool slightly before serving. Makes 3 loaves.

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Supermarket planned for Lawrence Plaza

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —A huge supermarket, with half its space devoted to kosher goods, is scheduled to open in Lawrence Plaza before the end of this year.

The Dominion store is to be located in the space formerly occupied by Sportmart.

The supermarket, owned by the A&P chain, is to occupy 40,000 square feet, said Roger Hebert, site manager.

It marks the return of a large supermarket to the busy Lawrence and Bathurst plaza, which has been without one since Loblaws left several years ago.

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Shir Libeynu to hold services at Cecil Community Centre

By CINDY WAXER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Shir Libeynu could not have selected a more appropriate location than the Cecil Community Centre, with its marble yahrzeit plaques, Cantonese language classes and fundraising events, to hold its second annual High Holy Day services.

Founded by Adrienne Rosen, a philosophy major and doctoral candidate, and Aviva Goldberg, a doctoral candidate in York University's Women Studies Department, Shir Libeynu (Song of Our Heart) is a left-wing, progressive, egalitarian congregation that aims at merging Hebrew prayer with Jewish spirituality and social consciousness.

"Our mission statement is that we are unaffiliated, we are egalitarian, we believe in participation and we believe in keeping the traditions, but innovating [them] as well," says Goldberg.

And it is precisely this commitment to preserving Jewish customs while accommodating modern-day diversity that makes Shir Libeynu's choice of venue this year so fitting. Built in 1890, the Cecil Community Centre originally functioned as the Church of Christ. However, in the 1920s, the Jewish Ostrovitzer congregation acquired the building, truncated its bell tower and capped it with a dome. Located in the Kensington Market area, the building remained a synagogue through the years, serving the neighborhood's thriving Jewish community.

In the 1960s, the Ostrovitzer congregation sold the building but stipulated that neither the Hebrew date-stones nor the massive marble yahrzeit plaques in the vestibule could be tampered with, as had happened when the neighboring Beth Jacob synagogue was sold.

Today, the building serves an area that has become predominantly Chinese.

"It's magical. You turn out the lights and you sit down when no one's in there and you can hear the voices of the past," says Rosen of the former synagogue whose women's section now serves as second-storey office space.

Gay and lesbian families, single parents and intermarried couples are all invited to attend Shir Libeynu's High Holy Day services and the shul will be offering free day care facilities.

"We're totally committed to diversity and pluralism in the Jewish community. We don't want to know what kind of Jew you are ...we're not going to judge your Judaism. We just want you to be Jewish and involved in any way that you can be," says Rosen.

In an effort to facilitate the myriad beliefs and practices of its expected 250 Jewish attendees, Shir Libeynu's High Holy Day services will feature group aliyot, Hebrew prayers, songs and niggunim in non-gendered English translations, and a supplement containing poetry, prose and meditative readings. The singing of Hebrew prayers will be led by Sharon Bar-David, an Israeli-born chazzan.

Shir Libeynu's innovative approach to Jewish traditions and contemporary lifestyles extends beyond its annual High Holy Day services. In celebration of Shavuot, Shir Libeynu rented a bus and brought a group of women from a seniors' home to Casino Rama in order to commemorate the relationship between two generations of women. And on Sukkot, the shul built a sukkah in a residential downtown neighborhood and invited friends and family to attend a brief service.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Shir Libeynu Hotline: 537-3435 or by purchasing directly from the Bloor J.C.C.

Information night at mikveh

TORONTO — For the third year, the Thornhill Community Mikveh is holding an information night, Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Open to all Jews, and to women and men, separately, this mikvah is used mostly for conversions, by brides and just before the High Holy Days, according to Catherine Bianco, its *shomerit*.

The session will cover the role of the mikvah in the Liberal community. It will be open for immersion that night. The usual charge of $18 will apply.

These information sessions have attracted 25 to 30 people in the past, mostly women.

"It is a particularly meaningful ritual for men and women prior to the holidays," said Bianco.

It is located at 36 Atkinson Ave. in Thornhill. For information, call 905-709-2275.

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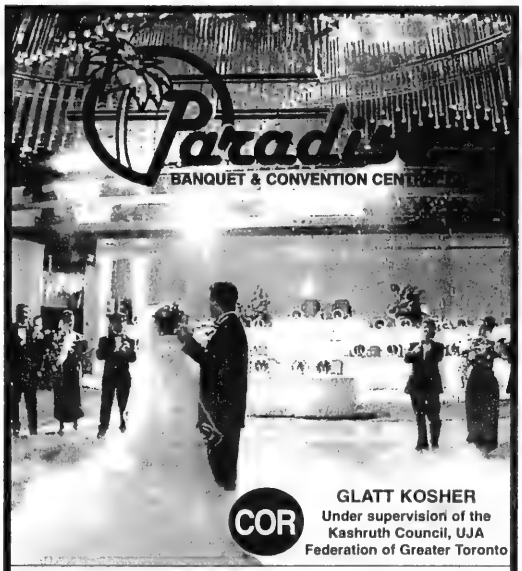

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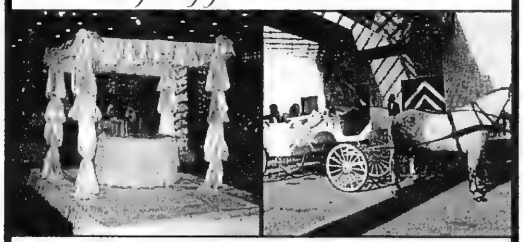

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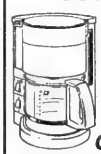
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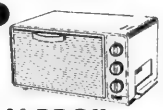
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גידי קורן וחברים

צל כבד:

צל כבד יורד על הארץ הקטנה שלנו. פתאום מתברר שגייסות בלתי מוגבלים של אנשי חאמאס מוכנים לפוצץ את עצמם ובלבד שיהרגו יהודים. התגובה המיידית של הישראלים: צריך להפסיק את תהליך השלום, עראפאת לא מספיק מעוניין לדכא את החאמאס. אבל תחשבו על זה: אנשי החאמאס מתפוצצים בדיוק כדי שלא יהיה שלום. ולגבי עראפאת- לפני שנתיים היו פיצוצים דומים כשאנחנו שלטנו בכל הגדה וגם אז לא הצלחנו לסכל אותם. ורצועת הביטחון בלבנון: היא אמורה להגן מפני החיזבאללה, אבל מתי שהם רק רוצים הם יורים קטיושות וכל שבוע נהרגים שם חיילים יהודים, בדיוק כמו שנהרגו קודם בעזה. וככל שגדל ומתעצם מעגל האיבה, גם המתונים שבמחנה הישראלי אינם רואים עוד שלום. "לא שלום כזה" הם אומרים, "ולא עם אחד כמו עראפאת". אז עם מי כן שלום? עם קנדה? עם ניו זילנד? לפני חודשיים, כשהותקף נתניהו בכנסת על המדיניות שלו הוא ענה: הינה הבאתי לכם רגיעה בטרור. לא נקף יום והיה פיצוץ בשוק מחנה יהודה. לא הביא ולא בָּטיח. והאם שלום ונסיגה מהגדה יביאו שלום? איך אפשר לדעת?

בקיצור, מה דעתכם שלכם? תכתבו נא, ואני מבטיח לפרסם.

תרצה אתר:

לפני עשרים שנה נפטרה המשוררת תרצה אתר, והיא רק בת שלושים ושבע שנה. גם אם אינכם קוראים שירה בודאי תזכרו את השיר הראשון שפירסם את שלמה ארצי "אהבתיה" (היא בליבי עכשיו... כמו הרבה מילים... עכשיו היא כאן") - את השיר הזה כתבה תרצה אתר. אתר היתה ביתו של המשורר נתן אלתרמן ולה הוא כתב את "שיר משמר" הידוע "שמרי נפשך, כוחך שמרי, שמרי נפשך" והיא לא שמרה, ונפטרה בצורה טראגית פחות מעשר שנים אחריו. ספר השירים של תרצה אתר מלווה אותי כבר שנים רבות, וכדי לעשות לכם טעם של עוד, הינה כמה שורות שישארו איתכם:

"לא תמיד הדמעות מסמרות על תגר,
יש דברים אחרים,
-השתיקה, הזמן, יש-אין-יש;
הסומק עולה בלחיי האנשים
לא תמיד מבושה,
-לפעמים כשוט אש!"

פיתרון החידה: הניסוי הראשון בתנ"ך:

לפני שבועיים שאלתי אתכם מה היה הניסוי המבוקר הראשון בתנ"ך ואולי בהיסטוריה. "ניסוי מבוקר" הוא כזה שיש בו "קבוצת ביקורת", כלומר: מנסים פעם אחת, ואח"כ עוד פעם בתנאים שונים. למשל: פעם אחת נותנים תרופה אחת ופעם שניה תרופה אחֶרֶת.

רוב התשובות שקיבלנו היו לא נכונות. שתיים היו מעניינות אם כי לא מה שאני חשבתי: " לגידי שלום, התשובה לחידה היא: נוח, העורב והיונה. צופיה קליין טורונטו". נוח שלח את העורב לנסות אם ירדו המים, ואח"כ את היונה, שחזרה עם עלה זית ואח"כ לא חזרה. רעיון יפה. חיים פרוכטר ממונטריאול ענה תשובה מעניינת ושונה: "הניסוי הראשון בתנ"ך היה שילוח המרגלים. זה היה גם ניסוי וגם ניסיון, [illegible] קופה של יהושע לפני כיבוש הארץ שוב חזרו על אותו ניסיון". ולמה אני התכוונתי? - כשציווה מלאך ה' על גדעון להנהיג את ישראל, רצה גדעון הוכחה שאכן האל ייתן בידו את המדיינים. הוא ביקש מהמלאך סימן, וציוה עליו לעשות שעם שחר תהיה גיזת הצמר מלאה טל ושהכל מסביב יהיה יבש. המלאך צייית. למחרת ביקש גדעון שיתהפך על המעשה, רק שהפעם יהיה הכל מסביב רטוב מטל, ורק הגיזה תישאר יבשה. וכך היה. מברוק לצופיה וחיים, הם זוכים בספר "The Children of Neverland" שנשלח לביתם עם הקדשת המחבר.

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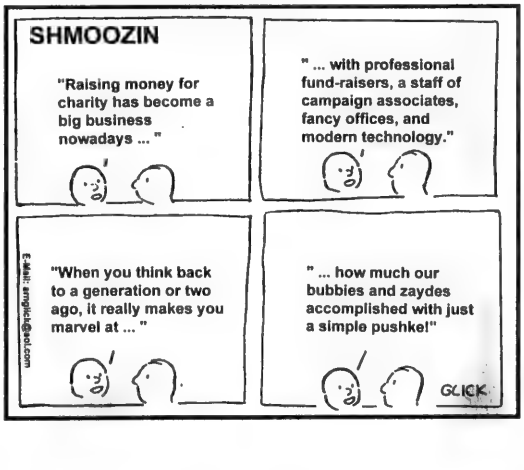
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Greater Toronto Area

Canada's rights charter influences Israeli law

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Charter of Rights and Freedoms has had a tremendous effect on Canadian society since it was introduced in 1982, but those who framed the constitutional document might be surprised to learn that it has had almost as great an impact in Israel.

Familiarity with the charter is essential for barristers practising Israeli law, since courts in the Jewish state often refer to Canadian legal decisions when delivering their own judgments, a visiting Israeli civil rights expert said recently.

Moshe Cohen, a lawyer with the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), said the Canadian charter has become "tremendously important" for Israeli society since the enactment of that country's Basic Law, which sets out fundamental rights pertaining to life, property and human dignity. Canadian cases are considered by Israeli courts when they apply those principles to local circumstances.

Like Canada's charter, the Basic Law has a section that makes all rights subject to reasonable limitations. Israeli courts have studied Canadian Supreme Court decisions, particularly R. v. Oakes, to determine the criteria by which to limit those fundamental rights, Cohen said.

Despite the enactment of the Basic Law and the influence of Canadian jurisprudence, Israel at best is in the middle of the pack of the international community when it comes to protecting human rights, he said.

The absence of separation between "church and state" and the broad authority given the Shin Bet, Israel's internal security service, are the main reasons for downgrading Israel's ranking on human rights, he said.

Because of the influence of religious parties, discrimination is permitted against non-Orthodox streams of Judaism, while secular Jews are forced to comply with religious rules in matters such as marriage and divorce. Both circumstances violate an individual's freedom of religion, Cohen said.

On the security issue, Palestinians and even right-wing activists suspected of passing army material to opponents of the government have been roughed up by the security force.

"One of Israel's biggest problems is [this] huge power, operating secretly... Security personnel have the authority to use moderate pressure on detainees. Sometimes they use too much," he said.

Cohen, who was in Toronto to research Canadian law, said ACRI is constantly attempting to expand the scope of human rights in Israel.

A recent book by Chief Justice Aharon Barak, in which the jurist

Moshe Cohen

suggests the protection of "human dignity" should include equality, freedom of speech and freedom of movement, which are not explicitly protected in the Basic Law, gives an indication of the direction in which the court is looking, Cohen said.

That approach clashes with the view of Israel's Orthodox parties. From the earliest days of the state, the Orthodox have opposed provisions in Israeli law that would recognize the concepts of equality and freedom of speech, which could permit equal rights for women and, it was feared, allow displays of pornography. In recent years, Orthodox parties have tried to prevent a Reform Jewish woman from sitting on the Netanya religious council and have disputed the right of non-Orthodox streams to have their conversions recognized, he said.

ACRI, with the assistance of the New Israel Fund (NIF), works to encourage public debate on civil rights while lobbying the Knesset to expand recognized human rights, Cohen said.

In the past, ACRI has been hampered by the public perception that it is a left-wing group concerned only with Palestinian rights. But during the last Labor government, ACRI took on the cases involving Kach supporters and Ultra-Orthodox Jews who were attacked by police in anti-government demonstrations. In addition, ACRI represented Sephardi Jews in discrimination suits against the government.

"This has softened our image as a left-wing group," Cohen said.

While in Toronto, Cohen addressed a group of lawyers on human rights in Israel. The speaking engagement was sponsored by the NIF, which promotes the strengthening of democracy and advancing social justice in Israel. The NIF helps train Israeli lawyers in civil rights at North American law schools and finds placements for them in Israeli law firms. ACRI is the New Israel Fund's largest single recipient of financial support.

CLARIFICATION

In the Sept. 5 edition of *The CJN*, the figure for tuition at Ner Israel Yeshiva was given as $11,750. Ner Israel Yeshiva is the only high school in Toronto where the students live-in during the school year. Consequently, this figure includes tuition, room and board.

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Greater Toronto Area

Brothers give $100,000 to promote Yiddish education

TORONTO — Two brothers have chose to commemorate their late mother's love of Yiddish by donating $100,000 toward Yiddish education.

Saul and Aaron Berman's gift on behalf of their mother Mary, who died recently in Calgary, is being made through UJA Federation's Legacy Campaign to promote Yiddish education in the Greater Toronto Area and beyond, with particular emphasis on children's education and teacher training.

"My mother struggled so hard to give my brother and me a good Yiddish education while raising us alone during the Depression," says Saul, who now lives in Toronto. "It was her means of ensuring our Yiddishkeit and now we want to continue her dream," adds Aaron, who remains in Calgary.

"One of my mother-in-law's greatest pleasures was listening to her grandchildren speak Yiddish," says Saul's wife Ana, who teaches Yiddish at Bialik Hebrew Day School. She is active in enlisting community support for Yiddish programs by UJA Federation's committee for Yiddish and Friends of Yiddish. "My children are able to enjoy a closer relationship with their grandparents because they are able to communicate in Yiddish."

"If we instil a love of Yiddish at a young age it will always be a part of their Jewish identity," says committee for Yiddish chair Ethel Cooper. "Yiddish is an essential element of Jewish continuity."

Morris Zbar, UJA Federation's vice-president of community planning and allocation assured the Bermans "their gift will go a long way to ensuring the stability of funding for Yiddish studies."

The Mary Berman Endowment Fund will be used to increase funding for new initiatives and existing committee for Yiddish programs, including Yiddish language classes for adults and children, and teacher training.

Saul and Aaron Berman

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On Campus

JEWISH CAMPUS SERVICES HOSTS PARTNERS' FAIR

Barbara Friedman, UJA on Campus representative, talks to students at last week's Jewish Campus Services partners' fair at York University. About a dozen community agencies were represented, and fairs were also held at the University of Toronto and Ryerson Polytechnic University. [Frances Kraft photo]

Yiddish scholarships won

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Three students have been awarded scholarships in Yiddish through the University of Toronto.

Second-year U of T science student Nesya Goldberg, 19; retired physician Daniel Deitch, 75; and Tom Rachman, now a graduate student in New York, received respectively the Anne Medres Glass Memorial Scholarship in Yiddish, the Percy Matenko Scholarship in Yiddish and the Solomon Isaac Shek Award in Yiddish Literature.

"I took Yiddish for enjoyment and I really did enjoy it; to get a scholarship too was wonderful," said Goldberg, a graduate of Ulpanat Orot and a member of Netivot Hatorah Day School's second graduating class.

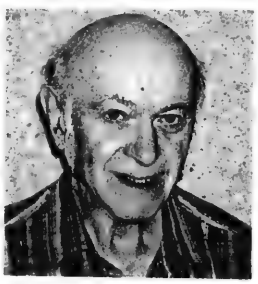
A second-generation Canadian whose parents spoke Yiddish when they didn't want her to understand, Goldberg thinks Yiddish is "very important – it's a part of Jewish culture."

Nesya Goldberg

Goldberg, who took introductory Yiddish last year, has a number of scholastic awards to her credit.

Deitch, a native of Chicago who moved here in 1970, grew up in a Yiddish-speaking home. He took an intermediate Yiddish course in part so he could finally understand the writings of his father, Mattes Deitch, who authored almost a dozen books of Yiddish poetry.

The course was "marvellous, beautiful," said Deitch. "There was literature, stories and singing, but the main thing was the communication of ideas and feelings. We have such a marvellous Yiddish culture."



Daniel Deitch

Deitch, who has also taken Holocaust Studies at U of T, where his daughter is working on a PhD in English Literature, spent his summer reading thousands of pages of Yiddish literature, he said. "Yes it's slow going, but I'm reading good stuff."

He is optimistic about the future of Yiddish. "Hebrew was revived at a time we thought it would never happen," he noted. Although the birth of modern Hebrew was facilitated by having a country – even before the founding of the State of Israel, there were once "10 million people who spoke Yiddish and they didn't have their own country," said Deitch.

This year marks 25 years since Yiddish courses were first offered at U of T. The late Medres Glass, for whom one of the scholarships is named, was the first Yiddish instructor at the university.

Tom Rachman, the third award winner, was not reachable at press time.

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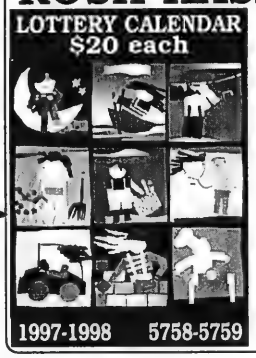

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The bus will leave the cemetery at 12:30 p.m. for return to the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

For further information, and to register, please call the cemetery office (416) 635-2883, extension 211 - Trudy, or extension 224 - Dina.

Winnipeg community centre opens with much fanfare

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Over the past few years, Sheldon Berney, president of the new Asper Jewish Community Campus, painted many mental pictures of the $28 million facility's grand opening. He was not disappointed.

On a recent Sunday, close to 2,000 members of this city's Jewish community came out for the grand opening in what Laurie Mainster, chair of the planning committee described as "the largest gathering in the history of Winnipeg's Jewish community."

Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon, one of a long list of speakers, said the campus is the "envy of Jewish communities throughout North America," while Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJJC) president Larry Hurtig described it as "the most important" project in the 120-year history of Winnipeg's Jewish community.

The campus is "an investment not only in our Jewish community but also in the larger community of which we are a part," said emcee Harold Buchwald. "It will be an outstanding centre of life and learning. It has rejuvenated our community."

In his remarks, Filmon lauded what he called the Winnipeg Jewish community's international reputation for exuberance — a reputation the campus can only enhance.

He pointed out that it was built and paid for without burdening future generations, and outlined the history of the buildings incorporated in the complex — from their origins in 1906 as an agricultural college to serving as the Manitoba School for the Deaf, a World War I military hospital, military barracks, and provincial government offices — until the Jewish community acquired the complex.

Ron Duhamel, federal Secretary of State for Western Economic Development, described the campus as a valuable resource for the Jewish community and Winnipeg as a whole.

"It is a place where all Manitobans can learn about the Jewish culture," he said. He also noted that the Marion and Ed Vickar Jewish Museum of Western Canada and Holocaust Education Centre (to which the federal government contributed $3.65 million) is the first of its kind in the country.

Jehudi Kinar, Israel's consul general to Toronto and Western Canada, noted the tremendous impact Winnipeg's Jewish community has had on Canadian Jewry.

"Wherever I go across Canada and even in Israel, I find former Winnipeggers among the community leaders," he said. "Rarely do you see a Jewish community of this size with such a well established Jewish school system. (The Gray Academy of Jewish Education on the campus numbers about 840 students from junior kindergarten to Grade 12.) It is the envy of other communities."

Izzy Asper, a major contributor to the campus, expressed his gratitude to Jewish pioneers, including his parents, Leon and Cecilia Asper (after whom the centre is named) and his in-laws, Morris and Sarah Bernstein — who made the "difficult and uncharted journey" to Winnipeg.

WJCC president Hurtig praised his predecessor, Don Aronovitch, and singled out Laurie Mainster and Harold Buchwald for their efforts.

He presented special plaques to Sheldon Berney, Marjorie Blankstein (chair of the capital campaign) and Bob Freedman, executive director of the WJCC.

Marjorie Blankstein chaired the Long Range Planning Committee that recommended the building of the campus.

The Max and Rose Rady Jewish Community Centre is named after her parents.

The dedication program was rounded out by an invocation from Rabbi Peretz Weitzman, rabbi emeritus of the B'nay Abraham Synagogue, and a 35-voice choir under the leadership of Cantor Richard Yaffe.

The ceremony concluded with the unveiling of a commemorative dedication plaque by Sol Kanee and Grade 1 students Skylar Kneller and Jonathon Ripstein.

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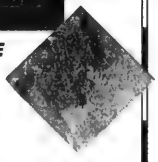

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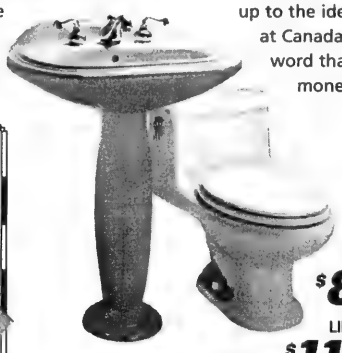

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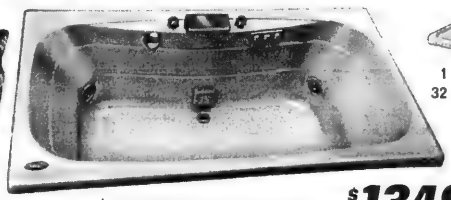

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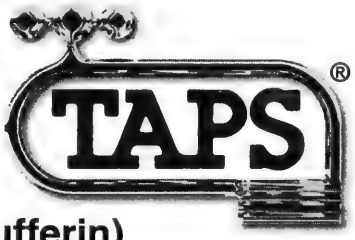

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Marc Hirshman
Hebrew University, Jerusalem

3:30 p.m. HOW DID THE RABBIS VIEW THE HOLY LAND?

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The Wolinsky Lectures are sponsored by the Centre for Jewish Studies, the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Education of York University in cooperation with the Toronto Board of Jewish Education. Professor Hirshman's visit has been arranged with the cooperation of the Toronto Chapter of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University. Lectures are open to the public free of charge.

Inquiries: 736-5823

Cornwall maintains minyan despite dwindling numbers

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

CORNWALL — Though the average age in this dwindling Jewish community is 70, there is still a Shabbat minyan at historic Congregation Beth-El.

At its peak, the community in the eastern Ontario town consisted of 120 families, but now it is down to 30. For the first time, there is not one locally Jewish-owned business in the city.

"I only have 15 people I can call to a minyan and last winter so many were away we had to cancel the Shabbat minyan for the first time," said Marc Goldhammer, 75, the shul's president for the past 15 years. "What the future holds I dare not say." His father-in-law, Julius Miller, was president for 25 years before him.

But the aging community, one of the oldest in Canada with Jewish settlement going back to the 1860s, is proud of the good relations it has had over the years with its English and French-Canadian neighbors.

Eugene Larocque, the Roman Catholic bishop of Cornwall, regularly attends the Kol Nidre service, fasts on Yom Kippur, and breaks the fast with shul members.

Cornwall has a history of producing Jews who made good in politics, Goldhammer said, including Toronto mayor Nathan Phillips, Aaron Horovitz, Cornwall mayor for 16 years and George Simon, mayor of Alexandria. The family of Sam Jacobs, first Jewish member of the House of Commons, came from this area.

"At one time four of our 10 council members were Jewish. During the Jewish holidays, there was little shopping done because so many stores on Pitt street were closed."

Among the well known families were the Vinebergs, Kellerts and Friedmans.

Goldhammer, now retired, was a high school teacher for 25 years, and taught data processing even before the school had a computer.

His late wife, the former Helen Miller, was one of the first Jewish high school teachers in Ontario. Their son, Bram, is a well known Toronto musician, while a daughter, Sharon, is executive secretary of the Atlanta, Ga., Jewish community.

Former residents of Cornwall have raised $30,000 for a reserve fund to help the shul stay open, and the interest on the investment helps defray operating costs.

"It was a phenomenal place to live," said Peter Loebel of Toronto who resided here with his family, 1956-61 . "Everyone gave newcomers a helping hand."

The shul has fraternal associations with Jewish communities in Canton, Messina, Potsdam, Ogdensburg and others in northern New York state and invites their residents to take part in Chanukah celebrations.

When the St. Lawrence seaway was developed in the 1950s, three graves had to be moved from an area of the Jewish cemetery, and a new cemetery was given to the community west of the city.

"The government was wonderful in its dealings with us on the cemetery," said Goldhammer.

If spirit can keep a place alive, then the future of Cornwall's Jewish community is assured. Despite its small population and distance from major Jewish centres, eight families still keep kosher homes.

SINGLES EVENTS Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Due to Rosh Hashanah, there will be an early deadline for the Oct. 1st issue. Deadline is Tues., Oct. 23rd, by 3 p.m.

For rates or to place an ad, please call LISA at (416) 391-1836

The CJN **encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.**

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Thanks again for last year's successful groups. Next group: Tues. Sept. 23 at 7:30pm.Topic:"Do's and Dont's of Dating".Admission: $10. Call Sol, 636-0391. Donations to Bayerest Centre.Coffee/cake served

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From coast to coast

Silverstone returns to CJC

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Jack Silverstone is back at the helm of Canadian Jewish Congress after a one-year sabbatical in Israel, where he gained insight into the country's complexities, improved his Hebrew and had time to reflect on life in general.

"I wouldn't say I've been transformed, but it's almost impossible to be in as intense a society as Israel for a year and not have your perceptions changed," said Silverstone, 46. One thing that struck him was how Israelis regard themselves as "one big family."

"Being there during the [terrorist] bombings and the [army] helicopter crash, you can appreciate how traumatic such events are...the whole country was in mourning," he said.

The CJC national executive director and general counsel has changed perceptively outside as well. His grey hair has been cropped very short, he sports a tiny stud earring and looks fit and relaxed. (He worked out four times a week.)

Silverstone surprised many last year when he took a leave of absence, closed up his Dollard des Ormeaux home and brought his wife Ann, and three children, a daughter, now 15, and sons 12 and 5, to Israel. They lived in the community of Ra'anana, north of Tel Aviv.

"I could see the lights of the West Bank from my balcony. It makes you more painfully aware of the security problems."

Jack and Ann attended ulpan for 4½ months and the children entered regular public school and did well, which gave him a greater appreciation of the quality of Jewish education in Montreal. Silverstone served as a civilian volunteer for a month in the IDF, the fourth time he has taken part in the program. In this instance, he acted as a liaison with the United Nations peacekeepers, from his base at the Allenby Bridge

He did some writing, including a lengthy piece on the Jewish community and the Quebec independence movement for *Jerusalem Letter*, a publication of the Jerusalem Centre for Public Affairs, and attended various international Jewish communal functions. He toured the country with his kids.

Silverstone said he suffered no disillusionment because "I went to experience the reality of contemporary Israel, which is a dynamic, modern, forward-looking society, beset with external and internal problems...To cling to a romantic, idealized vision of Israel does no one any good."

He was pleasantly surprised, contrary to popular image, at how efficient the Israeli bureaucracy is. On the other hand, he was sickened by the level of carnage on Israel's highways, a consequence of aggressive driving that he had difficulty getting used to.

One disturbing observation he made is the depth of the "mutual ignorance" between Israel and the Diaspora. "I'm astonished at how many Jews – people I know – who have never been to Israel. Not enough Jews are visiting Israel."

As for Israelis, he finds too many "negate the validity of the Diaspora, with the possible exception of the United States...Israelis must learn that Jewish life is possible outside Israel, that the Diaspora has an important role."

Personally, the hardest adjustment he had to make was living without the structure of daily route. "I've been working since I was 14. There was never a time that I was not employed. It was difficult to adjust to a slower pace."

Living in Israel indefinitely was not his goal, and he says he's come back renewed for his old job. "I feel more serene. I've got a better sense of what's important and what's not."

Silverstone stayed in regular contact with the CJC office and feels he was kept abreast of what was happening.

Back in Montreal, he finds little has changed. The news is still dominated by the same political issues and the community appears to have the same concerns and anxieties.

Annual Wolinsky lectures

TORONTO — York University's Centre for Jewish Studies is presenting the annual Leonard Wolinsky lectures on Sunday, Sept. 21.

Titled The Land and its Interpreters, the lectures will feature two noted scholars, Neil Asher Silberman, an author and historian, and Marc Hirschman of the Hebrew University.

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Assistant Professor in Education & Humanities and
Co-ordinator of Jewish Teacher Education Programme at York University

Dr. Elaine Todres
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Rabbi Dr. Joseph Kelman
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Unique Parliament to begin

Scene in Ottawa

By STEPHEN BINDMAN

OTTAWA — This town has finally awoken from its post-election slumber.

After Jean Chrétien and the Liberals were returned with their second straight majority government in June, the entire political and bureaucratic machinery in Ottawa seemed to effectively shut down.

It wasn't a short nap, but an intense period of hibernation, as if someone hung a "closed for business" sign on the outskirts of the national capital.

Chrétien was quick to appoint his new cabinet – veteran Jewish minister Herb Gray assumed the lofty but perhaps not onerous mantle of deputy prime minister – but just as quickly the new ministers hustled out of town.

Armed with bulging briefing books prepared by the mandarins, the ministers retired to wherever ministers retire to figure out their new responsibilities. Staffs were shuffled, priorities prioritized.

Chrétien headed for golf links far and near, a few ministers adjourned to la belle province to take French lessons, while Unity Minister Stéphane Dion obviously spent his spare time at his typewriter, engaging in a tit-for-tat letter-writing campaign with his Quebec counterpart.

Imagine a private-sector company that decided to do nothing for four months in the middle of the fiscal year.

But now it has apparently occurred to the Liberals that in fact they were re-elected to govern and so they are scrambling to prepare for the fall session of Parliament.

And so are the various advocacy groups that monitor the goings-on on Parliament Hill and try to twist the arms of politicians of all stripes for their pet causes.

This will be a Parliament like no other – a House of Commons with five recognized political parties representing largely regional blocks. Liberal, Reform, Bloc Québécois, Progressive Conservative and NDP all won enough seats to win "official party status" in the Commons that will allow them to ask questions during the 45-minute daily theatrics of Question Period and to sit on Commons committees.

"There is no question that the results of the election have left a kind of quilt pattern in the House," says Eric Vernon, director of the Ottawa advocacy office for Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

"There are going to be four official opposition parties now, all of which will be clamoring for a say, which will make for perhaps an even more interesting and raucous question period.

"In addition, there are certain regional distinctions that have developed as well, particularly given the fact that the Reform party will now be the official Opposition and have not managed to break out of their pattern of being a western party. Their hoped-for breakthrough in Ontario didn't happen and they don't appear to be particularly ready for any kind of advances elsewhere."

Call this Parliament what you want – pizza pie, Balkanized – but it will certainly be different.

That means the Liberals will have to learn to govern differently, especially with a razor-thin majority and a group of a hundred or so increasingly restless Ontario backbenchers who are apparently tiring of acting like trained seals.

And groups like CJC will also have to learn to do their Hill business a little bit differently.

Says Vernon, the affable eyes and ears of Congress in Ottawa: "We do this sort of work as a matter of course, no matter what the Parliament looks like. But this one in particular is going to require of us to do more of it and to approach more people to get our message across.

"Generally speaking, we need to get to more and more MPs of all parties whose voice will have a say.

"I think what we were doing before was speaking to MPs of all parties, but certainly there was more of an emphasis on the larger parties and the parties with official status. When you've got four opposition parties that have official standing, you're going to have MPs who will be more involved in the day-to-day management of legislative affairs. They're going to have more and more impact on shaping legislation.

"So I think the onus will be on us to meet with more and more people and convey our concerns and to articulate the perspectives of the community on major issues."

You're going to see more representation of opposition members on committees than there were before.

The parliamentary action starts Sept. 22. Stay tuned.

Stephen Bindman is national legal affairs correspondent for the Southam Newspapers based in Ottawa.

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From coast to coast

4 cousins celebrate joint bat mitzvah

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Cousins Emily Baron Cadloff, Laura Miles, Lee Goldstein and Marti Sarbit recently celebrated what may have been Winnipeg's first quadruple bat mitzvah.

The bat mitzvah, held at Shaarey Zedek Synagogue, was a Minchah service in which the first portion of the Torah reading for the following Shabbat is read.

"We wanted the bnot mitzvah to do as much of the service as possible," says Ricky Miles, Laura's mother.

There were four aliyot, one for each family. The girls read equal portions of the Torah reading and similarly divided the Haftorah reading. Their mothers led the Ashrei prayer.

"Rabbi Deborah Schloss [Shaarey Zedek's assistant rabbi] wanted each girl to do something significant on her own as well," Miles says.

"Laura did the prayer when opening the Aron Kodesh, Emily did a dvar Torah, Lee [who is from Israel] read the prayer for the State of Israel and Marti did an introduction to the Haftorah.

"This was a special event which we know the girls will never forget," says Miles. "They developed a special bond and supported each other throughout. Even though they come from different backgrounds, communities and upbringings, a bat mitzvah is something universal that they can all share."

From left (front row) Lee Goldstein, Laura Miles; (back row) Emily Cadloff, Marti Sarbit.

Vancouver CJA campaign begins

By ROBERTA STALEY
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — A professional fundraiser from Israel brought to Vancouver to convince donors to give more to this year's Combined Jewish Appeal Campaign is claiming success.

Itzik Lev, 50, senior member in charge of special projects for the Jerusalem-based United Israel Appeal, said he's received a warm reception so far from the nearly dozen contributors he met in Vancouver during a three-week trip to that city.

"The five or six I've met individually – most of them have increased their contribution. When you have the time to sit down and explain the partnership, the responses are appropriate," he said.

Lev's work lobbying donors will be continued by Zvi Raviv, also from Israel. "Raviv will be here for another couple of weeks doing what I'm doing," Lev said. "He'll be the entrée and I'll be the hors d'oeuvre."

The Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver's four-month 1997 combined appeal campaign started Sept. 1. It raises money for 23 agencies, including the the Jewish Agency in Israel as well as several national and Lower Mainland agencies.

Lev said more money is needed to help the Jewish Agency, which funds immigration and related programs. Israel takes in between 5,000 and 6,000 new immigrants a year, mostly from the former Soviet Union, he said.

Federation's executive is making a special effort this year to boost its campaign fundraising tally over last year's disappointing $3.79-million total, $309,000 short of the amount raised in 1995. After last year's shortfall, Lower Mainland agencies were forced to swallow an 11 percent cutback in funding at the start of 1997.

To heighten the profile, Federation also organized an official Sept. 11 kickoff event at Beth Israel synagogue that included speeches by Israeli Knesset member Yael Dayan, daughter of the late Israeli defence minister Moshe Dayan.

This year, $1 million, or about 37 per cent of the total amount raised, is earmarked for Israel. About $370,000 is pledged to national programs such as the Canadian Jewish Congress, much of which goes to the Pacific region. The rest of the money helps fund 19 Lower Mainland agencies.

Federation has approved a total of $1,512,650 to the Lower Mainland agencies for the 1997-98 budget, a drop of 13.3 percent from last year's $1,744,954 total.

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From coast to coast

Calgary students join in ethics conference in Israel

By JUDY SHAPIRO
Special to The CJN

CALGARY — One hundred students and teachers from six countries gathered in Jerusalem in July to explore a revolutionary concept: integrating the study of ethics into high school science and humanities curricula.

Among the participants were 20 students and four teachers from two Calgary schools.

The Ethics in Science and Humanities seminar was the culmination of a year-long experimental project, where students at 10 schools in Israel, Jordan, Cyprus, Australia, Canada and the United States explored the theory of philosophy and various ethical issues ranging from the risks of scientific experimentation, to the moral implications of progress, to the effect of art on human welfare.

The project was an offshoot of an Ethics in Science and Humanities curriculum first conceived and developed at Jerusalem's Israel Arts and Science Academy, a three-year high school for gifted students. The Israeli program encourages students to consider ethical values and social implications within their daily academic instruction.

The participation in the July seminar represented a multicultural mosaic of religious and secular Jews, Muslims, Catholics, Protestants and Greek Orthodox. Coming together at the Arts and Science Academy in Jerusalem, the students and teachers attempted to devise an ethics program to reach a wider international audience.

"The initiative is timely as well as important," said Prof. William Damon, director of Brown University's Centre for the Study of Human Development, who was one of the seminar's scholars in residence. "At this moment in human history, it is urgent that we find ways to educate the younger generation toward both intellectual competence and social responsibility. The Academy's program is unique, in that it proposes to accomplish both goals simultaneously. This is an approach that has rarely if ever been tried before."

For the teachers and students from St. Mary's High School and John G. Diefenbaker Senior High School in Calgary, the story began last November, with a visit from Rafi Amram, a teacher at the Israel Arts and Science Academy. Concerned that the lack of ethics instruction in schools is detrimental to overall education, Amram is determined to expand the Israeli concept to schools around the world.

"Rafi is a man with a vision and he doesn't let much stand in his way," said Ian Strachen of the Alberta Science foundation, one of the educators involved in the seminar. Strachan had worked with Amram before on another Israeli initiative, the Discovery Project, which encourages economically disadvantaged students to study science and math.

This past experience, combined with Amram's ties to the Calgary-based Sheldon Chumir and Kahanoff Foundations, both of which funded the project, contributed to Calgary's selection as the only Canadian city to participate in the experimental program.

Both Alex Ulaszonek of St. Mary's and Jack Cohen of Diefenbaker School are enthusiastic supporters of the program and hope to see it grow and evolve.

"So many schools have eliminated any kind of questioning in the classroom regarding moral or ethical issues," Ulaszonek said. "Rafi's goal is to bring moral and ethical education back into the system."

The first week was spent touring the country.

In the second week of the trip, students and teachers participated in three two-hour sessions each day, exploring ethical dilemmas such as "whistle blowing" in the workplace and medical questions such as cloning. A symposium on human cloning was held in conjunction with the seminar.

The participants were divided into small groups with one student from each school, two teachers, and two observers. The groups attacked these basic questions: When is science humanistic? Should science teaching be value-free? Are moral dilemmas real? Pluralism in ethical education — is it possible? Is it desirable?

Despite the intensity of the debate during the workshops, the students found they also had much in common.

"Coming from different countries, religions, and ages, it was very nice that we could all get along so well," said Brad Wile, a student at St. Mary's. "We had huge differences, and argued during the day but in the evening we all laughed and talked together."

The students learned that when it comes to ethics and morality, there are no answers. Discussion only raises more questions, but in the process "you learn more about yourself, your feelings and attitudes," Cohen said.

While both Cohen and Ulaszonek already have ideas on how to incorporate the study of ethics into their schools curricula, the next step is to get more schools and teachers involved.

Cohen said the challenge now is to generate concrete materials for teachers, to find ways to make this kind of study work in regular-sized classrooms and to motivate teachers.

Moshe and Dan Ronen

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Wednesday Oct. 1, 7pm
Thursday Oct. 2,
9am & 7pm
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Jews for Judaism

From coast to coast

Leaders meet in Ottawa with Axworthy

[Cont'd from page 1]

Other areas discussed were ongoing bilateral consultations between Canada and Israel, the Liberals' imminent introduction of anti-terrorism legislation and the role Canada can play in upgrading Israel's stature at the UN.

As well, Axworthy proposed a joint project to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary.

A letter sent to Axworthy following the meeting, from the CIC's retiring chair, Stephen Victor, praised the minister as "a true friend of the Jewish community and the State of Israel."

Victor said he feels Axworthy shares the community "collective anxiety" over security in Israel.

The meeting was "friendly but frank," said participant Jack Silverstone, national executive director of CJC.

The meeting sought "a higher level of cooperation" between Canada and Israel, and an appreciation from Axworthy of what Israelis are going through, Silverstone said.

The delegation said the Jewish community is "upset and angry" over expectations that Israel should return to the bargaining table after every terror attack.

Silverstone said the minister indicated that Canada and Israel will soon upgrade their bilateral consultations on security and terrorism. Just last month, Axworthy sent a letter to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat urging him to combat terror more forcefully.

Silverstone said Canada's voting pattern at the UN was raised, and that Axworthy indicated Canada often looks toward other blocs at the UN with whom it shares attitudes.

According to the CIC, Axworthy has started a review of Canada's voting record at the UN.

The Jewish leaders said they were pleased with Axworthy's willingness to help change Israel's status at the UN.

The UN is divided into large geographic blocs, and Israel is the only country to be shunned from all of them, including the Mideast bloc. Only countries that belong to a bloc can be members of UN committees.

According to the delegation, Axworthy said he would try to facilitate Israel's membership in the Western Europe and Others Group.

The minister, said Silverstone, indicated he wants to visit Israel.

Apart from Ritter, Silverstone and Victor, the delegation included CJC president Goldie Hershon; incoming CIC chair Brian Morris; CZF national president Kurt Rothschild; B'nai Brith president Lyle Smordin; and BBC executive vice-president Frank Dimant.

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From coast to coast

Simcha Jacobovici wins second Emmy Award

[Cont'd from page 1]

He first pitched the idea six years ago and kept at it year after year until it was finally accepted by CBC and HBO. Although he wanted to direct the film, he had other commitments when the funding came through and he asked Bill Cobban, a former senior producer at CBC, to take on the project, he said.

According to Jacobovici, "the film has had its share of mitzvahs." Its completion coincided with the first international conference on the sexual exploitation of children held in Stockholm last spring, and that conference became the venue for the film's world premier, he said.

"Because of that conference suddenly something obscure became front page news in the main media."

He said that as a consequence of the film, a safe-house for sexually exploited girls in Nepal slated to lose its funding from UNICEF, got its funding reinstated, and a young girl featured in the film – a hidden camera captured her father selling her to a brothel – was rescued "from the ugly road to hell" by Cobban. "If that happens to one more kid because of the Emmy, that's great."

He attributed his interest in making films about social issues to being a child of Holocaust survivors.

A former student activist, Jacobovici went into filmmaking to publicize the plight of the Falasha Jews in Ethiopia. In 1983, he directed and produced *Falasha: Exile of the Black Jews*, for which he won two international awards. Three years later, he teamed up with Elliott Halpern to establish Associated Producers.

The company has won dozens of awards for such films as *Ebola: Inside an Outbreak*, about the 1995 outbreak of the ebola virus in Zaire; *Jews in Russia: An American Unholy War*, which dealt with American evangelists working with the Jews of the former Soviet Union; and *Deadly Currents*, an examination of the Arab Israeli conflict.

Jacobovici said that while he directs many films with Jewish themes, his company and the networks do not make a distinction between Jewish and secular projects. He stressed that broadcasters will air shows about Jews or any ethnic group as long as the film is high quality and the story "speaks to a general audience."

Associated Producers is poised to launch *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies and the American Dream*, based on Neal Gabler's book, *An Empire of Their Own*. The film about the Jews who created Hollywood will premier at a gala fundraiser for the Bloor and Riverdale Jewish community centres the second week of November.

A film about the quest for lost Jewish tribes scattered across Asia will air on CBC next year.

Jacobovici shared credit for the Emmy with his three co-winners: Halpern, co-producer; Cobban, director/producer; and Ruchira Grupta, field producer in India. He also praised the work of production and location manager Felix Golubev, who skillfully handled logistic problems like setting up a hidden camera in an Indian brothel.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

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Mazel tov Jennifer Shupak on your bat mitzvah in Israel. You were awesome! Love always, Mom and Dad (Marilyn & Michael).

Congratulations to Tracy Sigal & Dan Shereck who were married on March 27 at Beth David Synagogue.

Mazel tov to Gail & Joe Forberg on their 30th wedding anniversary. Health and happiness always, with love from Eva, Richard, Sue, Steven, Howard and Dara.

Mazel tov to Amos & Lillian Rubin on their 50th wedding anniversary, Aug. 3. Love David, Aline, Sarah, Kate & Rebecca.

Mazel tov to Leslie & Annette Rosenthal on their 25th wedding anniversary on July 30. With much love, Tami, Nili, Amir and Keren.

Mazel tov to Sam & Fay Rosenberg on their 50th wedding anniversary. With love from children Irv, Cirla, Frank & Gigi, and all the grandchildren.

Mazel tov to Joel & Bessie Sacks on their 53rd anniversary, July 25. Love from daughter Ethel Sacks.

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Israel, U.S. hail new anti-terror apparatus

By JAY BUSHINSKY, STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israeli and American officials described U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's talks as a qualified success, contending that she convinced the Palestinian Authority (PA) that it must wage an all-out war against terrorism.

"She drove home the gravity with which the Clinton administration views this issue," an Israeli source said.

In an early signal of the government's satisfaction with the measures ordered by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat — at Albright's behest — to crush terrorism, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu authorized the immediate transfer of 25 million shekels to the PA.

This sum constitutes half of the funds paid by Palestinians in customs fees, VAT, and other taxes, that were withheld by Israel because of terrorist attacks.

"The prime minister decided on this as a gesture of goodwill, in view of the initial steps taken by the PA in the anti-terror war," an official announcement said.

Evaluating Albright's accomplishments in even more enthusiastic terms, a senior American official said: "There now is a crystallized Palestinian mechanism that will control the issues raised with Arafat."

However, Channel 2 raised a discordant diplomatic note, when it cited influential security sources as saying the Americans have acquired the pivotal position of umpires in the anti-terror effort, empowered to judge the accuracy or relevance of the two sides' claims to success or charges of failure.

Israel also lifted the internal closure of Palestinian-ruled towns and cities in the West Bank imposed after the last suicide attack in Jerusalem.

"The defence minister and chief of general staff over the weekend approved the lifting of the internal closure," the IDF Spokesperson said.

The closure was lifted at 5 a.m. Monday. A general closure barring Palestinians from entering Israel will remain in force.

Albright herself made no claims of a breakthrough, during a press conference with King Hussein in Amman. But she has set up some preliminary talks in Washington and New York this month that could eventually pay off. One set of talks will involve Israeli and Palestinian diplomats; the other, Israeli and Syrian.

Meanwhile, Palestinian Preventive Security chief Jibril Rajoub warned Israel against operating in PA-controlled areas.

"We will not allow the General Security Service to conduct any activities inside the autonomous areas," Rajoub said. "Our reply will be much stronger than what they are expecting and if they succeed once, we will not allow them to succeed again."

Rajoub denied reports that Israeli and Palestinian security officials met over the weekend to discuss cooperation. The last meeting between Israeli and Palestinian security officials was on Sept. 4, he said.

Since then, he said, the PA has insisted that a CIA representative attend such meetings.

David Bar-Illan, Netanyahu's director of communications and policy planning, confirmed that there was no meeting between Israeli and Palestinian security officials over the weekend. He said, however, that there were "encouraging signs" of security cooperation between the two sides.

Dispute over identity of suicide bombers continues

Israeli and PA officials also continue to dispute the identities of the suicide bombers in Machane Yehuda and Rehov Ben-Yehuda attacks. PA secretary-general Tayib Abdul Rahim said that Iran is responsible for both, as well as a previous foiled bombing attempt on a Tel Aviv beach.

Abdul Rahim said the suicide bombers flew in to Israel and although Israel tried to conceal this information by clamping a ban on publishing details of the investigation, the circumstances were relayed to Albright.

The bombs used in all three incidents were of the same type, Abdul Rahim said. He said Israeli police have discovered that one of the bombers was a light-skinned, blond man who entered on a forged passport and checked into Tel Aviv's Ambassador Hotel.

Abdul Rahim said Israeli police discovered traces of the bomb in the hotel room and they matched the explosives used in Machane Yehuda and Rehov Ben-Yehuda.

Israeli officials, including Netanyahu, have said the bombers were Hamas agents from the territories. They dismiss the PA claims that the bombers were foreigners as disinformation aimed at absolving the PA of responsibility for the attacks.

Speaking at the weekly cabinet meeting, Netanyahu said Albright's visit "focused on the question of the fight against Palestinian terrorism."

He said that as a result, an agreement was reached between the U.S. and the Palestinians regarding a plan to fight the terrorist infrastructure and prevent the release of terrorists under the "revolving door" method, that is, arresting suspects after an incident, then releasing them several days later.

Netanyahu reported to the cabinet on Albright's invitation to Israeli and Palestinian officials to confer separately with American counterparts at the State Department, and to Foreign Minister David Levy and PA Deputy Chair Mahmoud Abbas to meet her at the UN General Assembly session in New York.

Levy was particularly upbeat about Albright's mission. He dismissed the various media reports that she failed to foster conditions for the renewal of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations as "baseless," and contended that "there is no break in contact and no vacuum" between Israel and the PA.

He cited three accomplishments: creation of an efficient apparatus to evaluate the PA's actions against terrorism and the terrorist infrastructure; definition of the subjects to be clarified by the two sides; and convening supportive talks in Washington and New York.

"Israel has not quit the peace process," he said. "It insists on the fulfilment of commitments, especially in the security sphere, and the United States also demands that the PA uphold these commitments."

Lashing out at critics who described the Albright mission as a "failure," Levy said that "despite the tension of recent days, the assertion that an unavoidable explosion is imminent cannot be accepted."

U.S. Secretary of State Maleleine Albright visiits 20-year-old Sherri Wise of Vancouver, B.C., a victim of the triple suicide bombing on Ben Yehuda Street two weeks ago in Jerusalem. [Reuters/RNS]

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Israel & the Jewish World

Egypt sees hope for the peace process

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak called Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's recent visit "encouraging" and said there are signs the Middle East peace process could move forward.

Albright held about 2½ hours of talks with Mubarak and Foreign Minister Amr Moussa in the seaside Ras el-Teen palace in Alexandria.

"We are going to continue discussions and cooperation," he said.

Later in the day, Albright met with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd in the Red Sea port city of Jeddah, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said.

SPA said Crown Prince Abdullah attended the meeting between the monarch and Albright in King Fahd's office at al-Salam Palace. It gave no other details.

Albright, who flew to Jeddah from Alexandria, earlier met Saudi Minister of Foreign Affairs Prince Saud al-Faisal and "discussed current conditions in the Middle East and ways to support the peace process," SPA said.

She met the foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states — Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman on Sunday.

In Damascus, President Hafez al-Assad told Albright that Syria is still committed to making peace with Israel, but reiterated the conditions for resuming the negotiations broken off over a year ago.

Hosni Mubarak

"Talks [with Israel] should resume from the point where they left off," Assad's spokesperson, Joubran Kourieh, quoted the president as telling Albright during a four-hour meeting.

"President Assad reiterated Syria's commitment to achieve a just and comprehensive peace on the basis of the Madrid conference, Security Council resolutions, and the land-for-peace principle," Kourieh said.

Albright discussed with Assad how to revive the stalled Syrian-Israeli negotiations, he said.

"Both reviewed efforts being exerted to revive the peace process on all tracks and the position of each of the parties concerned," Kourieh said.

U.S. officials said Albright's talks with Assad were "exploratory." No further U.S. comment was immediately available.

Foreign Minister Farouk Shara and Syrian Ambassador to Washington Walid Mualem attended the Assad-Albright meeting at the presidential place, Kourieh said. Also present was U.S special Middle East peace envoy Dennis Ross.

Immediately before the secretary of state left for Damascus, a senior administration official said "senior representatives" of Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) have been invited to Washington for separate bilateral talks.

These sessions will be a prelude to a trilateral American-Israeli-Palestinian session at UN headquarters in New York to be attended by Albright, Foreign Minister David Levy, and the PA's second-in-command, Mahmoud Abbas.

The official quoted Albright as having informed her Israeli and Palestinian hosts that she does not intend to return to the Middle East "until tough decisions are taken by the [Israeli and Palestinian] leaders." He said Albright "will not come back to tread water."

Albright's conclusion that "a crisis of confidence" exists between Israel and the PA was cited by the official as one of the reasons for her having proposed a "time out" in preparation for the onset of final-status talks between the parties.

During this period, she hopes that Israel would avoid steps that might create problems for the other side, and that the PA would make sure there is no halt in the fight against terrorism and a concurrent halt in its war of words against Israel.

"The U.S. view is that the PA is doing something [about terrorism], but not enough," he went on. "Some arrests have been made of people we knew that should have been arrested. But it is not enough to fight terrorism when it is convenient."

To succeed, the final-status talks must be conducted in an environment that reflects mutual trust, the official went on. But he asked rhetorically: "How do you break out of the current atmosphere of distrust?"

One of Albright's accomplishments during her three-day stay here was to secure Palestinian as well as Israeli consent to advance to final-status talks, rather than go on seeking interim agreements.

"Both sides are prepared to accept this sequence," the official said.

"There must be greater confidence about where the two sides are headed," he added, explaining that this is the reason for the preliminary sessions with the respective parties before proceeding to the trilateral talks in New York.

"The secretary decided this is a small step," he said, adding that it is a basis for the U.S. to be involved. "We won't walk away."

Asked at a news briefing about the secretary's call for a halt to settlement expansion, the official said her remarks were "about Palestinian perceptions," implying that this may not necessarily be her personal assessment.

"We believe that it is very important that terror not dominate the scene in Israel," Albright said in Egypt. "It is very hard for the people of Israel to negotiate in the presence of bombers.

"And we do believe it is very important for Chairman Arafat to do everything that he can... in order to dismantle the Hamas infrastructure and to work to the best of his efforts to control the terrorist activities. We hope very much that there will not be unilateral acts by either side which preempt final-status issues."

She said the environment for peace "is based on fulfilling mutual obligations and responsibilities."

Two soldiers killed in Lebanon

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Two Golani Brigade soldiers – Staff Sgt. Roslan Yosipov, 21, of Nesher, and Staff Sgt. Ophir Basol, 21, of Kfar Sava – were killed by a roadside bomb in south Lebanon on Saturday night.

The Golani unit was on patrol in the western sector of the security zone close to midnight, when the bomb hidden at the side of the road exploded as they passed. Yosipov was killed instantly and Basol later died on the operating table. A third soldier, Assaf Saydah, was lightly wounded in the hand by shrapnel.

Hezbollah claimed responsibility for the attack, declaring that it had been an act of revenge for the death of Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah's son, Hadi, who was killed by IDF troops on Friday.

Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine appointed a committee to enquire into the incident.

The Golani unit was on its way to set up an ambush near the village of Talousa, not far from Wadi Saluki, when Basol, the point man, apparently triggered the device. The unit's medic treated Basol and Saydeh, as an air force rescue squad was summoned.

Levine said the rescue took some time, as the troops came under fire and the evacuation took place on difficult terrain.

Yosipov was buried in the military section of the Hof Hacarmel cemetery in Haifa. The oldest of three, he had been working to assist his widowed mother in supporting the family. Relatives said he had constantly badgered his mother until she gave permission for him to serve in the Golani Brigade. He is also survived by a brother and sister.

Basol was buried in the military section of the Kfar Sava Cemetery.

At his wounded son's bedside, Haim Saydah, who was blinded in both eyes by a grenade explosion during military service in Lebanon in 1975, said, "When your child serves in Lebanon, neither the mothers nor fathers nor sisters nor brothers can go about their daily lives in a normal manner. You constantly listen to the news."

Group calls for unilateral withdrawal

The casualties raised further public outcry for a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon.

"We go from shivah to shivah," Ronit Nahmias, head of the Committee of Four Mothers, told Israel Radio. "Claims that IDF troops must remain in Lebanon to safeguard the north do not satisfy us any longer."

She said that where once her group was considered outcasts, today thousands identify with the cause.

"Our sons serve in Lebanon. It is inconceivable that the situation that has gone on for 15 years could go on for another 15," she said.

Meanwhile, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak charged that there are definite signs of fatigue in the country.

Talking about the public outcry on Lebanon, Shahak said, "There are those who want a quick and clear-cut solution. I don't believe we have an answer that can be implemented quickly without taking risks."

Yesterday's deaths brought to 33 the number of IDF fatalities in Lebanon since the beginning of the year, said an IDF spokesperson. He added that this does not include soldiers killed in accidents. During the same period last year, 20 soldiers were killed in Lebanon.

Lebanon has rejected an Israeli proposal to negotiate a security agreement in south Lebanon, the Defence Ministry said.

Through a third party, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai approached "a high-ranking commander of the Lebanese army to work out a security agreement that would limit the number of deaths on both sides," said ministry spokesperson Avi Benayahu. "Lebanon rejected the proposal."

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Sept. 8

• The names of the five victims of the Sept. 4 Ben Yehuda Street bombings were released: Smadar Elhanan, 14; Sivan Zarka, 14; Yael Botwin, 14; Rami Kozashvili, 20; and Eliahu Markowitz, 40.

• The names of the 12 soldiers who died in the Sept. 5 failed military operation in Lebanon were released: Lt. Col. Yosef Korakin, 32; Maj. Yitzchak Ben Tov, M.D., 28; Capt. Dagesh Maher, M.D., 26; Capt. Ram Lavinas, 22; Capt. Zvi Grossman, 21; Sgt. Maj. Raz Tabbi, 22; Sgt. Maj. Arye Abramson, 22; Sgt. Maj. Yochanan Hilberg, 22; Sgt. Maj. Itamar Ilya, 22 (missing, presumed dead); Staff Sgt. Guy Golan, 21; Staff Sgt. Gal Rodovsky, 20; Staff Sgt. Yaniv Shamiel, 20.

Sept. 9

• Israeli and Syrian representatives met in Europe to discuss the possibility of renewing negotiations.

• The government approved a $660-million (US) cut in its 1998 deficit target.

Sept. 10

• Archeologists working in Caesarea found ruins of rooms probably used by the Roman secret police.

Sept. 11

•Widespread searches continued for 63-year-old Yaacov Shwartz of Bnei Brak, missing since Wednesday. Terrorism is suspected. *(Shwartz was found in Ashkelon bound and gagged, but alive on Friday.)*

• Tatanya Suskin, 27, the Israeli accused of pasting the drawings of Mohammed as a pig on storefronts in Hebron, pleaded innocent to the variety of charges against her.

Sept. 12

• An army transport truck overturned on a hairpin mountain curve in northern Israel killing two soldiers, Staff Sgt. Michael Kodranski, 20, and Sgt. Einav Madhara, 19, and injuring seven. Sixteen soldiers have been killed in road accidents this year compared to 10 in all of 1996. Another 20 soldiers have been killed in road accidents while off duty, compared to 31 last year.

With files from the JTA

Negotiating impasse yet to be broken

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

As expected, Madeleine Albright failed to revive the moribund Oslo peace process. It still dangles by a thread in the wake of three Hamas suicide bombings which have claimed the lives of 23 Israelis since March.

On the eve of her departure from Israel and the Palestinian autonomous areas last week, the U.S. secretary of state acknowledged she had "a long way to go" in reconciling Israel's basic position with that of the Palestine Authority (PA).

In her first trip to the Mideast since taking office eight months ago, Albright had hoped to whittle down the daunting differences between Israel and the PA. But after talks with Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat, she discovered that the two sides are still greatly at odds over fundamental issues.

Two weeks after Israel announced it is no longer bound by the Oslo accords and will not fulfil its pledge to carry out troop withdrawals from the West Bank until the PA deals with terrorism on a sustained basis, the gap remains discouragingly enormous.

Israel is demanding a wholesale crackdown on the terrorist infrastructure in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip before it ends the closure and the economic sanctions it imposed on the Palestinians after the July 30 blast in Jerusalem. Only then, Netanyahu says, will it be possible to address the array of political questions at the heart of Israel's conflict with the Palestinians. In this respect, the Sept. 4 bombing in Jerusalem only hardened Israel's view.

By contrast, the Palestinians are loath to seriously confront Hamas and Islamic Jihad until Israel stops construction of the Har Choma housing project in eastern Jerusalem, desists from expanding existing settlements in the territories, terminates the blockade and ceases withholding taxes and customs duties.

Faced by these conflicting claims, Albright arrived in Israel with her own agenda, trying to strike a balance between Israel's need for security with the Palestinians' demand for an easing of restrictions and further Israeli withdrawals.

Drawing on concepts from a major speech she delivered in Washington in August, Albright spoke of restoring trust and confidence between Israel and the PA.

Once in the region, in talks with the leaders and in speeches to students, she elaborated on this theme by stressing the importance of rebuilding "mutual responsibility" and of re-establishing "basic principles" (land for peace) in the search for a just and lasting peace.

Repeatedly, she called on the PA to cooperate with Israel in the struggle to eradicate terrorism once and for all, and warned Arafat that terror not only threatens peace, but the PA and the Palestinians. Much to the Palestinians' annoyance, she made this message the centrepiece of her mission.

Yet, judging by a newspaper photograph showing a beaming Arafat shaking hands with Albright, Israel got an earful, too. Hewing to her belief that Israel must also be faithful to "the spirit" of Oslo, Albright asked Israel to avoid "unilateral actions" which pre-empt and prejudge negotiations. Albright therefore, pressed Israel to suspend the expansion of settlements, to stop seizing Palestinian land and to resume the flow of taxes to the PA. She also called on Netanyahu to abide by Israel's promise to make three redeployments from the West Bank by the autumn of 1998.

By her own admission, Albright achieved remarkably little. She extracted a pledge from Arafat to confront terrorism and to resume security cooperation with Israel, but only time will tell whether he will follow through. Prior to her visit, Arafat had arrested scores of Islamic militants and shut down a newspaper and a youth group affiliated with Hamas.

Fairly satisfied with these preliminary steps, Israel decided to return a further portion of the tax revenues it owes the PA. But Israel said it had no intention of halting settlement expansion, the chief Palestinian grievance.

As a result, the dangerous impasse has yet to be broken.

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PHOTOGRAPH: ROSEMARY GOLDMAN

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Canadian teens on 'front line' during stay in hockey camp

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

Please see photo page 62

METULLA — Fourteen young Canadians had firsthand experience of what it is like to be in Israel's northern settlements when terrorist Katyusha rocket salvos rain down on the upper Galilee.

The group of 14- to 18-year-olds, together with a contingent of 18 Israeli youngsters, were in Metulla to take part in the first hockey camp in Israel held under the guidance of associate St. Louis Blues NHL coach, Roger Neilson. Neilson has been holding hockey camps in Canada for more than 20 years.

"At first we thought our *madrichim* (youth leaders) were playing a game with us when they told us at about seven in the morning to go down to the bomb shelters," said David Abramovic from Toronto, who was in Israel for the first time. "We stayed in the shelters for about an hour and then we went back home to be told that 50 Katyushas had fallen in different parts of the north and our practice session for the day had been cancelled.

"We were pretty scared and the next night we wanted to sleep in the bomb shelters again, but it wasn't necessary. You see these things in a different light when you are in Canada. Now we understand how life gets back to normal so quickly. These things are soon forgotten. It wouldn't stop me coming back to Israel."

When asked what he thought about the Katyushas, David Charezenko of Toronto said, "Look, you have just got to put this at the back of your mind. This is my first trip to Israel and I have been here for three months as a volunteer. You can't really worry about this — of course it's in your thoughts, but life has to go on."

"In the shelters we heard five separate explosions," said Howard Fremeth of Ottawa. "When you are in Israel, especially in Metulla, and experience these things, you get scared and realize that people in the north of Israel live under this potential threat every single day."

Even with this unwelcome interruption, the camp continued exactly as planned. The idea for the camp was that of Canadian Jeff Budd, competition director of Metulla's Canada Centre. Budd asked goaltending coach Marshall Starkman, who was visiting Israel last year, if he would approach Neilson and ask if he would be interested in holding a hockey camp in Israel for both Canadian and Israeli participants.

Neilson, who had been in Israel before, jumped at the idea and agreed to bring some of his training team with him, including top European coach Alex Andjelic and Florida Panthers' player Bill Lindsay. Neilson and his team donated their time, leaving the Canada Israel Experience Centre and the United Israel Appeal of Canada, who sponsored the two-week camp, to cover only the travel and accommodation expenses of Neilsen and his team.

"I think Israel is great," said David Pivnick of Ottawa. Pivnick, 14, and also on his first visit to Israel, is the youngest of the group. "We've toured northern Israel and have been playing hockey with the Israelis. I'm surprised just how good they are as they haven't been playing very long and don't have the opportunities to learn the game as we do at home."

Rachel Lasry, the only girl in the group, works for the Israel Experience office in Toronto. She helped coordinate the Canadian side of things and was asked to see the job through in Israel. Said Lasry, "I think that the Israelis and Canadians are getting a wonderful experience, and just bringing them together makes it all worth while."

Ryan Clements of Toronto added that the enthusiasm of the Israelis and their team spirit was an ideal for future hockey players.

Most of the Canadian participants heard about the camp from an ad that appeared in *The CJN*. They made an application, which included information about their hockey experience, and from that data the group was selected.

"This is my first time in Israel and it's the greatest experience in my life," said Joel Ross, also from Toronto. "It's not just the hockey that has brought everybody together, but also the touring."

"I think the camp has been very successful," said Neilson. "The Israeli kids are very eager to get on the ice — they really seem to love the game. What is needed is a couple more ice surfaces down there in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, where all the population is. Hockey could be pretty big here, I think. Israeli kids are very determined and perfect for a team sport like hockey; they have the attributes that lead to success in hockey."

The camp, notwithstanding the temporary intrusion of the Katyusha, was so successful in the view of the organizers, coaches and participants that it is hoped that it will become an annual event and become a catalyst to encourage the development of the sport in Israel.

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Israeli ambassador angers Lithuanians

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — A speech by Israel's ambassador to Lithuania has that country's politicians up in arms.

Within days after the speech by Oded Ben Hur, Lithuania's parliament delayed action on amendments to the country's criminal code that would facilitate the investigation of alleged World War II criminals.

During a discussion of the amendments, parliamentarian Rimantas Smetona urged his colleagues not to cave into the pressure of international Jewish organizations.

Smetona, a candidate in Lithuania's December presidential elections, had especially harsh words for Ben Hur, who told the parliament's opening session last week that Lithuania had failed to prosecute alleged war criminals.

Parliament was expected to take the amendments up again next week.

Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas and Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius were among those attending the parliamentary session, which was devoted to speeches praising the legacy of the Vilna Gaon, the renowned commentator on the Talmud and Torah whose 200th yahrzeit is being commemorated in Lithuania.

Some Jewish groups, including the Simon Wiesenthal Centre and the Israel-based Association of Lithuanian Jews, boycotted the commemoration, saying that participation would be seen as support for a government that has not yet atoned for the destruction of Lithuanian Jewry.

Nearly 94 percent of the country's prewar Jewish community perished in the Holocaust, a tragedy that local Jews say is not widely known in Lithuania.

Other parliamentarians besides Smetona took issue with Ben Hur's comments, which one legislator said displayed "impudence and tactlessness."

Another legislator, Kazys Bobelis, said that Ben Hur had "insulted the Lithuanian nation."

Bobelis added that parliament had wanted to express its sincere respect for the Vilna Gaon, but that Ben Hur's speech was "absolutely improper and spoiled the festive tranquillity of the event."

Ben Hur made the "rift between the Lithuanian and Jewish nations even wider," he added.

Lithuania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs described Ben Hur's speech as "regrettable."

Ben Hur remained unapologetic, but said he hoped that his comments would not arouse a wave of anti-Semitism in Lithuania.

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Doctor provides new hope for Alzheimer's patients

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — People suspected of having Alzheimer disease should not be treated as "hopeless," a psychiatrist told a recent meeting on senior care at Beth Tzedec.

In fact, physicians and relatives should exercise extreme caution in using the term, said Dr. Ivan Silver of Sunnybrook Health Science Centre and Dr. Leslie Goldenberg, chief of geriatrics, Scarborough Grace Hospital.

Speaking of the disease itself, Silver was optimistic that new drugs are on the horizon, "which may slow it up [and] offer hope where there was no hope before. In the next 10 years, there is the possibility of treatment. This is just the beginning."

He spoke of a new drug, Arecept, which, he said, shows promise.

Presenting a case history for audience input, Silver and Goldenberg described a 77-year-old woman with the nom-de-plume of "Mrs. Kafka." She was referred by a daughter who asked that her mother not be told if she had dementia or Alzheimer disease.

"She will kill herself if you tell her that," the daughter said. One other child, a son, lived in California.

Drug shows promise

In the case history, the daughter reported that Mrs. Kafka said the superintendent or others in her building were stealing from her, that she was not eating well and that her apartment was filthy.

She had lost her husband four years earlier, had lost a daughter to leukemia and had run her late husband's business for a time. She stopped attending synagogue and volunteering.

"She was a doer and a go-getter. Now she can't do and she can't get," Goldenberg commented.

A small majority of the audience, when queried, voted that the mother should be told of her condition, but Goldenberg disagreed. He said he would tell the daughter that her mother had "Mrs. Kafka's syndrome," pending further assessment.

Doctors face an ethical dilemma over what to tell relatives, Silver said. "It eats us inside and out," he said, revealing that 10 percent of the cases he sees pose this dilemma.

"Mrs. Kafka" was scheduled to drive to Florida soon, as she always did, but Silver said he would have great concern about her driving.

"I would say 'yes' to her going to Florida, with the reservation that some family member visit her in two-week periods."

Goldenberg said it is mostly daughters-in-law, not sons, who care for an aged parent.

In the case of Mrs. Kafka, Silver said, he would ask for an assessment of her in her home setting before making a decision.

Grandchildren should be encouraged to visit their grandparents in nursing homes and told that they are loved by the grandparents, even if there is no recognition.

The two doctors also made these points:

• Most people in their 70s and 80s experience a shrinking of their brain.

• Deterioration of a bridge player's skill, or the complaint of elderly people that they are victims of stealing, may be a clue to memory impairment.

• A crisis in the family is not the best time for an assessment of an aging parent.

• Loss of a spouse often unmasks other problems.

• Doctors are caught in the middle over whether aging people should drive, being pressured by children. The doctor often asks the Motor Licence Bureau to retest the drivers.

• A parent should grant power of attorney while still active and able to understand the situation.

• The inability to remember names and numbers is a normal process of aging.

The three-week series on the Sandwich Generation is sponsored by Beth Tzedec's adult education committee.

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Henry Korenblum Family Health Clinic reborn as Centre for Health and Sports Medicine

Genuinely passionate about health promotion, Dr. Howard Winston exudes enthusiasm about his spanking new *Centre for Health and Sports Medicine* ("CHSM") at Bathurst and Glencairn.

And well he might. This state-of-the-art facility — a reincarnation of the Henry Korenblum Family Health and Sports Medicine Clinic, formerly located at the north "Y" — is well-equipped to handle the training and rehabilitation requirements of almost any patient, from the injured employee seeking to rejoin the work force to the olympic athlete trying to upgrade performance. This multidisciplinary health care centre offers medical assessments by certified sports medicine physicians, injury rehabilitation by registered physiotherapists and certified athletic therapists, massage therapy by registered massage therapists, the designing of exercise programs by a certified personal trainer, nutritional counselling by a registered dietician, and both off-the-shelf and customized brace fitting/orthotics by qualified orthotists.

New facility stresses education in training, rehabilitation

PHOTOS BY ROBERT SHECHTER

Left, Dr. Winston explains the finer points of a disc herniation to a patient. *Right,* patients enjoy expert hands-on treatment in a state-of-the art facility.

Dr. Winston, like his associate Dr. John Goldsand, believes quite strongly in the educational component of every health care service. "The commitment to educate and teach our patients is a consistent theme in our facility. Just as we have many medical and therapy students pass through our facility, our responsibility for teaching extends to our patients as well." Typically, he continues, patients will have many questions about their condition or ailment, and may be shy about asking them. "Not only do we encourage them to ask these questions," he underlines, "we make it our duty to answer each and every one of them in a scientific and empathetic manner."

Buoyed by the early positive response to the Centre, Dr. Winston and his colleagues "look forward with great enthusiasm to contributing to the health care needs of the local community. Our motto is to improve the patient's state of health and quality of life."

Cardiac patients and those suffering from other serious ailments will enjoy the kind of expert risk assessment needed to design and administer an appropriate program of rehabilitation. Above all, says Dr. Winston, no patient at this facility is ever likely to feel they're in a "factory". "We're not satisfied to have our patients feel their visit is simply an antidote to something bad. We want them to *enjoy* the experience, learn from it, and turn it into a positive situation. We direct all our energies towards that goal."

Assessment of risk factors critical for cardiac patients

The Centre is located at 2790 Bathurst St. (northwest corner of Bathurst & Glencairn), and is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Friday. Free parking is provided at the rear of the building (entrance on Glencairn). The Bathurst bus stops at the door.

Patients may access the Centre by referral from their family doctor or by calling (416) 789-2476 directly.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Play satirizes dating scene

By ADAM BELLO
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — What is it like to be a Jewish single living in Toronto?

That is the question asked in *This Could Be The One*, a play satirizing the tips, tricks and traps of the local Jewish dating scene. It looks at 1990s dating through the eyes of Jewish adults in their 20s to 40s, spoofing blind dates, telepersonals, singles dances, divorce and family relations, all in the context of Jewish life and culture.

Previously showcased at Leah Posluns as a play-in-progress in March, the initial play was favorably received, drawing over 500 people in two performances, including a Saturday night sell-out.

The current play, performed by the Jewish Theatre Projects (JTP), will run at the Leah Posluns Theatre Sept. 25 at 8 p.m., Sept. 27 at 9:15 p.m., with a matinee performance Sept. 28 at 2 p.m.).

The in-progress version gave JTP an opportunity to gather audience feedback, which was used in the rewrite.

"A lot of young Jewish people go through the frustration of the singles scene and the pressure to live in a couples' world, and this play lets them know they are not alone," says Jodi Miller, writer/director of *This Could Be The One*.

"We are trying to draw attention to singles issues that should not be ignored in the framework of the Jewish Community. I had people come up to me after the first play and say, 'You spoke to me with that scene,' and that really meant a lot."

Miller, 28, says ones of the purposes of the play is to stimulate discussion among singles and young adults, and encourage them to create alternatives to existing activities in the community. She says she founded Jewish Theatre Projects because she found no artistic outlets of its nature in Toronto.

"When I moved here last year; I thought there would be groups or programs in the Jewish Community for popular theatre and to collaborate with other young people," Miller says. "In the end, there was nothing that existed which explored these areas or emphasized youth."

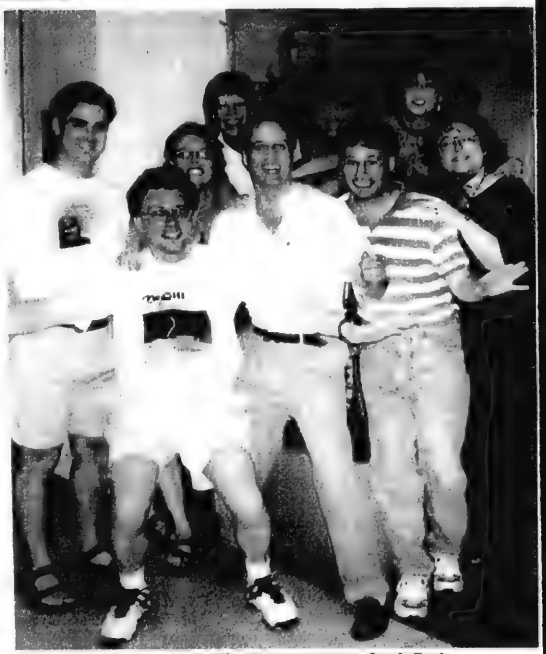
Determined to bring theatre with a focus on young Jewish adults to Toronto, the Hamilton raised, dramatic arts graduate of University of Windsor initiated the independent troupe. After its first casting call in the fall of 1996, Miller was overwhelmed by the response, as 60 people came to audition.

Initially encountering problems in accessing community resources and having had two false starts in attempts to perform, JTP succeeded in making an arrangement with Leah Posluns Theatre and the BJC to hold the play there in 1997.

"Leah Posluns has been very supportive of us; they are the first ones to help us help ourselves, and that is what the community should be about," Miller says.

The troupe recently signed with Toronto Dominion Bank as a sponsor for *This Could Be the One*. Miller says its sponsorship has made the play's return possible.

For info. call 416-485-5900.



The cast of *This Could Be The One* returns to Leah Posluns.

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William D. Rubinstein: The Myth of Rescue

Why Allies couldn't save the Jews

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor

Historians and academics in the past two decades have criticized the democracies for not doing enough to save the plight of European Jews prior to and during World War II.

Now, in *The Myth of Rescue*, William D. Rubinstein, a professor of history in Australia, debunks the theories and argues, in fact, that the democracies could not have saved more Jews from the Nazis.

In his well-researched and bound-to-be-controversial book, Rubinstein questions several prevailing concepts: that closed-door immigration prevented more Jews from escaping Europe; that there were realistic plans for rescue; that plans to bomb Auschwitz existed; and other "myths of resuce."

The 260-page book is filled with arguments and documentation that Rubinstein uses to make his points.

Rubinstein begins by asserting that the "closed-door" policy of the West has been overstated and all the Jews who wanted to leave Europe prior to the war could have done so. Fully 72 percent of German Jews escaped from Nazi Germany before the start of World War II, including 83 percent of children and youth.

"Given the general restrictions on all refugee migration (Jewish and non-Jewish) which prevailed during the inter-war period throughout the world, the emigration of most German Jews did not represent failure on the part of the democracies but constituted one of the most successful and far-reaching programs of rescue of a beleaguered and persecuted people ever seen up to that time," he writes.

In 1938-40, Rubinstein says, Jews comprised more than half of all immigrants to the United States.

An important point Rubinstein makes is that the Jews of the Nazi Reich must be distinguished from the 7.5 million Jews of continental Europe who came under Nazi rule after September 1939.

Prior to this time, he argues, most European Jews had no reason to believe they were in any danger.

Dutch Jews, for example, could have fled to Surinam, a Dutch colony in South America which had a long-established Jewish community.

"However there was no noteworthy Dutch Jewish migration to Surinam. Plainly no Dutch Jew could foresee the forthcoming genocide." Following the occupation, it was too late for them to leave, because Hitler expressly forbade Jewish migration.

Rubinstein also debunks the idea that plans for rescue were ignored by the Allied High Command; he states categorically that most plans and ideas were presented with hindsight, long after the war was over.

> *No rescue scheme was ever proposed*

"No scheme which could possibly or realistically have rescued any of the Jews of Nazi-occupied Europe was actually proposed by anyone or by any group in the democracies during the war."

Again he stresses that most of the Jews killed in the Holocaust lived outside Germany before the war. Up to then, they never fully appreciated the danger they were in. After the war began, they could not be classified as refugees but became prisoners of war.

"The Jews could not flee from German-occupied or controlled Europe even if they wished to do so...the barriers to Jewish emigration were deliberately erected by the Nazis."

Rubinstein argues this by pointing out a November 1940 regulation in Poland which banned Jewish emigration because "emigration of Jews of Poland was linked [according to an SS edict] to the 'continued spiritual regeneration of Jews.'"

He writes that most of the plans for rescue merely called for trying to put pressure on neutral nations to accept Jewish refugees, which as we have seen was impossible.

It's also important to note that Hitler became obsessed with eradicating Jews from the face of the earth. "This simple fact is highly relevant, especially to the possibility of reaching deals with the Nazis for the rescue or 'sale' of Jews during the war."

One frequent argument given by modern historians is that the Allies could have and should have bombed Auschwitz.

Rubinstein argues that there is one basic reason why the question of bombing Auschwitz can be dismissed with some brevity: "Virtually no one in the United States proposed bombing it, or any other extermination camp, while significant numbers of Jews were imprisoned there. In particular, the War Refugee Board failed to suggest it."

Recommendations were made, he notes, to bomb the rail lines, in particular the line from Kosice to Prescov to stop or at least slow down the deportation process, particularly of Hungarian Jews.

The War Department dismissed the idea mostly because it would have diverted air support that was being used in other air battles – and thus might have extended the war.

In any case, Rubinstein argues, "there were no fewer than seven separate railway lines from Hungary to Auschwitz, each of which fed into the Lvov-Auschwitz route at different points." Bombing one line wouldn't have changed the fate of Hungarian Jews.

He also says that as for bombing Auschwitz itself, "the United States Air Force totally lacked the intelligence base necessary to plan and execute a bombing raid against the Auschwitz extermination camp."

Although he concurs with historians that American bombers were indeed carrying out raids at this time on industrial targets only a few miles away from the Auschwitz gas chambers, "all such strategic raids on military-industrial bases proceeded only after months of preparatory intelligence work."

Even if they could have bombed Auschwitz, it would have been a very different task than bombing a military target where the main objective was to obliterate anything in sight. A raid of Auschwitz would have required a minimum death toll. Furthermore, computer guided missiles did not exist at the time. "Only 13 percent of bombs dropped in an average American Air Force bombing raid fell within 500 feet of their intended targets."

Rubinstein asserts that if the U.S. Air Force had bombed Auschwitz and many Jews had died in the raid, (as would have been likely), "one can readily imagine what the attitude of today's historians of 'rescue' would have been: the Allies would now be blamed for 'killing Jews' in a foolish and unnecessary way."

Rubinstein concludes by saying that that responsibility for the Holocaust lies solely and wholly with Hitler, the SS and their accomplices. "In searching for a rational explantation of modern history's greatest crime, it is important that we not assign guilt to those who are innocent."

Rubinstein's well-researched arguments throughout the book are very thought provoking. The work is bound to cause controversy and surely some of his arguments and sweeping statements can and will be counter-argued. Still, *The Myth of Rescue* (Routledge) is well worth the read.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

MUSICAL BREAKFAST FOR FRIENDS OF YIDDISH

The Friends of Yiddish invites the public to its Annual Membership Breakfast, Sept. 21, 10 a.m. at Habonim Congregation, 5 Glen Park (one block north of Glencairn, west off Bathurst). The musical program is From Renaissance to Klezmer (and not much in between), featuring **Brian Katz** on piano and guitar and **Martin Van de Ven** on clarinet.

Admission for 1997-98 members is free, $7 for non-members. RSVP no later than Sept. 16 to **Freda Tobe**, 416-665-3605. Memberships can be renewed at the door.

* * *

Winchevsky Gala: The Morris Winchevsky School and the Jewish Artists Scholarship Society present Centre Spotlight, an evening of entertainment in a friendly coffeehouse atmosphere, Sept. 20, 8:30 p.m.

The program features host **Gloria Valentine**, emcee **Eddie Rice**, Yiddish singer **Faye Kellerstein**, pianist **Jordan Klapman**, singer-dancer **Marcia Kriss** and dancer **Sarah Sullovey**.

Also featured are members of the **Medina Theatre Ensemble** presenting a staged reading of *Zimmerman's Neighborhood*, a new play by **Morris Jacob**, and several excerpts from the musical review *From Broadway to Klezmer*, by **Paul Mathew**.

Admission for first-time attendees is $10. 416-789-5502 or 416-638-2222.

* * *

Hungarian Memoirs: Ibolya (Szalai) Grossman, a Holocaust survivor who left her native Hungary for Canada with her young son after the 1956 revolution, wrote a book about her experiences in 1990 that won the Joseph Tannenbaum award from the Jewish book committee. Published by the Multicultural History Society of Ontario (MHSO), *An Ordinary Woman in Extraordinary Times* also tells of the family's experiences in Winnipeg and Toronto.

Because the book is being used in several courses at York University by **Prof. Marlene Kadar**, it has received a second printing. Copies are available for $16 at the Israel Book and Gift Shop or directly from the MHSO, 416-979-2073.

* * *

Miscellaneous Notes:

• **Lisa Fleischmann**, a specialist in digital imaging, has produced a series of aquatic photographs described as "haunting and ethereal visions in liquid motion."

The photos are on display at John Steinberg & Associates Hair Salon, 585 King St. W. at Portland from Sept. 24 to Nov. 3.Meet the artist at the opening, Sept. 24, 6 to 11 p.m.

• Canada's internationally famous cellist **Ofra Harnoy** and friends perform a crossover program of music ranging from the Beatles to Gershwin, Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, North York, Sept. 26 at 8 p.m. Also at the Ford Centre, Russian pianist **Lilya Zilberstein** performs Oct. 9 at 8p.m., and violin superstar **Itzhak Perlman** plays Oct. 30 at 8 p.m. 416-872-2222.

• Stage Centre Productions presents *Ten Little Indians* by **Agatha Christie**, Sept. 18 to Oct 4. Adults $16. Fairview Library Theatre. 416-299-5557.

• Tickets are now on sale for **Sharon, Lois & Bram's** *Wild About Animals*, a brand new singalong at the Hummingbird Centre, Dec. 5 to 7. $16-$20. 416-872-2262.

• Theatre Passe Muraille presents *1837: The Farmers' Revolt*, a play by **Rick Salutin** that was first produced in 1973. Previews Sept. 20, opens Sept. 26 and runs to Oct. 19. Tickets $19, previews $14. 16 Ryerson Ave. 416-504-7529.

• Markham Theatre presents *Driving Miss Daisy* by **Alfred Uhry**, Oct. 14 to 18. $20-$33. 171 Town Centre Blvd., Markham. 905-305-7469.

Benny Goodman profiled on Bravo!

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Benny Goodman, the king of swing, shattered barriers at will. He was supposedly the first American pop icon. He was the first white band leader to hire a black. He was the first jazz musician to play in Carnegie Hall.

These facts emerge in *Benny Goodman: Adventures in the Kingdom of Swing*, a nearly one-hour documentary to be aired on the Bravo! channel on Sept. 23 at 10 p.m.

The film, an amalgam of file footage and interviews with colleagues and family members, traces Goodman's life from his birthplace in Chicago's Jewish ghetto to his status as one of America's preeminent cultural figures.

As we learn, Goodman was the eighth of 11 children, the son of a struggling tailor who thought that music could be Benny's ticket to success.

Goodman, who seemed to have been born with a clarinet in his mouth, took his first tenative step as a musician in an amateur synagogue band. Then, at the tender age of 15, he left home to join a professional band bound for California.

As they say, he never looked back. By the mid-1930s, when he was in his 20s, Goodman had launched his up-and-coming career as a band leader with a nationally syndicated radio program called *Let's Dance*.

Capitalizing on his fame, he embarked on a series of exhausting one-nighters at clubs across the United States. Building on his fame,

[Cont'd. on page 56]

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

MISSIONS, MUSEUMS & CRUISES

Mission to Israel:

The American United Jewish Appeal's Ometz Mission to Israel is the first designed to attract participants with mobility impairments.

The Nov. 5 to 14 mission is meant for people 25 to 45 who use manual wheelchairs, power wheelchairs, scooters, walkers or canes. Participants will "float on the Dead Sea, welcome Shabbat at the Kotel, view Masada, explore underground archeological excavations, visit Tel Aviv, tour Beit Shean, ride horses in the Galilee, visit Tiberias, cruise Lake Kinneret, ride along the Golan and visit Sefat." 212-880-1316.

* * *

Two European Notes:

• The British Tourism Authority (BTA) has published *Britain By Choice*, a catalogue of all BTA publications available for a nominal postage charge. There are accommodation guides to London and other cities, good maps, listings of bed and breakfast hotels, and specialty publications on walking tours, tracing your ancestors, shopping and other topics. 416-925-6326.

• The German National Tourist Office (GNTO) has reissued its useful and popular 34-page booklet, *Travel Information on Germany*. It's available for free from the GNTO, 175 Bloor St. E., North Tower, Suite 604, Toronto M4W 3R8, 416-968-1986, e-mail [germanto@idirecto.com].

Three Cruises:

Travel Talk has received word of three cruises, two for Jewish singles and the third for fans of Jewish music. All focus on the Caribbean.

From Dec. 3 to 13, the St. Louis Jewish Community Association and Brentwood Travel are sponsoring their second annual cruise for Jewish singles in their middle years. The Holland America ship *Ryndam* departs Ft. Lauderdale and visits St. Maarten, St. Lucia, Barbados, Guadeloupe, U.S. Virgin Islands, Nassau and other ports of call. 314-532-5515.

The Jewish Community Centre of Pittsburgh holds its fifth annual national singles cruise, Dec. 7 to 14 aboard Royal Caribbean's *Enchantment of the Seas*. Open to singles in their 20s, 30s and 40s, the cruise departs Miami for Playa Del Carmen, Mexico, Cozumel, Ocho Rios, Jamaica and Georgetown, Grand Cayman. 412-521- 8011, ext. 371.

Sailing Jan. 11 to 18, 1998, a glatt-kosher seven-night cruise aboard the Celebrity ship *Mercury* features a rich program of chassidic, cantorial, Yiddish, Sephardi-Ladino and klezmer music with outstanding singers. Departs Ft. Lauderdale to Key West, Cozumel, Montego Bay and Grand Cayman.

Contact American Express Travel in Miami. 305-358-7350.

* * *

Four Museums:

• The Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial To The Holocaust opened recently in Battery Park City, Manhattan, with N.Y. Governor George Pataki, U.S. Senator Al D'Amato, New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, former mayor Ed Koch and honorary guest Elie Wiesel in attendance.

The permanent exhibition contains 2,000 photographs, 800 artifacts and 24 original videos chronicling pre-Holocaust Jewish life, the Nazi era and post-war Jewish renewal. The museum is located at 18 First Place, Battery Park City, Manhattan.

• At the National Museum of American Jewish Military History in Washington D.C., an exhibition on the life and career of US Navy Commodore Uriah Phillips Levy (1792-1862) continues to next July.

An associate of Thomas Jefferson, Levy was court-martialed for refusing to inflict corporal punishment, but President Tyler overturned the decision. By the end of his career, he rose to command the U.S. Mediterranean fleet. 1811 R Street NW, Washington DC. 212-265-6280. Web site [http://www.penfed.org/jwv/home.htm].

• The Spertus Museum in Chicago features many exhibitions. One that opens this week is on contemporary American artist Adam Siegel, whose work incorporates pages from archival letters and books from centuries past, including some in Yiddish. 618 S. Michigan Ave. 312-322-1747.

• Lubomi, a 600-year-old Jewish shtetl destroyed in the Shoah, lives again in an exhibition of some 100 photographs, 40 documents and other memorabilia in the Valley of the Communities at Yad Vashem, Jerusalem. The exhibition Lubomi, A Small Jewish World continues through March 1998.

Benny Goodman profiled

[Cont'd. from page 55]

he appeared in several Hollywood films. He was, as the narrarator observes, a man in "perpetual motion."

Judging by comments elicited from his daughter and colleagues, Goodman was extremely self-absorbed, ambitious to the point of being obsessive and nothing less than a perfectionist.

In an era when Jim Crow restrictions prevailed, Goodman hired two black musicians, one of whom was the irrepressible Lionel Hampton. In this sense, Goodman was a great civil rights champion.

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THORNHILL - HURRY FOR THIS ONE
3 Br., main fam. rm., 5 appls. & more! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

ATTN: 1ST TIME BUYERS - NOW $203,000
3 Br. on Cres., huge kit. & more! Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

WEST PROPERTIES

JUSY LISTED _ ONLY $189,000!
2 Storey, 4 bdrms., dble drive, Richard Sherman** 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

ST. CLAIR/AVE. $449,000
Lge 3 bdrm., most desirable location. Mark Cowan* 226-1987

1ST AD - VILLAGE GATE CONDO
2 Bed + den w/o to patio, garden & pool. G. Mitchell** 488-2875

SKYMARK I - $262,000
Lrgst unit, 2 bdrm., fully furnished, won't last. Call Mark Cowan* 226-1987

BATHURST-STEELES REDUCED - VALUE!
$204,900 mint cond., over 1400 sq. ft. A. Eidlitz* 226-1987

SPACIOUS CONDO IN PRESTIGIOUS NEIGHBOURHOOD
Marble flr. & ens., laundry. Nancy Davar* 226-1987

YONGE & STEELES 1ST AD - $129,900
2 Br. ideal 1st time buyers. Hedda Zaionz* 226-1987

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

RARE LAKE SIMCOE WATERFRONT!
New master suite, steps to shul. M. Olan* 226-1987

AURORA GOLF COURSE - CAIRNS BUILT
2 stry 4 bed., fin. lower level with w/o. G. Mitchell** 488-2875

BUSINESS PROPERTIES

"LITTLE ITALY" PRIME LOCATION
With excellent traffic. G. Pollock* 226-1987

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

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NEW OFFERING! LOWER VILLAGE
$2,680,000 - Magnificent restoration! Large rooms, & an outstanding beautiful garden. E. Kalles** & T. Farb*

FOREST HILL RD./HEATH ST.
$995,000 - Very unique home in great location. Large principal rooms, 3+1 bdrms, 4 baths. J. Solomon*

NEW PRICE! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
68 Viewmount! Now $558,800! 5 br., 4 bth., mn. fam. & lau.

1ST AD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
529 Melrose! $438,900! 4+1 br. centre hall, w/mn. fam.

NEW PRICE! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN. V.P.**
1818 Bayview! Now $219,900! Last 2! 2br., 2 bth. stes!

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

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– BATHURST SOUTH OF LAWRENCE –
CUSTOM BUILT HOME OF DISTINCTION $569,900
Approx. 3500 sq. ft. of elegance, upgrades throughout, white lacquer kitchen, ceramic & hardwood floors, very good location, 9 ft. ceiling on main floor, 8 ft. French door, too many exquisite extras to list.
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METROPARK REALTY INC. • (416) 798-7777

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REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
5 bdrms., fam. rm., kit. w/built-in appls, L-shape liv. & din., w/out to deck, fin. bsmnt., steps to all.

• • •

ALLEN RD. SUBWAY
Tri-plex, 2-3 bdrms + 1-1 bdrm., bths ens., balcs., garages + pkg., don't miss!

BATHURST MANOR
4 bdrms + [SOLD]rm., huge liv. & din. rm., fi[SOLD]sbmnt, 2 car gar.

• • •

STEELES BATHURST
4 bdrm., mod. kit., sep. liv. & din., fin. w/out bsmnt., dble drive, gar.

• • •

SHEPPARD AVE. WEST
Store & apt., well-maint. bldg., ideal for many uses, A-1 buy.

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A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

BATHURST/MIRANDA
Executive home - a real gem! 4,300 sq. ft. sheer beauty.

• • • • •

BATHURST-CENTRE
Ask $219,900 - 3 bedroom, 3 baths, close to Promenade Mall, synagogue, schools. Sally Rosen

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CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.
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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Atkinson/Centre, 3 bdrm det., new mod kit, cac, fin bsmt, move-in. **Private. No Agents.** 905-771-1922.

Bath. Village, spac. sidesplit, 3 bdrm., hollywood kit., L-shaped liv. & din. rm., 4 bths., fam. rm. with w/out, rentable income bsmt. **Priv.No Agents.**665-1090

---

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Lawr,55',spac lrg 3 bdrm bung,bright,upgrades,new deck & kit,fin bsmt. **Private**. 782-1984

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

3 bdrm bung + extra rm for rent, $1100. + 2/3 of util., Bath./Wilson, no sabbath calls. 635-6427.

20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT

Mtl. Eastern Cote St. Luc, near Hampstead, near synagogues, 9 rms, 3 bdrms + 1, 2 bths,cac,newly renov'd, 1 car gar. & 2 outside. 514-482-8800.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

---

24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY

York Mills area, **no agents. Private.** 416-948-5555.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

Gideon Waichenberg
Sales Representative
(416) 520-5700
Re/Max Venture Realty Corp.

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BATHURST/CLARK MUST SELL!
Promenade, 1250 sq. ft., new appls, shows great. Call Leon Kogan, rep. (905) 764-7200, Alan Newton Real Estate Ltd.

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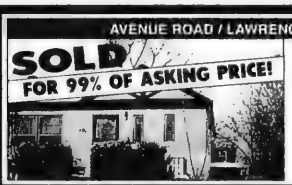
Estate sale. Prime upgraded S.E. corner, 2 bedroom & fam. Approx. 1,711 sq. ft., 2 park & extras. For our updated inventory, call Mr. Santee Leung, F.R.I.

Santee Realty Inc.
(416) 441-2003
(24 hrs.)

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712



Detached bungalow on 51.25 ft. lot. Super hot location, fabulous bldg. lot, asking $299,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

26 Alexandra Wood
2103-80 Antibes Drive
87 Apricot*
8 Barclay Road
812-3000 Bathurst St.
612-3000 Bathurst* (leased)
704-3000 Bathurst (leased)
43 Baycrest Ave.
91 Baycrest Ave.
170 Betty Ann Drive*
11 Brett Ave.
252 Brighton Ave.
45 Brookview Drive
48 Brucewood Cres.
184 Caribou Road
215 Carmichael Ave.
311 Castlefield Ave.*
11 Chamberlain Ave.
103 Charleswood Drive
117 Clanton Park Road
132 Clanton Park Road
139 Clanton Park Road*
66 Clanton Park Road
177 Clanton Park Road
456 Coldstream Ave.

475 Coldstream Ave.
536 Coldstream Ave.
537 Coldstream Ave.
57 Corwin Cres.*
157 Dell Park Ave.
30 Dell Park Ave.
16 DeQuincy Blvd.*
187 Dunblaine Ave.
191 Dunblaine Ave.
10 Evanston Drive* (leased)
81 Evanston Drive (leased)
106 Fairholme Ave.
21 Fairholme Ave.*
63 Fairholme Ave.* (leased)
69 Fairholme Ave.*
504 Fairlawn Ave.* (leased)
160 Faywood Blvd.
230 Faywood Blvd.
100 Frontenac Ave. (leased)
110 Glen Park Ave.
128 Glen Park Ave.
142 Glen Park Ave.
80 Glen Park Ave.
91 Glen Park Ave.
95 Glen Park Ave.

27 Glen Rush Blvd.
9 Glen Rush Blvd.
204-500 Glencairn Ave.
556 Glencairn Ave.
663 Glencairn Ave. (leased)
668 Glencairn Ave.
678 Glencairn Ave.
728 Glencairn Ave.
526 Glengrove Ave. West
539 Glengrove Ave. W
563 Glengrov
509 Gleng
544 Gleng
26 Greenb
16 Hashbur
5264 Heather
283 Hillhurst Blvd.
343 Hillhurst Blvd.
132 Hillmount Ave.
24 Hillmount Ave.*
49 Hillmount Ave.
86 Hillmount Ave.
27 Invermay Ave.*
46 Joel Swirsky*
342 Joicey Blvd.

343 Joicey Blvd. (leased)
103 Kennard Ave.
96 King High Ave.
20 Lansbury*
1507-2550 Lawrence Ave. E.
475 Lytton Blvd. (leased)
475 Lytton Blvd. (sold)
6 Madoc Drive
ve (leased)
e (sold)
St.*
ook Road
oad
Meadow Cres.*
170 Pannahill Road
159 Parkmount Road*
18 Pennard Crt.
359 Pinewood Drive* (leased)
65 Prince Charles Drive
55 Prue Ave. (leased)
80 Prue Ave.
96 Prue Ave.
33 Purdon Drive*
10 Reddick Court (leased)
10 Reddick Court* (sold)

SOLD
RECENT SALES

47 Regina Ave.
64 Regina Ave.*
73 Regina Ave.
110 Reiner Road
31 Reiner Road*
10 Ridgevale*
214-268 Ridley Blvd.
85 Robert Hicks Drive*
11 Roberta Drive*
45 Roberta Drive
47 Roberta Drive
58 Roberta Drive
84 Roberta Drive
94 Roberta Drive
16 Rondale Ave.
16 Rostrevor Road*
146 Searle Ave.
19 Shelborne Ave.
45 Shelborne Ave.
53 Shelborne Ave.
102-342 Spadina Road*
485 Spring Gate Blvd.
151 Springdale Blvd.*
1112-1101 Steeles Ave. W.
1405-1101 Steeles Ave. W.*

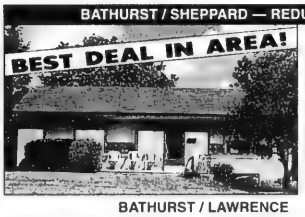
80 Stormont Ave.
128 Sultana Ave.
92 Sultana Ave.
31 Timberlane Drive
207-100* Upper Madison Ave.
120 Viewmount Ave.
127 Viewmount Ave.
153 Viewmount Ave.
30 Viewmount Ave. (leased)
35 Viewmount Ave.*
46 Viewmount Ave.* (leased)
32 Mountfield Cres.*
23 Norcross Road
425 Walmer Road*
63 Wendell Ave.*
12 Wendy Cres.
74 Wild Gingerway*
133 Woburn Ave.*
1 Yeomans Road
10 York Road

*participated in sale

YOUR HOME?

It's a seller's market – it's YOUR market. Call David Eichorn today at 787-1712!

BATHURST / SHEPPARD — REDUCED



Charming 3+1 bedroom bungalow, huge 63' lot, renovated eat-in kitchen, separate entry to in-law suite, WON'T LAST at only $229,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE

Spacious 3 bedroom bungalow, close to all amenities, finished basement, hardwood floors, renovated kitchen. Asking $339,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / HILLMOUNT — SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME!

3,700 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. Bright open concept, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, sauna, hot tub, only $449,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / PRUE

For the discriminating buyer! Custom-built grand executive home, exquisite finishes, ideal for entertaining, prestigious location. A MUST SEE — call for details! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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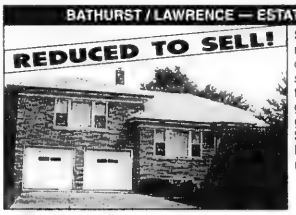
BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — STORE FOR SALE

Popular retail strip, only $199,900. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — ESTATE SALE



Spacious 3 bdrm. ranch bungalow on 60 ft. lot, quiet street, fab. location, double garage above grade, only $379,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED

Renovated 3+1 bedrooms, spacious 2 storey, hardwood floors, modern white kitchen, breakfast room, '95 roof, new windows, separate entry to finished basement, fabulous location close to all amenities, only $319,000! A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE

Luxurious 5 bedroom, custom-built, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + finished basement, loaded with upgrades, main floor fam. room, library, asking $699,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

GLEN PARK — SPACIOUS EXECUTIVE HOME

4 + 2 bedrooms, modern family-style kitchen, family room, separate entry to in-law suite, double garage (above grade), asking $519,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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CLANTON PARK — REDUCED

Charming 3 bdrm. on 50 x 150 ft. lot, close to shuls, park, highly desirable location, family values. Great buy at only $289,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST/DREWRY CONDO 3 BDRM. 2 full baths. Large corner unit. Ensuite Laundry & Locker. Sabbath elevator. South-east exposure. Move-in condition. $173,900.
Michael J. Saperia
Associate Broker
CMF REALTY LTD.
(416) 241-6000

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Coldwell Banker
Pinnacle Real Estate
416 - 485-2299
Presents . . .

Bathurst/Lawrence $285,000. Just Listed 3 Bdrm + In-law Apt., Shows to Perfection, Just Move-in. Call Denise Abraham.
Glencairn W. Subway - $139,000. Just Listed, 2 Bdrm., 2 Baths, Gleaming Hrdwd Flrs, Lower Flr. Call Denise Abraham.
Glencairn W. Subway - $129,000. 2 Bdrm + Laundry Rm, Shabat Elev. Call Denise Abraham.

COLDWELL BANKER PINNACLE REAL ESTATE

45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED

Condo/Duplex, priv. buyer (or small twnhse) 2-3 bdrms, balc, bright, reasonable walk to Bath./Glencairn. 256-7796.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

3RD ROOMMATE NEEDED-2 young prof. males, n/smkrs., n/kosher, to share top flr. of duplex at Allen Rd., s. of Egl. Phone 416-781-5524.

Laid-back smkr., seeking roommate, for a 2 bdrm at Yonge/Egl., Nov. 1st. $500.+ Call Noa, 488-7373.

N/smkng. student/young prof. to share 2 bdrms., 2 bths. at the Summit (King St. W.), 24 hr. secur, amen. incl: bus/study centre, complete exer. & spa facil. & much more. $700./mo. Avail. as of Sept. 20 (flexible). Call Jodi at 416-636-5354 or Dessa, 604-266-5364.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

3 bdrms in triplex,nr. stores, TTC,syn.Nov. 1.638-7133(4-11)

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Thornhill, beautif. 1 or 2 bdrm, priv bsmt apt, close to York U., syn & TTC, n/smkr, n/pets. 905-886-9294, (evgs 5-10pm).

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Lawr, furn bsmt apt, suit couple,self cont. 787-7651.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Bath./Shallmar, avail from Dec. 1st -March 31, 2 bdrm, 1 bth, suit single or couple, pkg, n/smkr. 783-6633.

Bath./Egl, furn. 2 bdrm apt for 5 mos, avail Nov.-April. 787-6035

105 COTTAGE FOR SALE

ANITA LATNER

453' LAKE MUSKOKA PT. Yr'rnd 8-bdrm, 2-stone f/p, 2-b/h, hot-tub/sauna, sunrise/sunset, deep/sand.
Genteel family enclave $850K
Yr'rnd 5-bdrm custom cedar, floor to ceiling glass, skylts, Party deck & terrace. **LAKE MUSKOKA $425K**

• • •

MUSKOKA COTTAGE LINE
705-687-2879

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

N. Miami Beach, Mystic Pt., boat-slip, very reas. at a great price. 905-707-9777.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

West Palm Beach
LANDS OF THE PRESIDENT

Senate 2/2	$52,000
Highrise 2/2	$72,000
Tower 3/2	$160,000
Consulate 2/2	$185,000
Envoy 3/3	$310,000

Call for further details
Charlotte Sharkey Real Estate
561-640-4199

Indian Spring-Boynton Beach, stunning 2 bdrm-2 bth villa, Fla. rm, tile in all liv. areas, 2 car gar, loc. on golf course, discount on golf equity, furn or unfurn. 216-464-0223.

The Hemispheres. Beautiful 3 bdrm., fully furnished, completely renovated, on ocean, parking included. 416-488-0442.

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HOLLYWOOD BEACH - 2 oceanfront, furnished efficiencies, $38,000 U.S. each or $70,000 U.S. for 2 adjoining units. **1-888-907-2837.**

HOUSES FOR SALE

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• RELOCATION SPECIALISTS •
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Prudential Wites Realty, Inc.
Toll Free 1-888-907-2837 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. - 7 Days
(referral fees paid Canadian Realtors)

Palm Beach condo., ocean-front, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, furn., immed. occup. 416-504-4267.

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Deerfield, Boca, Delray, Jan., Feb., 1 or 2 bdrm. 923-6837, after 3 pm.

Mln. 2 bdrm, house/condo, for Jan. 5-Feb. 1 at **The President** in **W. Palm Beach** or area. Call Suzanne or Mark, 789-5656.

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Hallandale Beach, nice sr. lady wishes to share with same, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth apt. Doorman bldg, choice loc., Nov.-April (or partial), $500./mo. 498-7221.

238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS

Rabbi Wanted. Modern Orthodox synagogue in Calgary seeks a rabbi with RCA recognized smicha. Please fax résumé immed. to Cong. House of Jacob-Mikveh Israel at 403-259-3240. We will respond with details of this challenging position & description of community. Also see: http://www.ucalgary.ca/~akiva/HOJMI

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Attn: Students,Home Delivery, p/t drivers wanted-own car/van, Bathurst routes avail. Please call 416-631-9926.

Property Mgmt. office requires a p/t exper. residential on-site condo. rep. Experience with Spectra and the condominium act is a definite asset. Please reply to CJN Box 6968.

Unlimited Income. Energetic individuals to market AT&T products. For info:. 905-770-4343.

247 DAY CARE

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

Prof. childcare by E.C.E. teacher in unique home environ.Bath/Yonge/Finch 250-6374

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

*** Need Help For the High Holidays?** Top Agency will provide prof. support from serving to preparation of foods, cleaning & child care. Relax & enjoy your special holiday with the assistance of **No. 1 Domestic Service**. Call today to book an appointment. Please refer to this advertisement when you call.
(416) 630-0674 or 224-9907

A reliable nanny/hskpr., with exper, live-out. 614-7354.

Certif. HCA seeks job to take care of elderly, evgs./nights, live-out,refs.,exp. 416-745-5174

Cleaning lady avail for homes/apts,refs/exp. 636-3369.

Cleaning lady, mature, exper, honest,for days work.747-7543

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS **NEED A NANNY?**
• No Fee to Employer
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
(416) 730-0127

MARLA'S DOMESTICS
RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
People you trust taking care of people you love.
We have live-in and live-out caregivers. We specialize in helping seniors, and people afflicted with Stroke, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
(416) 665-4229

Polish Cleaning lady, exper. with car. 416-398-6454.

Nannies, housekeepers, companions for elderly, cleaning ladies, live-in or out. Sponsorship from overseas. No fee for the Sponsor. **Excellent Placement Agency**. 222-4912.

EC Access Employ. Agency Filipino owned. Low fee to employers. Nannies/Hskprs/Companions. **905-475-2518.**

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded, refs.416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. **#1 Domestic.**

Polish & Russian speaking lady seeks job, operates sewing machine.Barbara,905-276-0336

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Live-in nanny/hskpr., 3 kids, n/smkr, min. wage, exper., refs req'd, kosher home. 787-6446.

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Driver/Attend./Companion avail, exp, refs. **Chaim, 512-6525.**

Exper, certif. HCA, Jewish, caring, reas, avail. anytime for home care, refs. Katharine, 440-5530.

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER. The top-rated introduction service in Ontario. Call Ruth Friedman, 905-731-5204. www.octonline.com/usr/bptinc

CELEBRATE The New Year with us at **A NEW CHANCE** Jewish Dating Service! Enjoy a FREE consultation & refreshments as part of the holiday spirit. Meet exciting new people who share your energy, enthusiasm & ideas. Ages 20-40 our specialty. 416-398-3991.

Dating 4 marriage ONLY. 416-633-2343. Connect Now, 123 Queen St. West, Box 160, Toronto, Ont, M5H 3M9.

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SIZEABLE ENCOUNTERS FINALLY! A dating service for above-average sized singles and their admirers. **NO FEAR OF REJECTION! NO RISK!** Call (905) 731-1366.

The Jewish Dating Network, Money-Back Guarantee, 1-800-263-6831,Fax: 1-800-293-6297. **www.jewishdate.com**

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENESOVE-HERZ. Born to **David** and **Dina** in Boston, a daughter, on Sept. 7th. Proud grandparents are Dr. Jack and Belle Genesove and Dr. Guido and Lotti Herz of Basil, Switzerland. Great grandmother Bertha Lecner of Antwerp, Belgium.

WORTH. Risa (née Barkin) and **Brian** proclaim the arrival of son **Slater Glendon**, born August 25th, 7 lbs. 13 ozs. Slater loves his big Bubbie Freda, Zayde Moishe, & Bubba Carol Barkin, and so many aunties, uncles and cousins. Thanks to Dr. Marshall Barkin and all the great Mt. Sinai maternity staff for his Welcome to the World Party. Of being born, Slater said, "it was a piece of cake".

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

• CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.

An intell. Hungarian lady, early 60's, warm & attr., looking for an equal match. Would you, could you try it all again? Reply to CJN Box 6969.

Attr lady, early 50's, hard of hearing, would like to meet females and/or males for friendship and joining groups in TO or Ft. Laud. CJN Box 6967

Attr, personable prof. male,38, seeks soulmate. 633-1728.

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?
Address your mail to:
Box #_____
The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Educ. prof. male with a good heart looking for an educ. attr, female, 22-25, to live & love life. 416-576-1266, lve. msg.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Magnificent wedding gown, exc. cond., size 10-12, beaded, silk, orig. cost $8,000., asking $1,600. Call 222-2334.

315 CARS FOR SALE

'92 MAZDA MPV 7-pass. van, clean thruout,well maint,woman driven, 100K, perfect fam. veh., $9,399. OBO. 905-841-7566.

330 OBITUARIES

Passed away suddenly on Aug. 26, 1997, **Henry Weinberg**, beloved husband of Honey (Hanka) Weinberg, devoted father of Nancy Dahlke & Bella Allen, father-in-law of Larry Dahlke & David Allen, loved grandfather of Joelle, Sarah and Rebecca Allen, Adam and Erin Dahlke. Henry arrived in Canada in 1948 from Poland with $1.00 in his pocket and a wife and child at his side. He was a man of boundless energy, determination and drive, who loved life and all its adventure. "Saba" flew his own airplane, drove his own Harley and para-sailed. He was a great supporter of many charitable organizations, and his community at large. He was a man of great generosity & geniality who opened his arms to anyone who needed a hand.He revelled in his business success and in his family's love.We will all miss him greatly

DORN, Myer - on Aug. 21, 1997, late of 34 Vesta Dr.
BLACK, Norman - on Aug. 22, 1997, late of 22 Westborough St.
DOPPELT, Anna - on Aug. 22, 1997, late of 52 Neptune Dr.
ZACKS, Harry - on Aug. 27, 1997, late of 1111 Danita Blvd.
CAPLAN, Ida - on Aug. 29, 1997, late of 640 Sheppard Ave. E., #805.
KRIEGER, Solly - on Aug. 29, 1997, late of 39 Ridelle Ave.
TRAPUNSKI, Abraham - on Aug. 29, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
RASMINSKY, Vera - on Aug. 30, 1997, late of 19 Lower Village Gate.
ISRAELSKI, Shlomo - on Aug. 31, 1997, late of 255 Waterloo Ave.
MAIL (Pachciarski), Bluma - on Aug. 31, 1997, late of 7440 Bathurst St., #404.
SILVER, Hush - on Aug. 31, 1997, late of 55 Skymark Dr., #1401.
BLACKSTIEN, Allan - on Sept. 1, 1997, late of 360 Bloor St. E., PH #9.
ESTRIN, Sadie - on Sept. 1, 1997, late of 46 Robingrove Rd.
BERMAN, Peggy - on Sept. 2, 1997, late of 7805 Bayview Ave., #1522.
STERLING, Ruth - on Sept. 2, 1997, late of 115 Antibes Dr., #907.
LANGER, Albert - on Sept. 3, 1997, late of 50 Fallingdale Cres.
LONDON, Harry - on Sept. 3, 1997, late of 1 Calais Ave.
SHADLESKY, Pearl - on Sept. 3, 1997, late of 35 Cedarcroft Blvd., #603.
WALKIN, Irving - on Sept. 3, 1997, late of 741 Briar Hill Ave.
MATHER, Marlene - on Sept. 4, 1997, late of 188 Joicey Blvd.

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SUGAR, Lawrence Theodore - on Aug. 26, 1997.
WILSON, Adrian - on Aug. 27, 1997, late of 70 Rosehill Ave.
BERKOVITZ, Jacob - on Aug. 28, 1997.
BLAU, Tibor - on Aug. 28, 1997, late of 16 Stadacona Dr.
MANDEL, Rose - on Aug. 29, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
GREENSPAN, Max - on Aug. 30, 1997, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W.
KATZIN, Sheila Charlotte - on Aug. 30, 1997, late of 85 Charnwood Pl.
FELDMAN, Benjamin - on Aug. 31, 1997, late of 55 Skymark Dr.
GREENGARTEN, David Hersch - on Aug. 31, 1997, late of 333 Clark Ave. W.
HIMMEL, Jack - on Aug. 31, 1997, late of 4676 Bathurst St.
SHAPIRO, Joseph - on Aug. 31, 1997, late of 343 Clark Ave. W.
SHIFRIN, Yevgeny - on Aug. 31, 1997, late of 7825 Bayview Ave.
BROWN, Rose - on Sept. 1, 1997.
PODOLSKAIA, Raissa - on Sept. 1, 1997, late of 10 Sifton Crt.
WEINBERG, Miriam - on Sept. 1, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KROY, John - on Sept. 2, 1997.
WOLFSON, Sergei - on Sept. 2, 1997, late of 601 Clark Ave. W.
BERNSTEIN, Lillie - on Sept. 3, 1997, late of 130 Neptune Dr.
GOFMAN, Samuel Meer - on Sept. 3, 1997, late of 482 Drewry Ave.
IRON, Raye - on Sept. 3, 1997.
SIMOR, Vera - on Sept.4, 1997.
WINOKUR, Jack - on Sept. 4, 1997.
BEKER, (Pliss) Marya - on Sept. 5, 1997.
GREENWALD, Walter - on Sept. 6, 1997, late of 1121 Steeles Ave. W.
SMALL, Samuel - on Sept. 6, 1997, late of 17 Farmstead Rd.
KULBATSKI, Idel - on Sept.7, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

LAYEFSKY, Jenny - on Aug. 13, 1997.
SHUB, Sophie - on Aug. 15, 1997.
SHIELDS, Nathan - on Aug. 18, 1997.
GUTWILLIG, Lillian - on Aug. 27, 1997.

The Simple Alternative

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
NATHAN FRIEDMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 21st,, 1:00 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
(986 Wilson Avenue)
Beth Radom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
STANLEY GARNICK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 21st,, 1:00 p.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Kielcer SBS Section 5
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
GERTRUDE LUDWIG ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 21st,, 2:30 p.m.
Lambton Hills Cemetery
Koil Yankov Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MIRIAM NAIMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 21st, 12:30 p.m.
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
986 Wilson Avenue
The Workmen's Circle Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LILLIAN H. ROSS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 21st, 11:30 a.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

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UNVEILINGS for SUNDAY, SEPT. 21

JACK **STILLMAN** ז"ל — Beth Tzedec, Section 10, 11:45 a.m.

JOEL **SOLSKI** ז"ל — Mount Sinai, Workmen's Circle, 1:00 p.m.

DORA **SILVERMAN** ז"ע — Mount Sinai, Shaarei Tefillah Section, 1:30 p.m.

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

SARA ROTMAN ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, Sept. 21st, 1:30 p.m.

Mount Sinai Memorial Park
(986 Wilson Ave.)
Ozrowet Society Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

JACK VEFFER ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, Sept. 21st, 11:30 a.m.

Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Pride of Israel Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late

TILLIE GOLDBERG ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, September 21st at 10:00 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin Street, North of Major Mackenzie Drive
Temple Sinai Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

ROSE GREENSPAN ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, September 21st at 2:30 p.m.

Dawes Road Cemetery
Beth Radom Section
- on east side of Cemetery, off Herron Rd., Gate 109

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late

TEMY OILGISSER ז"ל

cherished mom, bubby and sister

will take place

Sunday, September 28th at 11:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

Due to Rosh Hashanah there will be an early deadline for the Oct. 1st issue.

Deadline for classified ads and Service Directory ads will be Tuesday, Sept. 23rd by 3 p.m.

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE/ PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
36 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
116 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL PROPERTY WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITHS
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
483 SKIING
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
545 WORD PROCESSING
550 WORKSHOPS

Israel & the Jewish World

History of suicide bombings

By MITCHELL DANOW
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Following is a list of suicide bombings carried out against Israel since Israel and the Palestinians signed peace accords in September 1993. It does not include the numerous drive-by shootings and stabbings. The death tolls refer only to the victims and do not include the bombers.

1994

April 6 — A 19-year-old member of Hamas carries out a suicide car- bombing at a bus stop in the northern Israeli town of Afula. Eight people are killed and more than 50 are wounded.

April 13 — A Hamas suicide bomber detonates an explosive aboard an Israeli commuter bus in the central town of Hadera. Five Israelis are killed, another 30 are wounded.

Oct. 19 — A Hamas suicide bomber sets off an explosion on a Dan bus traveling north along Dizengoff Street in the heart of Tel Aviv's shopping district. The blast kills 22 people and wounds 42 others.

Nov. 12 — A Hamas suicide bomber riding a bicycle detonates an explosion at an army checkpoint near the Netzarim settlement in Gaza. Three Israeli soldiers are killed, 11 others are wounded.

1995

Jan. 22 — Two Palestinian suicide bombers detonate explosions at the Beit Lid intersection between Netanya and the West Bank town of Tulkarm, killing 22 and wounding about 60. Islamic Jihad claims responsibility.

April 9 — A suicide bomber belonging to Islamic Jihad drives his explosive-laden van into an Egged bus near the Kfar Darom settlement in the Gaza Strip, blowing up the bus. Seven Israeli soldiers, along with American student Alisa Flatow, are killed in the bus explosion.

Two hours later, a Hamas suicide bomber attacks an Israeli convoy near the Netzarim settlement, blowing up an Israeli border police jeep, but succeeding in killing only himself. More than 50 people are wounded in both attacks.

July 24 — A suicide bomber blows up a Dan bus outside Tel Aviv's 40-story Diamond Exchange, killing six and wounding 32. Hamas claims responsibility, saying one of its members from the West Bank carried out the attack.

Aug. 21 — A Hamas suicide bomber detonates an explosion on the No. 26 bus in Jerusalem's northern neighborhood of Ramat Eshkol, killing four people and injuring more than 100. Among the dead is American Joan Davenny, 47, a teacher at a Jewish school in Woodbridge, Conn.

Nov. 2 — Two suicide bombers detonate explosions a minute apart near two buses in nearby locations in Gaza. Eleven Israelis are lightly-wounded in the first attack, none in the second. The attacks are believed to come in retaliation for the Oct. 26 assassination of Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shakaki in Malta. Islamic Jihad claims responsibility for both attacks.

1996

Feb. 25 — Hamas suicide bomber blows up a No. 18 bus near Jerusalem's central bus station, killing 26 people and wounding 48 others. Americans Matthew Eisenfeld of Hartford, Conn., and Sara Duker of Teaneck, N.J., are among the dead.

Less than an hour later, a second Hamas suicide bomb explodes at a soldiers' hitchhiking station near Ashkelon, killing one and injuring 31 others. The two attacks are said to be in retaliation for the Jan. 5, 1996, slaying in Gaza of Yehiya Ayash, a Hamas fugitive known as "The Engineer" because of his expertise with explosives.

March 3 — A Hamas suicide bomber blows up a bus on Jerusalem's Jaffa Road, killing 19 people and leaving at least nine wounded. The attack takes place on the same No. 18 bus line and almost at the same time as the previous week's attack.

March 4 — A suicide bomb is detonated in Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Centre, killing 13, including children, and wounding at least 130 on the eve of Purim. Hamas claims responsibility.

1997

March 21 — A Hamas suicide bomber detonates his explosion at the Cafe Apropos in central Tel Aviv, killing three Israelis and wounding 47 others.

July 30 — Two suicide bombers strike in the Machane Yehuda open-air market in Jerusalem, claiming at least 12 victims and wounding at least 150 others. Islamic Jihad reportedly claims responsibility.

Sept. 4 — Three suicide bombers detonate near-simultaneous explosions at the Ben Yehuda pedestrian mall in downtown Jerusalem, killing five people and wounding more than 190.

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Jewish tennis pro getting better all the time

By MARVIN GLASSMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — After taking her first lessons in tennis at age five, Sarah Pitkowski of France knew that tennis would be more than a hobby to her.

By the time she was 17, Pitkowski excelled in tennis. She had perfected a strong baseline game which helped her win the 1992 French national 18s championships. The following year, she continued to dominate in Europe, winning the European Championship 18s and a silver medal for France at the 1993 Maccabiah Games in Israel.

"At that point, I felt that I wanted to be the best tennis player in the world. By turning pro in 1993, I would only get better by competing against the best players in the world," said Pitkowki, who competed recently at the $1.5-million du Maurier Canadian Open at the National Tennis Centre at York University.

In her first round match against Alexandra Fusai of France, Pitkowki was overwelmed by her opponent 6-1, 6-0 and had over 30 unforced errors.

"To say the least, I had a horrible match, but I have always been able to produce a winning result after a poorly played loss. I want to stay confident and focused on improving my ranking," said Pitkowski, who is currently ranked 60th in the world and is the top ranked Jewish player on the women's pro circuit.

Despite her poor showing in Toronto, Pitkowski, 22, seems destined to become one of the best young players to come from France. Her speed, patience on the court and excellent backhand shots have paid off in raising her rankings since she turned pro in 1993.

Thus far in her career, Pitkowski has won six satellite events and was a quarter-finalist in three major tournaments.

In 1997, Pitkowski won her first pro title in Reims by defeating five opponents, including Ilsa Krivenchea of Czechoslovakia, 7-5, 6-1 in the final.

Perhaps the best test for Pitkowski is her ability to give the top players tough competitive matches before losing. For example, Pitkowski fought Monica Seles on the baseline at the French Open losing 6-3, 7-5 in the second round, and extended Amanda Coetzer of South Africa to a tiebreaker in the second set, losing 6-4, 7-6 in the quarter-finals at Bolivia.

Pitkowski has earned $68,500 so far in 1997 and will likely be representing France at the next Federation Cup in 1998.

* * *

Tennis Lines: Anna Smasnova of Israel, a former Soviet Jew who competed at the 1995 Canadian Open in Toronto, is currently ranked 182nd on the pro circuit. Her low ranking prevented her entry at this year's Canadian Open.

Shiera Stuart of Vancouver, Canada's top ranked Jewish female player, won a bronze at the 1997 Maccabiah Games in Israel.

More than $20,000 was raised at the Ruth Taub Memorial Tennis Classic held at the Richmond Hills Country Club in June. Taub, a Holocaust survivor who died in 1994, was an avid tennis player who wanted to have tennis scholarships to encourage girls to pursue tennis. One of this year's winners of a tennis scholarship was Helena Vander of Toronto who represented Canada on the women's tennis team at the 1997 Maccabiah Games.

Top Jewish tennis players competing at the U.S. Open, in addition to Pitkowski and Smashnova are Gaston Etlis (Argentina) and Gabriel Silberstein (Chile).

ROGER NEILSON COMES TO METULLA

Thirty-two youngsters, 14 Canadian and 18 Israeli, had the opportunity to skate, learn, and play under the watchful and caring eye of Roger Neilson, former Toronto Maple Leafs coach and presently the associate coach of the St. Louis Blues. The hockey hopefuls also benefited from the tutelage of Bill Lindsay of the Florida Panthers and Alex Andjelic, one of Europe's top hockey coaches. The hockey clinic was sponsored by the United Israel Appeal of Canada. *[UIA photo]*

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Racquetball champ undeterred

By MYRON LOVE
Special to The CJN

WINNIPEG — Canadian racquetball champion Sherman Greenfeld describes his defeat in the recent Canadian championships as a setback that will make him hungrier and push him to come back even stronger next year.

The Winnipeg-based Greenfeld, 34, lost his bid for his 10th consecutive Canadian championship to Toronto's Mike Ceresia, 34.

Sherman Greenfeld

Although he admits he felt some pressure for his 10th crown before a hometown crowd, Greenfeld maintains he was feeling mentally and physically tough and played a strong game throughout. Prior to the finals, his record against Ceresia was 13-2.

"Mike plays an intelligent game just as I do," Greenfeld said. "A big part of my game is my serve but I came out a little flat. I have to give Mike credit though. He took my game away."

Greenfeld still has his eye on the Pan Am Games scheduled for Winnipeg in 1999. To build up to the games, he is looking for a corporate sponsor to help support him on the American Pro Tour.

"The best training is to compete and the best players are on the U.S. circuit," he said. "I own a few pro shops in the city but I can get someone to run them while I'm away."

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A	M	R	A	M		M	A	K	E		S	T	O	P
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CORRECTION

In the story on Maccabi junior medal winners last week, the name of one winner was incorrect, the result of information supplied to *The CJN*. The name of the silver medal winner in doubles tennis for boys aged 15-16 was David Srour.

The Inside Back

Judged by size of child's album

By JORDAN MAX

Last Laugh

I had a very vivid dream recently. I was in court, sitting in the witness box, being sued by my youngest child. The charge was photographic neglect. Her lawyer was none other than my oldest son.

Naturally, being a dream, I had decided to save some money and defend myself, having figured I knew enough jargon from television law shows to get myself out of any predicament. But my confidence began to wane as I looked around the courtroom. The jury was made up of my youngest child's classmates, and Judge Ito was presiding. My chances did not look very good.

My son the lawyer began his case. He introduced Exhibit A, a three-inch thick photo album, calligraphically labelled "David's first year." Under his relentless questioning (I was shepping such nachas from the job he did, even if it was doing damage to my defence), I pointed out pictures in triplicate of him in the hospital, sleeping, his brit, drooling, being fed solids, sitting, crawling, getting his diaper changed, weekly updates. And that was only Volume one. Volumes two and three continued through his first year, his second year, his third year. My explanations for such excesses were the novelty of having a first child, ample time and financial resources to match.

Next he introduced Exhibit B. It was a considerably slimmer album on which the typed label read "Ilan, 1993-1999." Under questioning, I was able to identify, in sequence, a picture of Ilan at the hospital, sometime during the brit, sitting up, then a bathtub shot, taking his first steps (more or less), his first birthday party, second birthday party, his first day of school. Asked to explain the apparent volume discrepancies between Exhibits A and B, I tried to counter that it wasn't that we loved Ilan any less, he wouldn't sit still for a picture and my camera couldn't shoot at faster than 1/200th of a second. Then we had switched mostly to video, our lives got busier, we wanted to avoid competition and sibling rivalry, the camera broke ..." I was beginning to shake.

Finally, he introduced Exhibit C, a still slimmer album with "Adina, 1995-2012" scrawled on the front. I began to sweat profusely. My goose was cooked, and I knew it. "And, Mr. Max" my son the lawyer boomed, zeroing in for the kill. "Would you please explain to the jury why it took 17 years to fill a 20-picture photo album?"

Guilty of photographic neglect

I needed more excuses desperately. I tried explaining that she had just developed faster and did everything sooner than her brothers, that we were so bogged down with equipment we couldn't take the camera with us on trips, then that they stopped making film, and that I never had the time to actually put the developed pictures in the album with all the activity in our lives..." I broke down on the stand and pleaded for the mercy of the court.

The jury only took 20 minutes, including a bathroom and snack break, to reach its verdict. Guilty of photographic neglect. Judge Ito set the claim at $10 million and eternal guilt. The courtroom erupted in cheers from children and tears from parents. I awoke in a sweat and upon reorienting myself, got out the camera and frantically began taking pictures of my daughter sleeping in her crib, first the left side, then the right...

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1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ground ginger
pinch of ground cloves
2 large eggs
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup honey
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1/2 cup walnuts, coarsely chopped

Lightly grease 8x4" loaf pan, line with parchment paper or wax paper, grease paper. In cup, dissolve coffee in hot water. Let cool. Sift flour with baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger and cloves. Beat eggs lightly. Add sugar and honey and beat until mixture is very smooth and light in colour. Gradually add oil and beat until blended. Stir in flour mixture alternately in 2 batches with coffee. Stir in walnuts. Pour batter into prepared pan and bake in preheated 325°F oven for 50-55 minutes, or until cake tester inserted comes out clean. Cool in pan for 15 minutes. Turn out onto rack and carefully peel off paper. Wrap in foil when competely cool. Yield: 8-10 servings.

A MESSAGE TO CJN SNOWBIRDS

If you will be spending all or part of this winter outside of Canada, there are three options available to you regarding delivery of your Canadian Jewish News.

1/ Continue regular delivery to your home, and arrange for Canada Post to forward The CJN on with your other mail each week.

2/ Advise our Circulation Department to suspend delivery until your return to Canada with no weeks lost in your subscription period.

3/ Arrange with our Circulation Department to redirect The CJN to your winter address at a cost of $5.00 per month.

This charge -- payable by cheque, Visa or Mastercard before departure -- covers the cost of additional postage incurred for out of country mailings.

To make any change in your delivery please call Janice at **416-391-1836**, allowing a minimum of two weeks notice.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

My sister-in-law Rachel recently had quadruple bypass surgery and is recuperating at a convalescent home. Today, Tuesday, the nurse told me that Rachel will be discharged on the weekend. There are several problems. Rachel only speaks Russian, is on welfare and there is no one else to help her when she gets home. I have a terrible back problem and I work full time. I can do the cooking but I cannot do anything else for Rachel. I cannot afford to hire someone. What shall I do?

FE

Dear FE,

First contact the social service department at the convalescent home and ensure that there is a discharge plan for Rachel before she returns home. This plan should identify what her restrictions will be due to her physical condition. She will need home care for the aids to daily living (ADL) that she cannot do for herself. If it is not available through medicare, call your community agency for help and/or for help to advocate on Rachel's behalf.

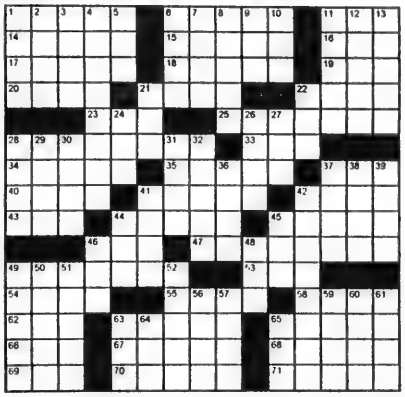
Make sure that you encourage Rachel to do what she can and that you do not take over all the responsibility.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Gangster Buchalter
6. Bitter waters site
11. Torah breastplate
14. Shofar blast
15. Graven__
16. Noodge (Eng)
17. Levite domain
18. Delilah to Samson
19. Three: combined form
20. Jonah's milieu
21. Shamsky goal
22. Teva offering
23. Rosten or Baeck
25. Dan and Gad to Esau
28. Great orator
33. K'Tonton
34. Reform theologian
35. Made aliyah
37. Last degree
40. Mikveh
41. Bialik and ha-Levi
42. Additional
43. __ Carte
44. Matzoball server
45. Hubs for Tsahal
46. Named in a Mishaberach
47. Eban specialties
49. Prophet
53. Corp.
54. "House" to Marranos?
55. Valley (Heb.)
58. Cain's victim
62. Zeitz (Eng)
63. Havdalah light
65. Angel of Death path
66. Lemon or Gator
67. Roberta Peters genre
68. City of Dan
69. Dalod: (Eng.)
70. Shimon
71. Amos and Micah

Down

1. Tref shortening
2. "Night" writer
3. Chopped liver?
4. Dumplings
5. Mems (Eng.)
6. "__ 18"' Uris novel
7. Minor Prophet
8. Noah's messenger
9. Golden __ of Spain
10. That one
11. Give a tenth
12. Dart
13. Arkia milieu
21. Guitarist Dylan
22. That woman
24. Screech
26. Source for Seder shanks
27. Sopher need?
28. Father (Heb)
29. Pagan sun god
30. Zeta __ Tau, fraternity
31. Son of Gad
32. Bohr
36. Gait
37. Nibble (Yid)
38. Life or Knowledge
39. Myra, pianist
41. "__ of Settlement"
42. Chanukah hero
44. 52
45. Shahn or Zvi
46. Alias
48. Prior NYC mayor
49. Shema ender
50. Grandpa (Yid)
51. Lauder
52. Biblical outcast
56. Slight bit
57. Byzantine and Messianic
59. Drill
60. E'er to Bialik
61. Fewer
63. Dreidel
64. Imitate
65. Expressions of ease

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 62.)

What's hot in Toronto's haute-est neighbourhood.

Tank Française Chrono/18 Kt Gold – Cartier

Suite QR with Direct Access Elevator – The Prince Arthur

Style & Quality are the cornerstones upon which all truly exceptional products are designed and crafted. The Condominium Mansions at The Prince Arthur are no exception to the rule.

Ideally located in fashionable Bloor-Yorkville, with neighbours like Cartier, Chanel, Prada, Armani, Tiffany and the like, The Prince Arthur is a stunning collection of exceptional one-of-a-kind condominium residences.

The QR Suite, shown, is an impressive 3,505 sq.ft. with direct elevator access into a rotunda foyer and with panoramic vistas to both the east and to the west.

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A Poggenpohl kitchen with family room, three expansive bed rooms, cozy library, extravagant closets, sumptuous bathrooms with ultra-exclusive features and finishes complete the lifestyle plan of this elegant Condominium Mansion.

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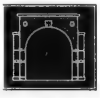
For further information or for a personal appointment and private showing of our new decorated model suite call 416-920-0038. Visit The Prince Arthur web site at www.mintohomes.com/princearthur.



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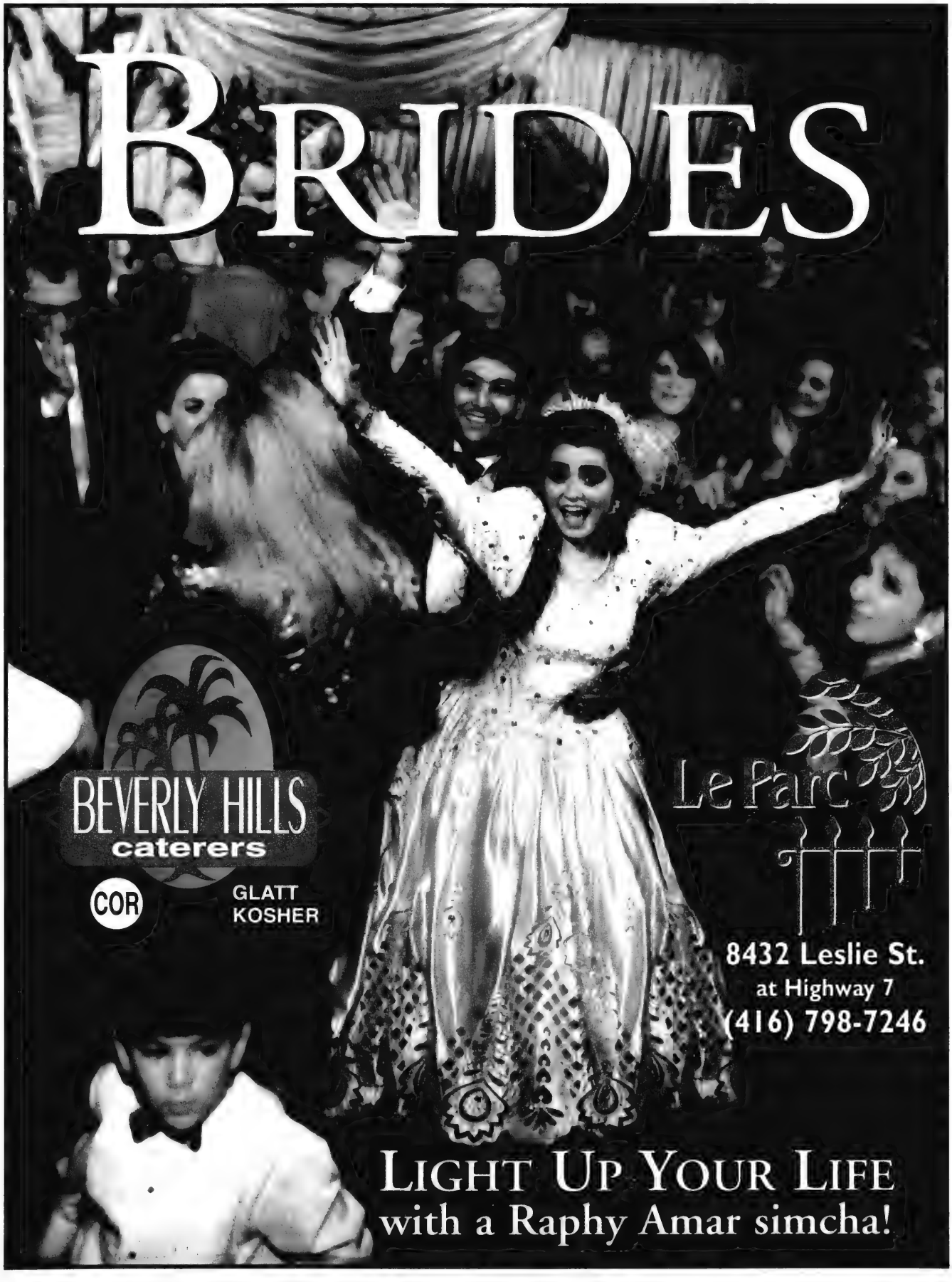
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"Boutique Hotel" offers many wedding benefits

Making sure that a wedding goes well involves hundreds of details. Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto will take care of them all under one roof, meaning less stress on the wedding party, and more enjoyment for everyone — bride, groom, family and friends.

Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto hosts wedding parties of 40 to 180 people, starting at $83.00 per guest, plus gratuity and taxes.

When you book your function at this marvelously mid-sized downtown hotel, which offers self parking after 6 p.m. for all guests of the bridal party, you'll find something special in store for both bride and groom.

The festivities begin at 6 p.m. with a one-hour cocktail reception featuring complimentary piano player, open bar and hot and cold hors d'oeuvres. This is followed by an elegant four-course dinner with imported wine, and sparkling wine afterwards for toasts. There is a four-hour host bar after dinner, and coffee and tea service at midnight.

Also, the bride and groom receive one free room on the wedding night for every $1,000 spent, to a maximum of five nights. For example, if there are 70 guests at $83 each, totalling $5,810, there would be five complimentary rooms for the bride and groom to offer family and friends. (These figures do not include taxes and gratuity.)

Rates start at $195 for a single or double room, with special rates during the slow season. When they arrive on their wedding night, the bride and groom receive a complimentary suite and chilled champagne. Before setting out next morning on their honeymoon, they are served a continental breakfast (sliced fruit, Danish pastry, croissants and coffee).

If you wish, Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto will be pleased to organize every aspect of your wedding within the domain of the hotel, from flowers to entertainment. The catering manager will attend to every detail to ensure all goes smoothly. This level of service is in keeping with Hotel Inter-Continental's profile: it's a "boutique hotel" for individual business travellers, families, intimates and small groups (and possibly a celebrity or two in search of privacy and quiet).

Hotel Inter-Continental Toronto is located at 220 Bloor Street West, just west of Avenue Road, across from the Royal Conservatory of Music. For more information, ask for the catering manager at **(416) 324-5884**.

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Mister Disc Jockey, Aristocrats Among D.J.'s

For your wedding, Mister Disc Jockey Company offers more than just the services of a D.J. Their motto is "total seamless entertainment": good music, elegant presentation and a rapport between their team and the other professionals at your wedding.

At a wedding, with its unique blend of solemnity and joy, entertainers must respect decorum (or as Ed McMurtry, Mister Disc Jockey's Creative Director, puts it, "err on the side of elegance"), be original and unique besides. The Mister Disc Jockey Company welcomes these special demands.

Gone is the scruffy guy crouched behind his tape deck, or the 17 year-old standing on a speaker yelling at the guests. The professional entertainers at Mister Disc Jockey stand in front of their equipment where they are visible. Aristocrats among D.J.'s, they wear tuxedos — both for elegance, and because the tux imparts authority, so they can help with public announcements, keep order amongst rambunctious kids, etc.

While a wedding, with its slow, dignified pace, is less interactive than, say a bar mitzvah, each guest should feel that they are a part of the celebration. Moreover, the entertainment must please both spouses, friends and extended families, from young children to grandparents.

The Mister Disc Jockey Company knows how to establish rapport. To take requests, for example, their D.J.'s mingle unobtrusively from table to table, introducing themselves and putting people at ease. They also provide quality entertainment matched to your taste, and they work closely with every other professional at your wedding, from caterer to florist, to unify them in an harmonious whole. They, like the entertainers, also see themselves as artists and they excel in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

They have ample experience with special situations, says Andrew Proctor, the Production Manager at Mister Disc Jockey. Suppose the wedding is outdoors or in a tent where there may be a need to augment the power supply: Mister Disc Jockey sees to it that not only they, but the videographers, caterers and others have the electricity they need.

The resulting smoother co-ordination also minimizes stress, both before and at the wedding. Seamless entertainment requires detailed planning and dealing with the unpredictable or unexpected. For example if the client comes up with a new idea at the last moment Mister Disc Jockey can usually make necessary adjustments immediately.

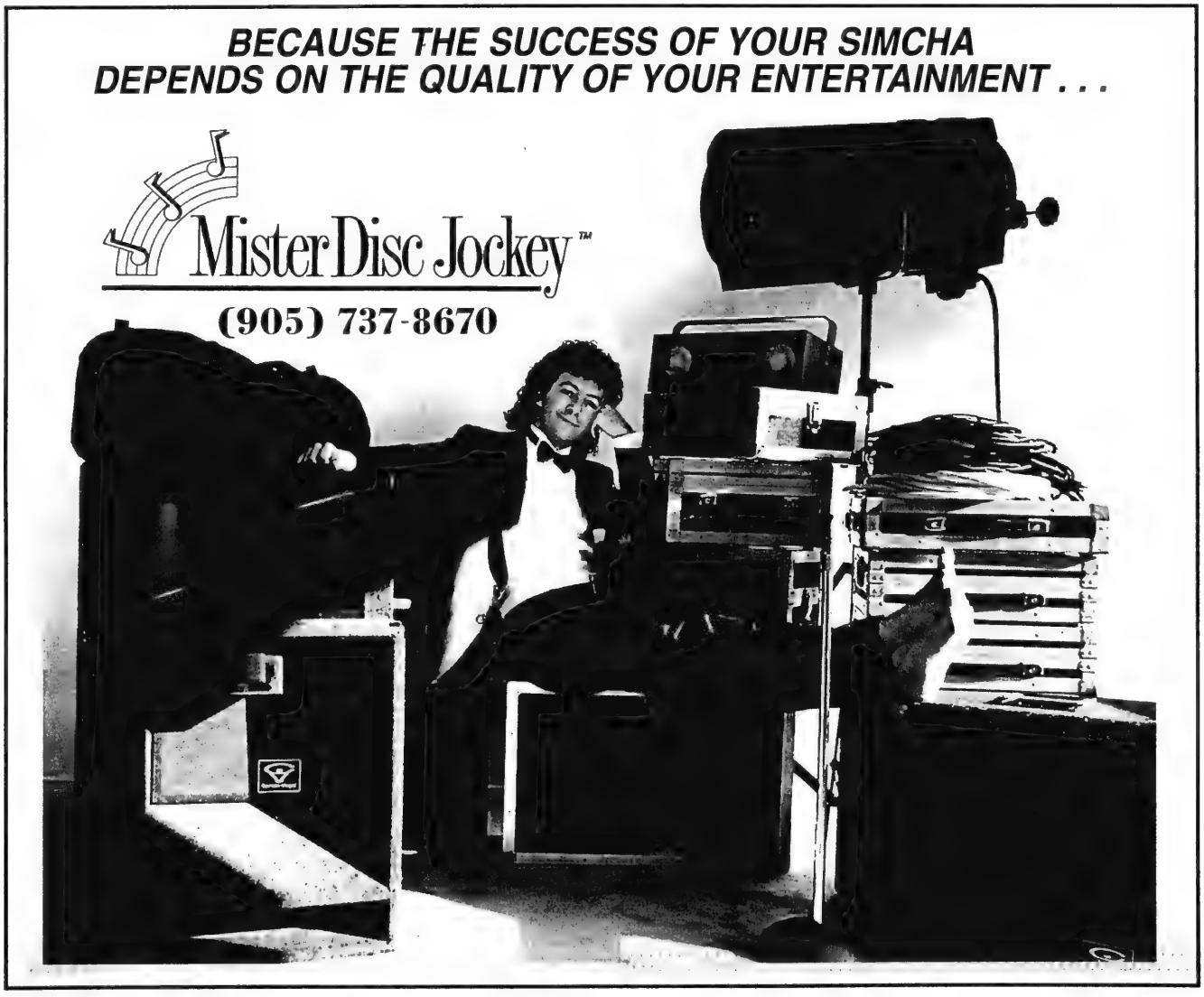
Providing entertainment and other services for celebrations of all kinds is a complex and growing industry and The Mister Disc Jockey Company has not only built up a vast local network, but also has extensive experience at the national and international level. For example, the International Marketing Manager of Bride Magazine had The Mister Disc Jockey Company at her wedding in the U.S. making a fashion statement that a D.J. can be elegant.

Are you undecided about whether to hire a disc jockey or live entertainment? The Mister Disc Jockey Company works well with live performers, allowing their talent to shine while filling in all the gaps. Worried about getting good speaker volume without overwhelming your guests? The Mister Disc Jockey Company uses speaker placement and professional equipment to ensure the highest possible sound quality at the right volume.

McMurtry also places great value on co-ordination with the caterer. For example, if there is dancing between the courses, his team and the caterer synchronize their work so the food appears at the right moment, with the alteration of dance and background music exactly timed.

Details are of the essence, Andrew Proctor advises. Give your entertainers a clear idea of what you want and encourage their creative input. Plan as far in advance as possible, leaving the smaller details no later than a month to two weeks before your wedding date. Advance planning ensures quality entertainment at a modest price.

The ultimate measure of success for your wedding will be simple. Do your guests stay as late as they can? The Mister Disc Jockey Company's satisfied clients will tell you they will; but don't take their word for it. Call Mister Disc Jockey: (905) 737-8670.



Bronson's takes pride in the satisfied bride

As proprietor Ilene Bronsteter says, Bronson's China and Gifts is "a customer-oriented company" which has earned its reputation for service in the Toronto area and across Canada. Service is essential to success in any business, especially one where people are choosing products which express their hopes and dreams for the future. Bronson's satisfied customers not only come back: they recommend their favourite china and gift store to friends and family, and bring them along.

Bronson's opened its spacious 7,000 sq. ft. Thornhill store in 1979. For better service to midtown customers, the 3,000 sq. ft. Lawrence Plaza location was added in 1996.

For gifts you will treasure decades after the wedding, join the thousands who have turned to Bronson's Bridal Registry — one of Canada's best. There is a huge selection of quality china, dinnerware, flatware, stemware, kitchen items, decorative giftware, and accessories like tablecloths and placemats; and Bronson's pricing policy is designed to match every budget and taste.

Contemporary and traditional patterns from around the world include name brands such as Mikasa, Villeroy and Boch, Rosenthal, Noritake, Wedgwood, Fitz & Floyd, and Royal Doulton. There is also a unique selection of hand-painted ceramic designs.

Bronson's friendly, knowledgeable consultants help you pick patterns and co-ordinate table settings, so that your tableware enhances your new lifestyle. The atmosphere is relaxed; you and your guests are welcome to take as much time as you need to make your selections. "Your guests are our guests too," Ilene smiles.

Bronson's offers not only the best prices in gifts and china, but a range of special services which include gift wrapping, same-day delivery and telephone ordering. Stock is constantly updated; and because the inventory and Bridal Registry are computerized, service is prompt and your list is always up to date.

Bronson's Thornhill store, at **2 Steeles Ave. West**, is open Monday—Saturday 9:30—5:30, Thursday till 9, and Sunday 12 noon—5; phone **(905) 881-9930**. The Lawrence Plaza location is open Monday—Thursday 10—9, Friday and Saturday 10—6, and Sunday 12 noon—5; phone **(416) 256-9930**. For cross-Canada orders, call toll-free: **1-800-387-2766**.

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Bronson's is not your ordinary Bridal Registry. From our helpful, courteous bridal consultants, to our casual, relaxed and friendly atmosphere...Bronson's is unique. Let us guide you through the latest patterns, and styles of china, flatware, stemware, and unusual giftware. We'll help you coordinate your tableware to suit your lifestyle and we'll make it easy for friends and family to select the gifts you want. From gift wrapping to same day delivery, our exceptional service ensures that everything comes together beautifully. Trust Bronson's for value, selection and service. We're not your ordinary Bridal Registry.
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Fall National Bridal Show '97 offers one-stop wedding planning

Brides and grooms-to-be can make all their wedding plans in one stop as the **Fall National Bridal Show** comes to the International Centre September 19–21.

From the engagement ring to honeymoon destinations, more than 150 exhibitors from all areas of the wedding industry will be on hand to give expert advice. Couples can see new products and services, gather information and ideas, compare prices and services, and save time and leg-work!

Visitors to the show will enjoy café style Fashion Previews featuring the most up-to-date in wedding attire. Toronto's top designers bring their best to the runway: Friday at 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; Saturday at 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; and Sunday at 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.

While at the show, couples can enter to win a seven night dream honeymoon at the Sandals of their choice in Jamaica, courtesy of Holiday House and Just Honeymoons.

The Fall National Bridal Show runs September 19–21 at The International Centre, 6900 Airport Road. Show hours are: Friday 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is $9.00. For further information call (905) 881-5708.

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Deblins Linens offers brides "boutique quality at warehouse prices"

The Chitiz family of **Deblins Linens**, with 49 years in the linen trade, have the knowledge and experience that enable them to offer what president Ellis Chitiz calls "boutique quality at warehouse prices".

Deblins is a family business with a dedicated staff who maintain a level of service that keeps regular customers coming back. Deblins also draws many referrals, including hard-to-convince customers who comparison shop before they decide.

When the Chitiz family created their warehouse Superstore at 39 Orfus Rd. in 1994, they wanted to offer their customers the four things which had enabled their business to grow over the years: quality of merchandise, selection, low prices, and service.

Bridal registry solutions

At Deblins Linens, you will find exactly what you want and need in a huge variety of bedding, table linens, bathware and accessories — and helpful, well-informed staff to answer all your questions and advise you on matters like color coordination. You'll find this especially useful when arranging your bridal registry. By the time you're done at Deblins, your "home sweet home" will be much more than a figure of speech.

Need sheets? If it covers a bed and it's fine quality, Deblins has it, in a **full** range of sizes, patterns and colors. They carry Wamsutta, Croscill, Revman, Crown Craft, Springmaid, Fieldcrest and other brand names, including the Veratex line which is printed in Israel. New styles of sheets, like the T-shirt style that's now in hot demand, are constantly being introduced. There are even sheets for odd-sized mattresses.

Deblins' wide assortment of ready-made drapes, curtains and valances are chosen to match all sheet designs — thus making it easier for you to beautify your entire home by buying all your dry goods at Deblins.

Prices so low they don't even offer discounts to designers

There is an abundant stock of first-quality pillow coverings, duvets and duvet covers, with six different styles of duvets, and nine different styles of pillows. White Canadian goose down duvets are available in all weights and sizes, at exceptional prices, and with a host of complementary coverings.

How about towels? Deblins' vast selection includes Fieldcrest Royal Velvet, stocked in 24 colours, and matching accessories. For those who prefer patterns, there are Jacquard towels and printed towels — all quality brand names, always at the lowest possible prices.

There are plenty of bath accessories, like soap dishes, tumblers, tissue and lotion dispensers, and toothbrush holders, all of which can be coordinated with the towels. Of course, there is also a wide assortment of shower curtains, linens and mats.

If you're looking for tablecloths, napkins, napkin rings and table pads for your Sabbath table or everyday dining, you can find them at Deblins. In this department too, the top brand names are always in stock, at the lowest prices anywhere.

In fact, Deblins prices are so low they don't even offer discounts to designers. At the same time, they carry only the best quality — no irregulars or seconds. For this reason, Deblins does not match prices: "If you can find it cheaper elsewhere," says Ellis Chitiz, "buy it." He is confident that when you compare price and quality, you will find that Deblins offers the better deal.

Sabbath table well covered

"When you walk out of our door, " says Ellis, "you will be carrying quality linen, at probably the best price in the city; and you will definitely have enjoyed the best service. If you have a problem with any one of these three, let me know."

Along with quality, selection and pricing, Deblins adheres to the tradition of personal service. If you have any questions about product or fabric care, staff will answer them promptly and expertly. In the rare event you don't find what you want or need in stock, staff will order it for you, or custom-make it at an excellent price.

Deblins' largest store is the Superstore at 39 Orfus Rd., with 10,000 square feet of merchandise: **(416) 782-2910**. In addition, Deblins has stores in the Promenade Mall at Bathurst and Centre St., **(905) 709-0007**, and the Mississauga Home and Design Centre at Winston Churchill and Dundas St., **(905) 820-1509**. All three stores are open seven days a week.

IF YOU FIND LINEN AT A BETTER PRICE ANYWHERE ELSE

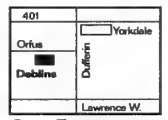
A lot of stores today offer a *price guarantee.* That means if you find a lower price anywhere else, they'll match it. So after running around to find a better price, all you're left with is the option to pay the same price somewhere else.

But isn't *the best price* what you're really looking for? Then shop at Deblins Linens. We don't match prices.

BUY IT

Our goal is to offer you the lowest price in the first place. Sure, you might find an odd item at a lower price in another store, but don't come rushing back to Deblins to pay the same price. Just buy it. We're confident that when you compare both quality and price, nine times out of ten you'll get the better deal at Deblins .... not just the same deal.

DEBLINS LINEN SUPERSTORES



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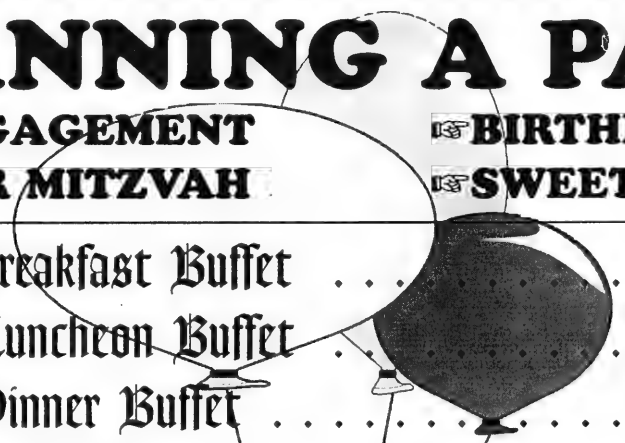

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OFFERS BASIC REGISTRY

A Show of Hands is a contemporary craft gallery offering truly exceptional one of a kind pieces from hand blown glass to ceramics, inspired Judaica to jewellery. They specialize in alternative gift registries and corporate awards.

What is an alternative registry? Gallery director Sara Levine-Petroff explains, "it's a wish list, to either augment a conventional registry, or chosen in lieu of it. The comment I hear most often is 'I wish I had known you had bridal registry when *I* was getting married'!" Today, many couples are getting married after establishing their careers, and may have already accumulated the household basics. Now is the time to begin an art collection. Look for original, signed contemporary craft works that will continue to bring your life meaning as the years go by. A marriage of form & function means pieces can be used when entertaining. The works inherently create conversation. Each signed piece is accompanied by an artist biography.

After 14 years, A Show of Hands Contemporary Craft Gallery has become *the choice destination for exceptional, inspired gifts.* If you have never been there, treat yourself and be sure to stop in before you consider registering anywhere.

A **10% discount** is extended on all attendants' gifts when registering at the gallery.

1947 Avenue Rd. (at Felbrigg, 5 blocks south of Wilson)
Hours: 10-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat.
December extended hours: Thurs. 10-8 p.m., Sun. 12-5 p.m.
(416) 782-1696

At Stavros, a maestro sets the standard

Sometimes, the highest praise comes from a competitor. A former salesman at Stavros Master Tailor & Shirtmaker, after years with another clothier, recently told manager Robert Kennedy: "If our customers knew what you do at Stavros, they'd be lining up at your door."

Master tailor Stavros Theodoropoulos wants to do more than sell suits. He wants you to come back — and bring friends who, like you, insist on quality. He and his staff love their work, and the satisfaction that comes from doing their best.

STAVROS
MASTER TAILOR & SHIRTMAKER

"While I teach, I learn"

For three years after you buy your suit, Stavros offers complimentary cleaning and hand pressing. Having made custom clothing for decades, he takes pride in how his suits look fresh after years of wear.

Stavros is the conductor of a small orchestra of fine tailors, each with his own specialty. The maestro co-ordinates their work, while teaching them everything his experience has taught him. He still does the most challenging jobs himself; and he is always learning new fine points. As he says, quoting Socrates: "While I teach, I learn."

When Stavros or Robert Kennedy stroll along Yorkville or Cumberland, they wear what they make; so, because a finely dressed man or woman always stands out, Stavros' best advertising is the product itself. "We sell us," Robert smiles. What you wear tells the world how you see yourself — and a Stavros suit tells a compelling story. It is crafted to match you: your body build, tastes, and the season and milieu in which you wear it.

Now is the time to start thinking of fall fabrics and colors. What about a fine wool-and-cashmere-blend sports jacket — or if you're going south, a wool-and-silk combination? Thinking even further ahead? Stavros makes overcoats, on up to two months' notice.

Stavros, an innovator, has set the trend to the resurgent British-style silhouette look: the suit compliments your natural figure, with a crisp cut to highlight the set of your shoulders. Double-breasted suits and three-button jackets with side vents are back.

Stavros is as careful in choice of fabric as in fitting, cutting and stitching. His showroom displays not only fine garments, but bolts of fine cloth fresh from the loom. For example, he uses grades of wool from super 100's up to super 150's (the higher the count, the finer the fabric). The world's finest mills are represented here: Wain & Sheill, Scabal, Holland & Sherry, Delfino, Zegna, Loro Piana, and Dormeuil.

The maestro conducts a small orchestra of fine tailors

Once you own a Stavros suit, you're a devoted customer; but the proof is in the wearing. So drop in to 95 Cumberland St., on the south side east of Bellair; or call (416) 924-8144 for an appointment.

The proof is in the wearing

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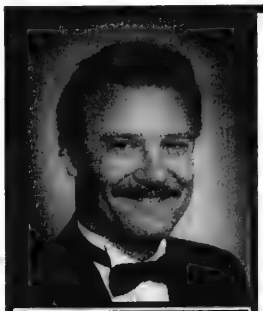

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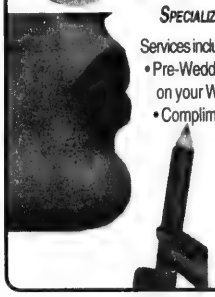

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Every bride wants to be the beautiful blushing bride from the time you leave your home for the ceremony to the time you leave your reception. You want the skills to apply your own makeup and keep it fresh throughout the day.

You will find the professionals, who will teach you these skills at the Shiseido Beauty Institute located right here in Toronto. Shiseido's Beauty Team consists of Debbie Cooper, Julie Wong and Jane Palmer who will book you a Bridal Makeup Seminar, free of charge. The Beauty Team will devote their time and knowledge to you and your bridal party.

When you book your seminar appointment, the Shiseido Beauty Instructors will ask you about the aspects and specifics of your wedding day. What colours and textures are the gowns? Where will the photos be taken? Are they in black and white or are they in colour? Shiseido will take into consideration the lighting, overall theme of your wedding and customize the seminar especially for you.

The ambiance is relaxed and friendly, spacious and bright with a spectacular view of the city from the 24th floor of the Dundas Tower, situated at 1 Dundas St. West. Carson Reid-Phillips, Shiseido Training Manager for Shiseido Canada says "Every seminar is private, for you and your party only, so that each of you are able to enjoy individual attention". He emphasized that you will not just be told, but be shown what to do: and learn by doing.

You, the bride, are the "model"; the bridal party will watch you and participate with their own make up application. Alternatively, you may choose to have the instructor apply the makeup to one side of your face, while you work on the other. "Attention is paid to every detail of your face," says Beauty Instructor, Debbie Cooper.

Beauty Instructor Julie Wong begins the seminar by identifying your skin type and your party's skin type. Then you are shown how to apply concealer, foundation, and the actual makeup – all natural, healthy products. Finally, you learn how to give your makeup staying power with minimal touch-ups.

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At the end of the seminar, you receive a free booklet on skincare, and free samples of Shiseido's products, as a demonstration of Shiseido's commitment to Beauty, Science, and Well Being. There are no sales on site, just a continuous commitment to customer service and care.

The Shiseido Beauty Institute in the **Dundas Tower** is located at **1 Dundas St. West, Suite 2405.** To book your Seminar, and learn about Shiseido's other products and services, call **416-408-3700.** It's absolutely free!

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For many years, the **Triumph Howard Johnson Plaza-Hotel, North York** has catered to the Kosher market for events ranging in size from 30 - 600. Jennifer Kirsh, Director of Sales, Patrick Holohan, Director of Catering, and Executive Chef Helmut Wegenschimmel, are a hands on team who take direct responsibility for every detail of their events.

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Catering at Beth Emeth includes all linens, table set-up, and refreshments for the wedding party during your photography session.

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Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue is also a perfect setting for engagement parties, bridal showers, and offruffs.

Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers also cater in your home for Friday night dinners, cocktail receptions, and brunches to accommodate your "out-of-towners".

To book a function at Beth Emeth please call the Synagogue office, 100 Elder St., (416) 633-3838.

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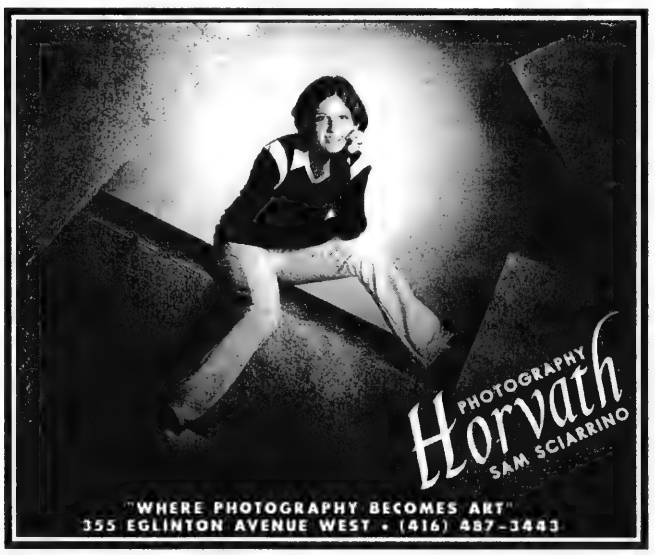

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After receiving his fashion training in Europe, *Jack Ritché* came to Canada, quickly establishing himself as a leading couturier designer. In the years that followed, he has outfitted international and local celebrities and thousands of brides from across the country.

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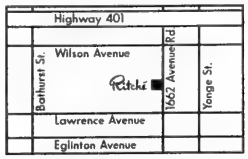

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

The high cost of keeping kosher – the issues and dissatisfactions that have arisen in the community. *Page 3*

Food

Apples, honey, wine, fruit and vegetables all brighten our holiday table. *Page 32*

National

Jews in Victoria, B.C. strive to maintain identity. *Page 43*

Health

Unorthodox surgical procedure "helps countless" patients. *Page 53*

Business

Annual Excellence Awards pay tribute to Canadian companies dealing with Israel. *Page 54*

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
On Campus 29
What's New 30
Rosh Hashanah Foods 32
Coast to Coast 40
Yiddish Corner 46
International 47
Health 53
Travel, Arts & Business 54
Classified 57
Sports 62
Dear Susan 63
Crossword 63

Shabbat: Nitzavim-Vayelach
Candlelighting: 6:48
Elul 24, 5757
Havdalah: 7:53

Barak considers unity role

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israeli Labor party leader Ehud Barak said last week that he would consider joining a national unity government, but only if Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu changed his policies.

A national unity government could provide a much-needed consensus to restart the negotiations with the Palestinians that have been suspended since March.

Speaking after meeting with Public Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, who initiated the idea, Barak said that he would only consider joining a national unity government if the current government made a "180-degree turn" from its present policies regarding the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

There will be something to discuss "when the prime minister reaches the conclusion that his policy of the last 16 months is leading Israel on the slope to an unnecessary war," said Barak.

His comments marked a slight shift from his previous opposition to a unity government.

Since replacing former Prime Minister Shimon Peres at the helm of the Labor party in June, the former army chief of staff had dismissed the idea, calling the policies of the governing coalition a "failure."

Several months ago, Netanyahu raised the idea of a national unity government as part of a call for accelerated final-status talks with the Palestinians.

But he was far cooler to the idea, when he told reporters accompanying him on a trip to Austria that he would consider a unity government only when Labor shows a willingness to put "national interest first and foremost."

URGING A CHANGE OF ADDRESS
Riot police evict "Peace Now" activists last week from the roof of the building in Ras al Amud owned by Irving Moskowitz. The rooftop protesters were demonstrating against a Jewish presence in the building. *(Please see editorial on page 8.)* *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Latvia: no evidence against Kalejs

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — Latvia has found no evidence to support allegations against a suspected Nazi war criminal now living in Australia.

Konrad Kalejs, 84, is alleged to have been a member of the mobile killing squad known as the Arajs Kommando, or Latvian Auxiliary Security Police, that collaborated with the Nazi SS during World War II.

Kalejs is accused of having participated in the killing of 20,000 Jews in Latvia during World War II.

He claims that he was a university student at the time.

About 75,000 Jews, or more than 90 percent of the country's prewar Jewish community, were murdered during the war by the Nazis — with help from local residents.

The Latvian Prosecutor General's Office said recently that the investigation into Kalejs' past included an examination of records and testimony originally gathered during the 1950s and 1960s by Soviet KGB officials who had investigated Kalejs and other alleged Nazi collaborators.

The office said that its investigation indicated that "several Latvians had participated in the persecution of Jews during World War II," but that it had no convincing evidence about Kalejs.

Several dozen Latvians were tried in this former Soviet republic after World War II for collaborating with the Nazis.

But some of them were pardoned as "victims of the KGB" after Latvia gained its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

The Latvian foreign ministry said that it will forward the findings later this month to the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Centre, which recently called for the deportation of Kalejs from Australia to Latvia to face charges.

Kalejs moved to Australia after the war and later relocated to the United States. He is alleged to have used his position in the Australian immigration department, where he worked in the 1950s, to help fellow Arajs Kommando squad members settle there.

Kalejs was ordered deported from the United States to Australia in 1994. He subsequently fled to Canada, where he lived for three years. He was deported by Canada to Australia in August.

Within days after he arrived in Australia, officials said it was unlikely he would be prosecuted under Australian war crimes legislation.

OFFICE CLOSED

Due to the various holidays in October, *The CJN* offices will be closed Oct. 2, 3, 13, 16, 17, 23 and 24. Advertisers should check with their sales representatives for any early deadlines that might be applicable.

IDF sweeps down on Hamas — please see page 47

The News in Brief

CANADA

Archives Affiliates

MONTREAL — The Ontario Jewish Archives has become the eighth organization to affiliate itself with the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies.

The Association groups together some 350 individuals and institutions, in Canada and abroad, interested in the study of the Canadian Jewish experience from an interdisciplinary perspective.

WORLD

Olympiyeda '98

NEW YORK – Teenage science buffs can now apply for entry in the 1998 Olympiyeda, the international science contest for boys and girls, to be held in Israel next summer.

Nov. 1 is the deadline for submitting applications.

For more information contact Simon Bensimon in Montreal at 514-345-2610 or Joyce Levine at 416-633-7770.

Judaism and Medicine

NEW YORK — The National Institute of Judaism and Medicine is holding its eighth annual conference on Judaism and Contemporary Medicine, Nov. 7 to 9 at New York's Rockefeller University.

For more information call 888-223-NIJM.

Czech Jews Angered

PRAGUE — The recent revelation that a wanted Nazi war criminal is living comfortably in a Munich nursing home has evoked protests from Czech Jewish leaders, one of whom has accused German authorities of having little interest in bringing such criminals to justice.

Jewish leaders have joined Czech politicians in calling on the German government to prosecute Anton Malloth, 85, who served as a prison guard at the Theresienstadt ghetto in Czechoslovakia during the war.

More than 33,000 Jews died in the ghetto, and many thousands more were sent to their deaths in concentration camps to the east.

OSI In Action

NEW YORK — The U.S. Department of Justice has moved to revoke the citizenship of a Pennsylvania man who allegedly served as a guard at two SS-run labor camps and helped liquidate the Warsaw Ghetto.

According to a complaint filed last week, Fedir Kwoczak, 76, participated in Operation Reinhard, a Nazi program that orchestrated the murders of nearly two million Polish Jews, the complaint said.

Kwoczak was allegedly stationed at Trawniki and Poniatowa, SS camps where thousands of Jews were incarcerated and later murdered.

In April 1943, Kwoczak allegedly was among a battalion of guards who liquidated the Warsaw Ghetto. By mid-May, 50,000 Jews had been shot or sent to Treblinka, Majdanek and other forced labor camps.

CAJE Appointment

NEW YORK — Mark Charendoff of New York City was recently elected member-at-large of the Board of the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE).

Charendoff has served as the director of Judaic Cultura! Development at Toronto's JCC and served as co-program chair for a mini-CAJE conference in Toronto.

Meili to be Honored

NEW YORK — Chistoph Meili, the Swiss bank guard who prevented the shredding of crucial "Nazi Gold" Holocaust documents, will be honored next month in New York City by the Boys Town Jerusalem Foundation.

JNF Cutbacks

NEW YORK — The Jewish National Fund of America has approved plans to cut $5.1 million from its budget and has pledged to send 70 percent of the money it raises annually to Israel by the year 2001.

The planned cuts involve closing five regional offices and eliminating 32 full-time posts.

The administrative committee of the Zionist philanthropy – known best for planting trees in Israel – approved the initiatives last week.

New Shul in Lithuania

MOSCOW — A new synagogue has been dedicated in the Lithuanian city of Klaipeda.

The synagogue includes a small soup kitchen to offer meals to needy Jews twice a week. The community has received a Torah scroll from a British synagogue.

The Lithuanian seaport, formerly known as Memel, had a Jewish community before the war of 10,000 that was totally destroyed during the Holocaust.

The town is now home to about 300 Jews who have long awaited the opening of a synagogue, according to the community leader Boris Smoliaras.

No Time Off

NEW YORK — A battle over freedom of religion is brewing in southern Florida, where at least four Jewish post office employees have been denied time off for the High Holidays.

Now the employees of the U.S. Postal Service in Coral Springs, Fla., are struggling to figure out how they will observe Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

It's like "something out of history books you read about," said Sid Gradman, a postal carrier and 10-year employee of the office.

The problem stems from a postal regulation, which states that no more than six people can take a day off at the same time.

Of the nearly 100 people in the office, at least eight are Jewish.

Holocaust Memorial Dedicated

WYSZKOW, Poland — It was an ordinary town where ordinary Jewish life was all but destroyed.

And what was lost was reflected in the tears of the former Jewish residents who came from far away last week to witness the dedication of a Holocaust memorial here.

The memorial in this small town near Warsaw commemorates the thousands of local Jews who were deported to their deaths by the Nazis in 1943.

The ceremony was also a rededication of the Jewish cemetery, which the Nazis had destroyed in 1939 by uprooting the tombstones and using them for paving materials and for the construction of the local Gestapo headquarters.

Scores of the desecrated tombstones were recovered and used for the creation of the monument.

Dozens of Jewish survivors from Wyszkow and Jews who traced their ancestry to Wyszkow attended the dedication cere-

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Greater Toronto Area

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The (high) cost of keeping kosher

One of the important amenities that signals a Jewish community's coming of age is a strong, central body to regulate kashrut. Toronto is one such city where the Kashruth Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, popularly known as COR, serves that function.

It was not always that way. In fact, so rancorous has the subject been over the years that at one time or another various sectors of the community did not talk to each other, or avoided eating food supervised by the "other" party, or insisted on eating only salads at an institution or function whose kashrut was certified by the "other" side.

Kashrut in Toronto

Acceptance within the community of COR supervision is almost universal. However, there are still disagreements from time to time about the decisions that COR makes. Not every one is satisfied with the status quo.

In the final installment of our three-part series, CJN staff reporter Leila Speisman examines some of the issues and disatisfactions that have arisen recently in the community regarding that status quo.

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – The first and indeed the main issue that surfaces when people think about kashrut is its high cost. Eventually all concerns that are raised regarding kashrut supervision in the Greater Toronto area relate back to or somehow affect cost.

Meat and Poultry

A recent trip to a local grocery store showed the price of kosher hot dogs to be $3.49 as opposed to $1.49 for non-kosher hot dogs. Kosher medium fat ground beef was being sold for $3.56 per pound as opposed to non-kosher lean ground beef at $1.88.

There was also a price differential between kosher as opposed to non-kosher chicken parts however the difference was less dramatic, on average 10 to 30 cents.

Price differentials can be sufficiently dramatic to make a sizable impact in the family budget: $3.99 per pound for a (non-kosher) short rib blade roast, as opposed to close to $ 9.00 per pound for a comparable kosher roast.

To some extent, the laws of supply and demand play a key role in determining the prices of kosher foods. Because the demand for non-kosher meat is far greater than the demand for kosher meat,the supply is also far greater. The stores selling it therefore, can offer better prices.

Supply, demand plays key role

By and large, however, the difference in the meat and poultry prices relate directly to the additional steps that observation of kashrut entails. Kosher shchitah is a more expensive process than non-kosher slaughter, with its meticulous attention to methods, the acceptability for eating of far fewer pieces of meat or poultry, and the fact that only the front half of a cow can be consumed. That is not to say that the back half is considered waste; it is simply sold to non-kosher butchers.

According to some spokespeople who wished to remain anonymous, the lack of competition in the area of kosher slaughter naturally drives the prices of kosher meat products higher. They question why in a community and a market the size of greater Toronto, more slaughterhouses have not opened, or been allowed to.

In Toronto, there is only one kosher slaughter house, Dominion Meat Packers. Kosher meat is also available through Lazar Yitzchok, a local meat supplier, which imports meat from Agri Meat Processors in Iowa.

Poultry is available from Chai Poultry in Toronto, and Marvid in Montreal.

Grocery items

Kosher grocery items, on the other hand, are not generally more expensive than non-kosher brands. A spokesperson from the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations, whose O-U hechsher is one of the most ubiquitous and respected, noted that food manufacturing companies consider kosher supervision a marketing device, a means of attracting more customers, and feel that whatever costs there are, are evened out by the public relations effect.

Many large supermarket chains have a growing number of their

[Cont'd. on page 17]

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Maya and Vladimir Kogan had a dream - to come to Canada with their two children and build a better life. Thanks to Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, their dream came true.

SEARCHING FOR ROOTS

Jewish life was non-existent in their Russian hometown of Astrakhan, just outside Moscow. There was no synagogue and no Jewish community centre. The Kogans barely managed meagre celebrations of some Jewish holidays in the privacy of their modest home. "We did the little we could to bring the holidays to our children," explains Maya, a medical doctor by training who now practices physiotherapy. "We longed to do more and know more about our customs and traditions."

In search of a more Jewish life, the Kogans eventually applied to several countries for landed immigrant status. Canada was the first to respond thanks to a letter sent by JIAS on behalf of the Kogans, who had contacted distant cousins living in Toronto. JIAS guaranteed financial support for the couple until they found employment, which Maya says, "made all the difference" when they arrived in Toronto in May 1994. "We couldn't have done this on our own," notes Vladimir.

A NEW BEGINNING

Maya, Vladimir, and their children Anna, 8, and Semen, 4, immediately enrolled in English courses conducted by JIAS and began to attend classes to learn more about their Jewish heritage.

Several months ago, JIAS helped Maya's parents come to Canada to see their grandchildren. Vladimir's parents will arrive to complete the family within the next year. "Both Maya and I are the only children in our families," explains Vladimir. "It means so much to have the whole family together."

For 75 years, JIAS, with UJA Federation's help, has been bringing families like the Kogans to Canada to fulfill their dreams. It's another example of UJA Federation Funding in Action.

Greater Toronto Area

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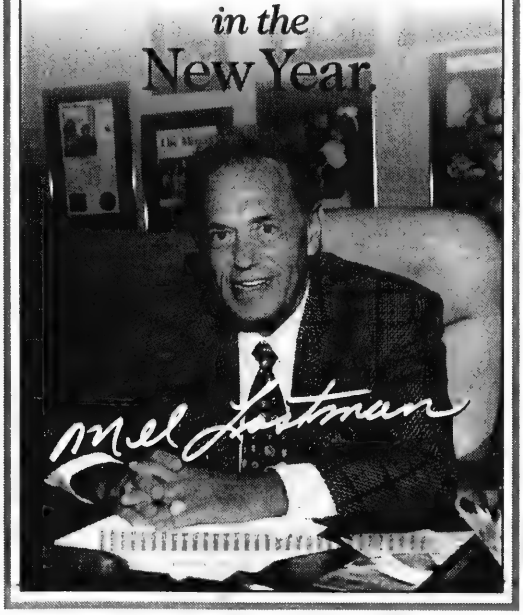

From the editor's desk

A unity tornado

Like a tornado that arrives unexpectedly and leaves ruin and disbelief, the unity proposal unveiled last week in Calgary by the nine premiers outside Quebec and the two territorial leaders blew across Canadian skies and left the separatists' landscape damaged and dishevelled.

Essentially, the Calgary plan is more symbolic than substantive. But the symbols were good. The premiers were attempting to demonstrate to the people of Quebec their bona fide desire to find a reasonable, mutually beneficial and legally meaningful resolution to the unity crisis.

Underpinning the plan is the laudable attempt to emotionally, psychologically and legally fuse two elementary principles of Canadian life: equality of all Canadians and the unique character of Quebec society.

It was an assertive, though very careful step toward weaving a new federal fabric. It expresses the important sentiment especially among western Canadians, articulated in the last federal election often inappropriately, by Preston Manning, that some statement of equality must be enshrined in a new national vision.

It also expresses the equally important sentiment that Quebec society is distinct, without however, having to actually use the precise words.

The plan was impressive for two reasons. The first is that it was signed at all, and unanimously so. It provides a common platform among all the premiers of Canada on which to build a campaign for national survival.

The second is that it contains within it, the possibility of creative application. It is an open process and envisions refinement and yet further refinement. It is therefore, just the beginning.

The separatists appear to have underestimated the premiers' ability to achieve consensus. Once the reviving breeze blew in from the west, separatists lost their hats.

Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard was clearly rattled. Preferring not to comment on the good faith of his premier colleagues, he denounced the Calgary proposal in the strongest of terms.

"What will it give us, what will it change? Nothing," he asked reporters. But because he had no rebuttal on the merits of the proposal, he resorted to his favorite tactic: name-calling. Invective dripping heavily from his tongue, he attacked Daniel Johnson personally "What a pitiful spectacle," he said. "It is the first time that a Quebec leader of the Opposition goes begging to the rest of Canada for support for his party."

Bouchard's behavior was only the first act of a three-act separatist denouement last week.

On Wednesday, the government of Quebec cobbled together a press conference at which they announced their intention to bring forth a coalition of diverse Quebecers to denounce the concept of partition.

One of the leaders of the anti-partition coalition is union leader Gerald Larose.

Larose was quoted in the *Globe and Mail* as offering the following justification for the coalition's cause: "From what I know, *there are people from all walks of life who find the partitionist idea to be racist*, a reproduction of Serb strategy in Canada and Quebec. We have to set the record straight. Regardless of one's political option, it must be assured that *Quebec's integrity will be protected.*" (Our emphasis)

In what conceivable way could a partitionist be considered to be racist? For what conceivable purpose would Larose have used the term?

In the two referenda that have already been held, the last one on an abstruse and confusing question, more than half of the people of Quebec have said they want the "integrity" of Canada to be protected. More than 40 municipalities in Quebec have passed resolutions to the same effect.

Why is the integrity of Quebec sacrosanct but not equally so the integrity of Canada? And if the integrity of either is encroachable, should it not be done according to the rule of law?

Recent polls have indicated that a majority of Quebecers understand and accept the logic of the partitionists argument.

On Thursday, we witnessed Act 3, a bizarre spectacle, probably unprecedented in any western democracy, conceived by and starring Gilles Duceppe, leader of the Bloc Québécois.

He led a coterie of fellow Bloc MPs on a march to the steps of the Supreme Court of Canada where they denounced the court for agreeing to hear the reference on the legality of a unilateral declaration by Quebec of independence.

The Bloc's justice critic Michel Bellehumeur tried to justify his colleague's odious behavior. According to the *Globe and Mail*, Bellehumeur said the Bloc was asking the court to resist the "pseudo-primacy of law" for political and anti-democratic purposes.

"It is no way a question here of the primacy of law. *The only primacy is that of democracy, the primacy of the vote, the primacy of the people.* In this whole debate, beyond tactics, strategies of fear and the manoeuvres of the federal government, it is the Quebec people alone that will have the last word." (Our emphasis)

The absurdity of their action almost defies description. In all true democracies the separation of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government is not only vital, but is indeed cherished. Imagine, if one can, members of the legislative branch publicly demonstrating against the members of the judiciary, trying to berate, bully and browbeat them?

What conclusions are we to draw from the Bloc's behavior about their respect for the rule of law or about their understanding of the raw essentials of a properly functioning democracy?

They seem not to understand the single most important rudiment of our way of life: the law is not merely incidental to democracy. It is its sustaining force. Without law there is neither democracy nor is there freedom. Without law, the vote of the majority quickly evolves into a rule of tyranny and a society of anarchy.

We are confident that the vast majority of the people of Quebec understand this; they will not be fooled by the guile or the desperation of the separatists. *MBD*

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Transnistria remembered

TORONTO — Survivors of the Holocaust in Transnistria are invited to attend the annual commemoration service of the Transnistria Survivors' Association on Sept. 28 at 2 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

An estimated 325,000 Jews died in Transnistria, an artificially created territory established by the pro-Nazi wartime government of Romania.

The service will mark 56 years since the Romanian and German governments began to deport Jews from the Romanian regions of Bucovina, Bessarabia and Dorhoi, to an area between the Bug and Dniester rivers in present-day Ukraine. Jews sent to the area perished in concentration and labor camps.

The Transnistria Survivors' Association was founded in 1994. For information on the service, call 416-638-1291.

New signs at the City of David Messianic Synagogue: Community leaders still want the congregation out of the Thornhill plaza. [Ron Csillag photo]

Controversial signs removed at messianic 'synagogue'

But community leaders pledge fight isn't over

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

VAUGHAN — Community officials are hailing as "a major victory" last week's decision to remove a large sign and change another for the City of David Messianic Synagogue in Thornhill.

But Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) says the fight isn't over.

And Jews for Judaism, the counter-missionary group, has plans to take over a small storefront right next door to City of David.

Following lengthy discussions between the congregation and Aetna Canada, the owner of the plaza in which it is situated, Aetna last Thursday night tore down a large sign proclaiming "City of David Messianic Synagogue," including the Hebrew words *Ir David* (city of David), and replaced it with one reading "The Main Exchange" (the plaza's name).

A smaller sign over the congregation's entrance, recessed into the plaza itself, has been changed from "City of David Messianic Synagogue" to simply, "City of David."

Aetna took the action after talks with the congregation's lawyer, who was supplied by the American Centre for Law and Justice, a U.S. civil rights group.

The meeting was "unable to come to any agreement," Aetna vice-president for corporate services Pat Smith told *The CJN*.

Smith said Aetna has received threats of violence against the plaza and against certain individuals, as well as numerous letters and phone calls of complaint. She said some businesses in the plaza were losing money.

The company took down and changed the signs "to ensure the safety of tenants and visitors and prevent further loss [of revenue] and harm to the businesses," Smith said.

Smith did not say whether this spells an end to the matter. "We have not made any further decisions. We'll continue to investigate," she said.

But she did confirm that Aetna is negotiating with Jews for Judaism, which has its eye on the Not Just Yogurt shop next door to City of David.

Smith said Not Just Yogurt, which is under the supervision of the Kashruth Council of Toronto, has surrendered its lease.

The latest measure defuses a heated, month-long battle between Jewish communal officials, the congregation and Aetna. CJC, Jews for Judaism and other groups demanded, at a minimum, that the signs state the congregation is a church.

At the most, Congress and Jews for Judaism, wanted – and still want – City of David to leave the plaza.

In a letter to Smith, 11 rabbis and community leaders say the "only satisfactory, permanent solution remains the removal" of the congregation from the plaza.

In the meantime, the change of signs "is a major victory," said Moshe Ronen, CJC Ontario region chair. "The anxiety we felt about Jews being misled has been resolved, within reason."

However, Aetna "still has an obligation to remove this tenant, and we're encouraging them to do so."

Ronen said he was told by Aetna that removing and changing the signs was an interim measure.

"But if this [change of signs] is all they can accomplish, we can live with the situation."

Ronen said there will be no further communal pressure brought to bear on the owner. Members of the public, civic officials and rabbis had been holding regular and boisterous protests outside the congregation, charging that City of David, whose members believe Jews should accept Jesus as their messiah, is a church masquerading as a synagogue that threatens to lure vulnerable Jews to Christianity.

Congress and other groups said City of David chose its location, at Bathurst Street and Steeles Avenue, in a deliberate attempt to reach out to Jews.

Moving right next door to the congregation would be "a major coup for us," said Julius Ciss, executive director of Jews for Judaism.

He said the branch office would operate as a counselling, information and resource centre.

"It would be impossible for people to see that there is no Jewish presence there," Ciss said. "We've never had the opportunity to be so close to a Hebrew-Christian missionary group before."

Ciss said that ultimately, Jews for Judaism wants City of David out of the plaza.

A distraught sounding Jeffrey Forman, City of David's spiritual leader, told *The CJN* that his lawyer will explore legal options against the plaza owner.

The removal and changing of the signs "was a unilateral move and against our permission," he said. "Any other tenant would feel the same way."

Forman said the whole matter "has mushroomed into the arena of serious religious discrimination and persecution. It shows that sin in the heart of a Jew is the same as sin in the heart of a gentile."

He said he has no plans to quit the plaza.

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Greater Toronto Area

Dealing with a child's loss at High Holy Days

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "If you don't want to observe the holidays, then don't. There's no reason to feel guilty. You need not listen to anyone but yourself."

Murray Scheinert doesn't mean to sound selfish. It's just that when one's child dies, as Scheinert's son Stephen did almost three years ago, the grieving process takes precedence over everything, washing over pain-wracked parents like a dark, numbing wave.

With the High Holy Days just weeks away, parents whose children have died will again be faced with a particularly stressful, depressing time. Judaism, after all, places a lot of emphasis on the centrality and wholeness of the family, and for grieving parents, the Yom Tovim, when families come together, can become an awful chore.

Gail Agasi, whose daughter Orly Watkin died of meningitis in 1994, bluntly says she "hates" the new year.

"There's no new beginning for me," she says sadly. "What right do I have to be healed?" At this time of year, "You have to do what's right for yourself."

And Ned Levitt will never forget the first Rosh Hashanah after his 18-year-old daughter Stacey was killed by a car that hit her while she was out jogging. It was just 23 days after she was buried, and "I cannot describe the pain of that evening and that dinner."

But the pain felt by parents who lose a child, Levitt rationalizes, could be a gift that transports them to a level of religious experience they would not otherwise attain.

Scheinert, Agasi and Levitt appeared together on an emotionally-charged panel last week for Bereaved Jewish Families of Ontario to discuss how grieving parents can handle the coming holidays.

The consensus seemed to be that parents should do what their hearts tell them.

Jewish custom may tell us when mourning ends, but "there is no time in which we must end our grieving," said Scheinert, whose 36-year-old son was killed in a highrise fire. "The loss of any family member is traumatic, but the loss of a child is traumatic to parents in the extreme."

There's almost a desire among affected parents not to observe holidays at all, Scheinert told the small audience at Adath Israel Congregation. In the end, parents "must follow their instincts and do whatever you feel is necessary for you."

Agasi said she's reluctant to allow herself to heal and renew because she feels that would diminish the impact of her daughter's death.

Orly Watkin died at age 15. "and one month before her birthday and one month before the date of her death, I start slipping. But on the dates of her birth and death, I feel nothing."

These days, Agasi finds herself going longer and longer without thinking of Orly. "There are even times when I'm okay. So I'm healing even if I don't want to."

The holidays are especially hard because "I'll never be who I once was. I can't be. I don't even want to be. Something is missing that can't be replaced."

Despite advice from others to "get on" with her life, "I'm allowing myself to grieve and to forgive others who say stupid things to me."

Looking back on that first Rosh Hashanah after his daughter's death, Levitt said that on reflection, "I have never before had such a burning desire to be at that table with my family. I never felt as close to God as I did that night.

"I am so very proud of my family for how we got through that dinner. With courage and enormous dedication to our Jewish roots, and to the memory of Stacey, we completed the home service."

That night, Levitt said, set the stage for how to deal with his grief. "If my family could get through that first Rosh Hashanah, we could get through anything. I learned that night that you can't get around the grief, you can't get under it or over it. You just have to get through it and get to the other side. And on the other side, there is a life worth living."

Bereaved Jewish Families of Ontario, said president Paul Goldstein, was founded seven years ago as an outgrowth of Jewish Family & Child Service. The group runs self-help support groups and sponsors occasional family nights around Jewish holidays to help grieving parents and siblings cope with the loss of a child.

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Baycrest expansion set to begin soon

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Construction is expected to start in two months on the new building that will replace Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care's Jewish Home for the Aged. Residents should be able to move in during 1999.

The ground-breaking ceremony preceded by one day, the formal end of the campaign to raise $60 million. "We reached our target," said a Baycrest official.

The new complex will contain two major facilities, the 372-bed Apotex Centre Jewish Home for the Aged and the 100-bed Centre for Cognitive Disorders which will care for elderly people with Alzheimer disease and other disorders.

The new building will be joined to the Baycrest Hospital.

At the ground-breaking, Premier Mike Harris announced that the province is giving $18.9 million to the project, estimated to cost $50 to $60 million.

The Baycrest project, Harris said, is an example of what can be achieved when government and the community work together.

About 200 guests attended the ceremony, including Barry Sherman, chair of Apotex, a North York drug company that donated $6 million.

Officials said $31 million of the $60 million raised will go to the new building.

Sally Fisher, 88, a four-year resident at Baycrest and chair of its residents' council, told Harris that both the nursing and support staff are wonderful. She presented Harris with a blanket crocheted by resident Chana Fish.

Harris joked that when he decides to retire, the new home might just be prepared "to accept a gentile from North Bay."

Each floor of the seven-storey building will have six home units for 13 or 14 residents. Every resident will have a private room and washroom.

There also will be three kitchenettes on each floor as well as large activity rooms and a "kinder room," where visiting children can play.

Other features include a seven-storey atrium with gardens and an outside picnic garden.

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Last week, starting with **Super Sunday**, September 14, over 7500 people contributed more than $2 million toward Jews in need. The poor, the sick, the elderly, newcomers, educators, students and Jews in danger anywhere in the world can rely on our community to remember them. We have a long distance to go before achieving our goal. But we will. Because what we have in common counts for more than what sets us apart.

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Signs of fatigue

Recent reports out of Israel describe a country whose people are demoralized and discouraged, at a loss to find even little sparks of optimism from which to light larger flames of national purpose and resolve.

Chief of staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak referred to the national psyche as one in which there are abundant "signs of fatigue." He was speaking in the aftermath of the failed raid into south Lebanon by elite navy commandos in which 11 soldiers died and one disappeared, presumed now to be dead. That raid came only two weeks after a terrible mishap, also in south Lebanon, in which four IDF soldiers died of burns and of smoke inhalation.

Shortly after that incident, two more soldiers died, when the transport in which they were travelling *in north Israel*, overturned on the crest of a hill.

The vast majority of the soldiers whose names appear on obituaries are barely beyond teenagehood, mere youngsters whose lives ended far too early and whose contributions to the world were still ahead of them.

But the growing number of casualties in south Lebanon is not the only cause of the fatigue.There is also the terrorism that lurks potentially on every street and in every crowd such as at Machane Yehuda or on Ben Yehuda Street.

And then there was the famous kiss, that high profile public embrace by Yasser Arafat of the leaders of Islamic Jihad, Hamas and Hezbollah. Virtually every Israeli now doubts Arafat.

Is it any wonder then that the people are grim and fatigued?

Yet, despite the grimness of the mood and the fatigue of the soul, Israelis are not willing to give up on the possibility of peace. A public opinion poll published two weeks ago in *Ma'ariv* showed that 57 percent of the Jewish public still want Israel to pursue "Oslo." As the newspaper also pointed out, if one extrapolates that result to include the non-Jewish public, it would mean that more than 66 percent of Israelis still support the Oslo process.

This is quite remarkable. Israelis still want to push on, exhausting every possible path to peace until there are none left to walk.

As much as Jews in the Diaspora empathize with and care for and "suffer with" the people of Israel, we cannot assuage their heavy mood or relieve their sense of fatigue. Therefore, we must be ever careful not to add to their burdens.

It is in this light that we condemn the actions of Irwin Moscowitz, the owner of the house in Ras al Amud into which three Jewish families moved *during* the visit by Madeleine Albright to the region.We are not commenting on the right of Jews to live in all parts of Jerusalem. Jerusalem must never be closed to Jews, although here the issue is more complicated, having regard to neighborhoods and religious sensibilities. Rather, we are commenting on the propriety of Moscowitz's behavior. We are commenting on the spectacle of an American effectively saying to the government of Israel, "I will establish policy; not you," forcing his personal and nationalist views upon the prime minister and government of Israel. For almost a week, the millionaire negotiated with the prime minister as if in a market, without any regard to the embarrassment or the deference due to the elected government of the state of Israel. It was an unseemly sight.

Regardless of the party or the person governing Israel, regardless of the policies one either supports or opposes, this sanctimonious, self-righteous, "I-know-best" intervention in the political affairs of Israel by Diaspora Jews is wrong.

It only benefits the adversaries of Israel and adds to Israel's grimness of mood and fatigue of the soul.

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"This is the history of Israel at the end of the 19th century. To sum it up: The majority of the Jews are a race of accursed beggars...the Jew is condemned to the most extreme pauperism; he is not allowed to use his powers freely."

(From Nordau's address: The Situation Of The Jews Throughout The World)

Dry Bones
ARAFAT SAYS HE'S GOING TO FIGHT TERRORISM!
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This Week in Canadian Jewish History

September 25, 1918 the Montreal section of the National Council of Jewish Women was organized. Mrs. H.A. Friedman was elected president.*(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

The Dybbuk caused her torment

I read with great interest and incredulity Sheldon Kirshner's review of *The Dybbuk*, recently performed during the Ashkenaz festival. (*CJN*, Sept. 11)

I have had the privilege of seeing *The Dybbuk* on film and was proud to see such a great Yiddish play. I looked forward to taking my daughter and niece to see this marvellous Yiddish classic at the festival.

Instead, what I saw was an incomprehensible mishmash and distortion of a heart-wrenching love story. Nobody around us was able to understand what the play was about.

Kirshner referred to the play as "being full of sound and fury, signifying torment." As far as I'm concerned, the only torment came from the audience watching this disastrous performance.

Perhaps when the next Ashkenaz festival comes along, there will be more care taken with the presentation of our rich Jewish heritage, so as not to embarrass the audience.

Helen Yellin
Hamilton

Paper not valid in mezuzot

It is important that the community be aware of the fact that there are Judaica gift shops – and we emphasize gift shops, *not* book stores — which are either selling or placing in their mezuzot paper instead of parchment. This is totally unacceptable and renders the mezuzah null and void.

The reputable Judaica book stores in Toronto all sell kosher mezuzah parchments inspected by rabbis.

If you have any doubts as to your mezuzah or any questions related to this issue or any other religious issues, call 416-787-1631 or 416-229-2600.

We wish the entire Jewish community of Toronto a most healthy and happy and prosperous New Year and may we all pray for peace and harmony in Israel.

Vaad Harabonim of Toronto

Yad Sarah aids Israeli home care

There was an interesting and useful article (*CJN*, Sept. 11) outlining roles of various Canadian Friends of Israeli organizations. Unfortunately there was no mention of the Canadian Friends of Yad Sarah.

Yad Sarah, Israel's largest voluntary organization, is financed entirely by contributions. One in three Israeli families has been helped by Yad Sarah with medical and rehabilitative equipment, guidance and services which facilitate home care. Yad Sarah's 6,000 dedicated volunteers operate nearly 80 branches throughout Israel. By reducing or eliminating hospital stays, Yad Sarah saves the Israeli economy about $3.50 million a year. This valuable contribution was rewarded in 1994 when Yad Sarah was awarded the Israel Prize.

Yad Sarah will soon move all its Jerusalem facilities into the new Yad Sarah House being built on Herzl Boulevard.

Morton Posner
President, Canadian Friends of Yad Sarah
Toronto

Israel is alive and well

Martin Himel states (*CJN*, Sept. 11) that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "wants us to stop dreaming and accept mutual hatred and bloodshed." He then states: "No one is investing, people are down, uninspired, the government is killing the spirit of this nation."

I adamantly disagree with Himel, who, I submit, is allowing his politically-tinted, labor-rose-colored glasses to blind him. Netanyahu does *dream* of peace, a peace with Palestinians and all Arabs who will be sincere in action and who will be committed and responsible in stopping wholesale murder of civilians (of Israelis and other nations) and who will punish justly those who try to prevent peace.

The prime minister is a dreamer, a realistic dreamer, who believes strongly that dreams must not be unattainable delusions, such as those of some of our previous leaders and governments.

Israel is thriving and will continue to grow from strength to strength.

Himel's dream needs re-awakening; Theodor Herzl's dream is alive and well and living in Israel.

Dr. Max Glassman
Toronto

Searching for Harry Walker (Volkovishki)

I am searching for Harry Walker, formerly Volkovishki, from Montreal, or his descendants. My father was Naftali Volkovishki, son of David, of Volkovisk, Lithuania. My father had three brothers who left Volkovisk for Montreal around 1920, where they established a hat factory and changed the family name to Walker. Shortly after the war, in 1945, Walker located my sister and me in Switzerland, and we maintained contact for a period of time after we immigrated to Israel.

Heni Reinman
Kibbutz Chafetz Chaim
Doar Chafetz Chaim 76817
Israel

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

An author for all seasons

By ABRAHAM ARNOLD

Shalom Aleichem wrote stories for all the seasons of Jewish life. He brought Yiddish to great literary heights while creating his stories for the common people and the ordinary *mentsh*. In translation, he also reached a worldwide audience.

With the High Holy Days close at hand, it is worth noting that among Shalom Aleichem's classic tales are *A Yom Kippur Scandal, The Day Before Yom Kippur* and *The Miracle of Hoshana Raba*.

He was born Shalom Rabinowitz in Perayaslev, Ukraine, March 2, 1859, in a house that is now a museum devoted to him. He was the son of a talmudic scholar, a devotee of the chassidic Rabbi of Talma, but at the same time a *maskil* — a follower of the Enlightenment in regard to scientific and secular studies.

From a very young age, he demonstrated great scholarly ability, a strong imagination and a special talent for mimicking the mannerisms of people, all of which stood him in good stead as he developed his writing talent, first in Hebrew and then in Yiddish.

Shalom Aleichem had a cheder education and a traditional bar mitzvah, celebrated in grand style. In his youth, however, he had a tough time. His father became financially ruined; his mother died in a cholera epidemic just after his bar mitzvah; and he was burdened with a difficult step-mother. From his step-mother's vocabulary he developed a lexicon of curses, said to have been one of his earliest literary efforts.

Nevertheless, he obtained a higher education in Russian schools and in 1880, he was elected as crown rabbi for the town of Louben. The crown rabbi was obliged to satisfy the requirements of the government for registration and other regulations affecting the Jews. He functioned alongside the recognized rabbi of the community. Shalom Aleichem held this position for 2½ years. During that period, his first articles were published in the Hebrew journal *Hamelitz*.

Earlier, Shalom Aleichem had been the tutor of Olga, the 14-year-old daughter of Elimelech Loyav, a wealthy Jew in suburban Kiev. Tutor and student had fallen in love, but her parents did not approve of the marriage. In 1883, however, they were married and Shalom Aleichem resigned as crown rabbi at the request of his father-in-law, who undertook to support him. But this brought only a temporary end to the financial problems that beset him throughout his life.

Within a year of his marriage, he began to write and was published in Yiddish. He proved to be a prolific and prodigious author of exceptional talent.

When he died in New York on May 13, 1916, at age 57, the Yiddish newspapers published black-bordered "extras" proclaiming in huge type: "Shalom Aleichem Dead."

His funeral was attended by an estimated 100,000 to 200,000 people. The funeral service was conducted by Rabbi Dr. Judah L. Magnes, who later became the first president of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The next day, the *New York Times* published Shalom Aleichem's will, calling it "one of the great ethical wills in history."

He asked not be laid to rest "among the aristocrats, the elite, the rich, but rather among the plain people, the toilers, the common folk," so that his tombstone would "grace the simple graves about me, and the simple graves will adorn my tombstone, even as the plain people have, during my life, beatified their folk writer."

He also asked that his son and his sons-in-law "should say Kaddish for me. But if they are not so inclined, or this be against their religious convictions, they may be absolved therefrom only if they all foregather with my daughters and grandchildren, and with good friends, and read my will, and also select one of my stories, of the very merry ones, and recite it in whatever language is more intelligible to them, and let my name be recalled with laughter." He asked that this be done not only at his burial, but also throughout the first year of mourning and at his annual yahrzeit.

While he often argued with God in his writing, he did so as a humanist speaking for his people, as a questioning skeptic, but not necessarily as a non-believer.

Shalom Aleichem captured the imagination of the Jewish people and was one of those rare storytellers whose work summed up the outlook of a whole culture. His literary works have sustained the Jewish people of every variety of religious belief, as well as those with a secular view of Jewish life.

He also founded the *Yiddishe Folks Bibliotek*, a literary anthology of which he was the publisher and editor, and he persuaded established Hebrew writers to write in Yiddish. He published Mendele Mocher Sforim and I.L.Peretz, who, along with him, came to be considered the three great classic Yiddish writers.

In fact, it was Shalom Aleichem who first called Sforim the zayde of Yiddish literature. And in 1888, he paid Peretz the immense sum of 300 rubles for his poem *Monish*! Hebrew devotees thought there was a crazy millionaire in Kiev offering unheard of prices to persuade Hebrew writers to turn to Yiddish.

Shalom Aleichem published two editions of about 350 pages each of the *Folks Bibliotek*, which cost him considerable time and effort as well as money. He had a third edition ready, but his funds ran out.

He also dared to criticize other Yiddish writers. In 1888, he published a short book attacking a writer of Yiddish pulp fiction, Nachum Meyer Shaikevitsch, whose pen-name was Shomer. He accused Shomer of debasing the language and defiling the minds of his readers.

The appearance of the *Folks Bibliotek* provoked a debate on the language question in the pages of the Hebrew journal *Hamelitz* and elsewhere and Shalom Aleichem was drawn into it. Hebrew writers who "went over" to Yiddish were called traitors and were accused of writing in Yiddish only because of the substantial fees paid them by Shalom Aleichem, who, in turn, was accused of abandoning Hebrew.

But Shalom Aleichem retained a deep affection for both Yiddish and Hebrew throughout his life. In an article in *Hamelitz* (1889), he wrote: "The success of Yiddish attests to our writing not for a handful of elite individuals but for an entire people. The people understands us. Our ideas and opinions penetrate the hearts of our brothers. What more need we ask?"

He knew he was being didactic, but in his many wonderful stories, novels and plays, he taught without ever being pedantic and the Jewish people came to accept him as a moral authority.

An example of Shalom Aleichem's social ideology can be seen in his story *If I Were Rothschild*. The song *If I Were a Rich Man*, sung by Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*, was adapted from the Rothschild story, but it is a distortion of the writer's intent.

Shalom Aleichem

In the story, a melamed (teacher), not Tevye, talks about Rothschild as he bemoans his lack of money for the Sabbath. The melamed says, "If I were Rothschild, I would be richer than Rothschild because I would do a little teaching on the side." Next, he cites improvements he would make to his house before taking up the plight of the community. Then he asks: "Why only here in Kasrilevke?"

And he fantasizes about world issues: "It's the lack of money which brings envy, envy brings hatred and from hatred comes all the world's troubles: persecutions, killings... and all the wars... ay, the wars, the terrible slaughters.

"If I were Rothschild, I would do away with war altogether; I would wipe it completely off the face of the earth... With no more war, what do we need weapons for, armies and cannons and all the other trappings? The answer is we don't. If there are no more weapons and armies, we'll have no more envy and no more hatred... The face of the earth will be changed."

Fiddler on the Roof did not promote a true understanding of Shalom Aleichem's work. Tevye the dairyman is one of three major characters he created, each of whom has risen to the level of a "Jewish archetype." The other two are Menachem Mendel, the *luftmentsh*, and Mottel, the cantor's son, who represents Jewish childhood. The latter two are not as well known as Tevye, especially since *Fiddler on the Roof* helped to stimulate the publication of more English translations than ever before of Shalom Aleichem's writings.

Today the writer can be found in many places. In a recent tentative sortie onto the Internet, I found a Yiddish language and culture home page, still under construction, with the title Welcome to the Virtual Shtetl [http://sunsite.unc.edu/yiddish/sholal.html]. It had a list of 15 works by Shalom Aleichem that were published in Yiddish in special editions by the New York Yiddish daily *Morgen-frayheyt* in 1937.

Micha Yosef Berdichevsky, a leading Hebrew writer who was a contemporary of Shalom Aleichem and who also appreciated Yiddish, wrote many years ago that without Shalom Aleichem's popular stories, "we would be missing a whole world, a Mishneh Torah of the soul of the common people in their own language and their own spirit."

How should we remember Shalom Aleichem today? The Nazis destroyed the world and the culture of which he was one of the prime recorders, as well as six million of his people. Marie-Waife Goldberg, his daughter, in her biography *My Father Sholom Aleichem*, recalls meeting ghetto escapees and labor camp survivors who told her how her father's stories, "miraculously retained in captivity... were a source of solace, cheer and courage in their misery."

His family followed his last request for more than 50 years and read one of his stories at his yahrzeit. We, the heirs of his larger family – the Jewish people – may also follow his request and read one of his great stories, not only at his yahrzeit but at every major Jewish holiday. The lesson of Shalom Aleichem's last will may also be applied to our remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust: Kaddish is not enough! Remembering and renewing their culture is also important.

Abraham Arnold is the author of Judaism: Legend, History and Custom, from the Religious to the Secular. *He serves as an advisor to the Sholom Aleichem Cultural Group in Winnipeg, a new secular humanist Jewish community organization.*

Opinions

Readjusting to life in Canada

Kosher cheese is expensive regardless of where you buy it. Whether Halifax or Jerusalem it doesn't really make a difference – it's outrageously overpriced either way. But from Jerusalem to Halifax, there are a lot of distinctions. I'm still relearning some of the rules.

By Viva Press in Halifax

I have travelled a fair bit over the past couple of years, so it shouldn't really take me a lot of time to readjust back to Canadian life. For some reason, this year has been different.

After spending 3½ months in Israel, I returned to Toronto for 12 days. Normally, this would have been plenty of time for me to get back into the Canadian-mode of living. But, I seem to be stuck in the Israeli mindset.

One of my problems is always thinking in terms of shekels. On my second day back from Israel, I went to a store to buy a can of Sprite. I took out my five dollar bill hoping it would be enough, sometimes stores charge six dollars for one can of pop. When the cashier said 75 cents, I thought I had heard incorrectly. What was wrong with the can I had chosen? Was it dented? On the shelf too long? When the cashier asked if I had a loonie instead of the five dollar bill, I remembered we were talking in Canadian money, not shekels. I was embarrassed that I had hesitated when she initially quoted the price. In Israel, you'd pay up to six shekels for a can of pop, that would be grossly overpriced here.

The cost of things isn't the only thing that can be maddening. Road etiquette is too. From Jerusalem to Toronto, there really isn't that much of a difference. There are still a lot of cars, and the pedestrian or biker doesn't really have the right of way. In Halifax, the opposite is true.

The first car I walked into wasn't parked on the side of the road. It was in the middle of the road. I wasn't drunk either. In fact, I was fully awake and in control of my sense.

I wanted to cross Spring Garden Road, one of Halifax's main streets, to get from my apartment to the drugstore across the road. I watched the cars go by in both directions, and calculated when to step onto the road. My calculations were off target because I had imagined I was in Jerusalem (or Toronto or another busy city). I stepped onto the road and instead of going after the car I had pinpointed, it and the rest of the cars on the road stopped to let me cross. I had planned for the car to pass me. When it stopped in front of me, I walked into it.

And then there are the line-ups. Earlier in the summer, I wrote about the fact that there are no real line-ups in Israel. Now, I'm so used to the Israeli chaos that I can't stop the urge I have to push forward in a line. The other day in a clothing store, I almost butted in front of someone who had two items because I only had one. Fortunately, I stopped myself and remembered that this is Canada, and my turn would come.

I think I may have overcome my state of confusion by a recent visit to an IGA in Halifax, where I bought some kosher mozzarella cheese. The small packet of cheese cost me just over five dollars. There are no qualms about it, I know this is expensive for both here and there.

Life on an emotional coaster

This year, while we have been struggling to get back into the routine that accompanies the new school year, the shocking events that have taken place have made it difficult to settle down into a customary framework.

By Justin Korda in Montreal

We have been saddened by the untimely death of Princess Diana and the sorrowful passing of Mother Teresa, two women whose dedication to different types of charities has inspired millions. Then we were moved by the savage bombings on Ben Yehuda Street, a pedestrian mall that surely anyone who has been to Israel can say they visited. That was followed by a disastrous operation of the Israeli Defence Forces in Southern Lebanon, which took the lives of 12 Israeli boys.

And while all of this bad news has steadily unfolded, Canadians have been up in arms over the crude and heartless words of newly arrived talk show celebrity, Howard Stern. Ironically, though, hardly anyone has actually decided to change the dial, thereby making Stern even more popular and adding fuel to his rhetorical fire.

X-Files nuts and conspiracy theorists have been on a field trip, attempting to come up with paranormal explanations to elucidate this intense wave of negative events in the world. Some have even gone to the extent of seeing in these tragedies an indication that the end of the world is imminent.

Although I admit that this thought may be a tad far-fetched, and I wouldn't start building an ark, I do believe that it provides some food for thought.

Whether the end of the world is actually knocking on our doors or not, one can interpret this wave of bad news as a calling for a desperately needed change. As students, we possess an innate drive to have fun. An underestimation of this drive at this point in time would be a pitiful waste of an opportunity. By pumping some joy into the mainstream we would be capitalizing on an opportunity that could truly benefit the mood of the world today.

From a Jewish perspective, we can learn from a recent Torah portion that joy is an essential quality of life. The sages tell us that even if people are intellectually aware of their surroundings and appreciate the value of life, they must experience this through joy.

> Joy is an essential quality of life

The emotional roller coaster that the world has recently experienced is levelling off as the impact of the tragedies begins to settle in the minds and hearts of people, causing a dreary and sombre mood to take shape throughout society. The down feeling that comes in the aftermath of large-scale tragedies results from people's will to hold on to the memory of that which is gone.

However, the best way to memorialize is to incorporate the essence of the loss into one's life. By proactively embracing a new endeavor inspired by the actions of another person, the memory of that figure surely lives on. When a habitual routine is broken by devastating news, there can be no better way to remember than by translating the impact of the devastation back into our routine.

When tragedy strikes, it is normal for people to react in pain and sorrow. But afterward, when the loss starts to be understood in the context of reality, we should train ourselves to react in such a manner that the world can benefit from the lesson learned. When the impact of a catastrophe is translated into effective activism, the memory of the tragedy is safeguarded, the entire world benefits and the frame of mind of the people affected is lifted. Here we learn that joy and sadness are not opposing feelings. Joy can in fact be achieved as a result of learning from a sad experience.

As a way to remember Princess Di, we can follow the example she was setting and devote ourselves to certain causes and achieve the satisfaction and joy that she surely experienced from her work. Mother Teresa's compassion and lifelong devotion to charity have the power to inspire that same warm attitude among everyday people. From the agony in Israel, we can learn to appreciate the value of our lives and the importance of experiencing our days in joy.

And as for Howard Stern, well no matter how hurt we are by his crudeness, we are still going to keep on listening. So whether it's Howard Stern or anything else, take the time to think about how the world could benefit from the event that is interrupting your routine. For when the world benefits the level of joy rises.

Hopes and concern

In the memory of most readers, there was a time when we, as a community, lurched from one crisis to another. No sooner had the danger of the Six Day War passed, the War of Attrition came upon us, the Baghdad executions chilled us to the bone and the Soviet persecutions became our daily worry.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

In time, fortunately, the crises lessened. Eight hundred thousand Russian Jews have since then come to Israel – and many of us forget that it was, in part, because of Jewish generosity throughout the world that this enormous migration could be financed. Rescue was what Jewish life always was about.

But as the tensions lessened, so did many people's involvement and generosity, and while the emotional depth of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination brought us together again, it was short-lived. In addition, anti-Semitism, which was once so central to Diaspora existence, no longer plays a significant role in our lives.

There is another difference between yesterday and today. We had a community in those days, one community – which today is badly splintered. It happens at a time when there are three major challenges to worry about, but the very fact that we have begun to articulate them is also a source of hope. The three challenges are rescue, the alleviation of poverty and the preservation of our identity.

Rescue: Its task is not yet done. Not all the Jews who need to go to Israel have been able to go.

Poverty: It exists underground and away from public gaze – but you must see it, for you must help to alleviate poverty's gravest and destructive consequences.

Identity: We are all worried about our children's and grandchildren's future as Jews. Most people do not know the role that UJA dollars plays on our campuses, where it shores up a sense of identity amongst those who are the most vulnerable amongst us: our college students.

There is a fourth worry and it has to do with the polarization that has beset so many of our communities. It has a political dimension and also – alas! – a religious one. While synagogues are the mainstay of Jewish culture and survival, they have lately all too often also become the carriers of divisiveness. Fortunately, overall efforts like those made by UJA Federation in Toronto have managed to bridge the gap to some degree and it thereby serves as the glue that holds our community together. In its campaign this year, the slogan is One People Forever and its support becomes the duty of all of us. Tzedakah means charity, but it also means obligation.

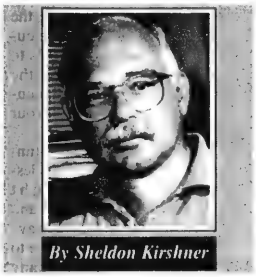
At the advent of Rosh Hashanah, we should all resolve to help re-establish a sense of unity amongst us. This resolve will serve as the fourth pillar in our communal structure. Thus I hope for a better tomorrow through our own efforts in four ways: continued rescue, alleviation of poverty, greater Jewish identity and more Jewish unity.

[Portions of this article were excerpted from Rabbi Plaut's opening remarks at the launching of UJA 5758 campaign in Toronto.]

The Kirshner File

Festival features films of Jewish interest

Several movies of Jewish interest were screened at this month's Toronto International Film Festival. Virtually all of them will be released in theatres across Canada later this year and in 1998.



By Sheldon Kirshner

Ira Wohl's 1979 documentary, *Best Boy,* not only won first prize at festivals across North America, but captured an Academy Award. I did not see *Best Boy,* but judging by the sequel, *Best Man: 'Best Boy' and All of Us Twenty Years Later,* one can understand why it was such a critical success.

In *Best Boy,* Wohl examined the life of his 50-year-old mentally retarded cousin, Philly Wohl, who gradually made the transition from living at home with his parents toward greater independence. By all accounts, it was a heart-warming film.

The same can be said of *Best Man,* produced, directed and written by Wohl, a Los Angeles-based filmmaker turned psychotherapist.

Best Man, which unfolds in New York City and Los Angeles, does not immediately grow on you, being less than compelling for about the first 30 of its 90 minutes. But as Wolh draws out Philly's personality and then announces his intention to give him a bar mitzvah, at age 70, we're hooked.

Philly, good-natured and shambling, has been diagnosed as "very slow but normal." Though intellectually challenged and child-like, he can perform simple tasks, can relate to people (particularly his widowed sister Frances), can understand his Jewish roots and can summon up enthusiasm for certain foods (hamburgers and beans, cupcakes and danish and bananas in sour cream).

In *Best Man,* Wohl looks at Philly's adjustment to the group home and training centre in which he has been placed, explores his touching relationship with Frances (a selfless woman and surrogate mother since the death of their parents), follows him to Los Angeles for a Passover seder at Wohl's home and, finally, documents the preparations leading to his abbreviated bar mitzvah.

Thankfully never condescending, the film is crowned with poignant moments. "I miss my momma, poor thing," Philly murmurs. Watching *Fiddler on the Roof* for the umpteenth time, he revels in its nostalgia. Visiting the graves of his parents before Rosh Hashanah, he is profoundly moved. Attending a Jewish heritage lesson, he confuses basic facts.

Best Man reaches a series of emotional climaxes as Philly rehearses bar mitzvah brachot with an empathetic rabbi originally from Argentina; as he glows at Ira's seder; as he is fitted with a new suit; as he painstakingly succeeds in elevating his bar mitzvah ceremony into a singular event (thus prompting Frances to shed joyful tears); as he comments on his performance; and as the rabbi and Frances dance to the Latin rhythm of a tango.

Best Man comes straight from the heart.

***

Shanghai, China, was a haven for Jewish refugees after the rise of Nazism, being the only place in the world which admitted Jews without a visa. As a result, upwards of 20,000 German and Austrian Jews streamed into the city, joining a long-established Jewish community which had been settled by Sephardic and Russian Jews in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Exile Shanghai, by Ulrike Ottinger, describes these separate but overlapping communities in an exhaustive 275-minute German-Israeli documentary based on interviews, photographs and documents.

By way of providing context, Ottinger includes snippets of contemporary Chinese life in this marathon of a film. The camera pans on, among other sights, a nimble noodle maker practising his craft, cyclists riding to work in a drizzle and shoppers wandering through the maze of an outdoor food market.

We learn that the first Jewish settlers arrived after the Opium Wars and that they were followed by Jews fleeing pogroms in Russia. A few, such as the Kadouris and the Hardoons, prospered mightily as traders. They, in turn, assisted Jews fleeing racial oppression in Europe.

Like their Sephardic and Russian predecessors, the newcomers established businesses, institutions, schools and newspapers. But life tended to be hard, and all the more harder after the Japanese occupation. Under pressure from Hitler, Japan herded German and Austrian Jews into the poorest neighborhood, the Hongkew district, where conditions were primitive. In the wake of the war, the vast majority of Jewish residents emigrated.

The narrative unfolds through the reminiscences of six former Jewish residents now citizens of the United States. Their stories are uniformly fascinating, and through them viewers can appreciate the place of Shanghai in Holocaust history.

***

Until he was caught several years ago, Carlos (The Jackal) Sanchez was one of the most notorious terrorists in the arsenal of the rejectionist Palestinian cause. The son of a Venezuelan doctor, Sanchez was ruthless, but not sufficiently smart enough to avoid detection and incarceration. In *The Assignment,* Canadian director Christian Duguay plays with the facts at hand to produce a film which conjures up the nerve-wracking hunt for the legendary terrorist by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Mossad.

Filmed in Israel, Hungary and Canada, *The Assignment* turns on an American naval officer (Aidan Quinn) recruited by an obsessive CIA agent (Donald Sutherland) to capture Sanchez. The officer chosen for the task uncannily resembles Sanchez (Quinn). Sutherland's mild-mannered Israeli collaborator is portrayed by Ben Kingsley.

Though full of explosions, shootouts, car chases, sexual situations, exotic locales and foreign intrigue, *The Assignment* barely leaves a dent. It's a slow-footed spy thriller which largely inspires boredom rather than a true sense of excitement.

***

Bernard Malamud's great novel, *The Assistant,* finally has been adapted for the screen. As directed by Daniel Petrie, *The Assistant* is a solid film bolstered by credible performances. Hewing closely to the spirit of the book, Petrie brings out the interlocking themes of crime and punishment, and love and redemption.

Frank Alpine (Gil Bellows), an Italian-American drifter with no apparent prospects, robs Morris Bober, a Jewish grocer, in tandem with an anti-Semitic criminal named Ward Minogue (Jaimz Woolvett). Wracked by guilt, the contrite Alpine returns to the scene to make amends. Convalescing from the brutal robbery, Bober (Armin Mueller-Stahl) hires Alpine, who casts a covetous eye on his daughter, Helen (Kate Greenhouse). In vain, Helen's mother (Joan Plowright) objects to the budding relationship. Tension flares when the Bobers learn of Alpine's role in the robbery.

Happily, *The Assistant* is the antithesis of a melodramatic Hollywood blockbuster. And true to its literary origins, it works its magic quietly and effectively.

***

An eccentric Russian-Jewish tailor (Seymour Cassel) touches off a mystery and a romance between a stone mason and a musician in Peter Schr's *Obsession,* set in Berlin and Paris. On the whole, an engaging film.

***

A bored housewife. A Nazi war criminal. Put the pair into the mix and you get *Stolen Moments,* a mannered Argentine film which takes place in the bleakness of Patagonia in 1947.

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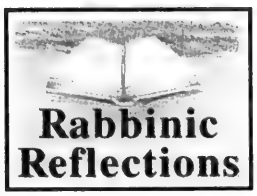


Rabbinic Reflections

Jews can help speed redemption

By RABBI Y. BENAMOU AND GARY DOLOVICH

This Shabbat, the combined parshiot of Nitzavim and Vayeilech will be read. This is the Shabbat preceding the High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah, the 10 days of repentance and the holiest day of the year, Yom Kippur. Although these two parshiot are ripe with issues worthy of careful and serious consideration we want to focus on one *pasuk* (verse) that we believe is particularly relevant given the upcoming holidays.

In Parshat Nitzavim it says (Devarim 30:6) that "HaShem, your God, will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, to love HaShem, your God, with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live." The pasuk comes at a time when Moses, during his last days, is comforting the Jewish people that eventually they will repent and be redeemed from their sufferings, their sorrows and from their future exile from the land of Israel.

Ibn Ezra, one of the great commentators on the Torah, explains the verse as a contrast with the brit milah, the circumcision which is performed on every Jewish male at eight days of age. Whereas the brit milah is the physical removal of the foreskin, an act that signifies the entry of the child into the covenant between HaShem and the Jewish people, the circumcision spoken of here is a spiritual one, symbolizing the removal of the barriers which prevent people from becoming closer to God.

Nachmanidies, another of the classical commentators, in a similar vein, explains that the "forsaken" is a spiritual barrier that prevents goodness from prevailing over the desire to sin.

The verse really is a promise that eventually God Himself will remove these barriers so that everyone will finally and completely come to know the truth about HaShem and the expectations He has for His creation.

Does this mean though that we are off the hook? That we can simply sit back and wait for the final redemption and the Mashiach to come? The answer is no.

The Talmud teaches that although the final redemption will come at its appointed time, the Jewish people, can, through their commitment to Torah, hasten that redemption. Moreover, it is taught that "...if one comes to purify himself, he is assisted [by God]" (Shabbos 104a).

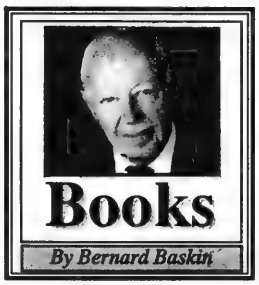
This means that it is incumbent upon each and every one of us, especially at this time of the year, to do all he or she can to examine him or herself and see what he or she can do as an individual, as part of a family, and as a member of a community to remove the spiritual barriers that stand in the way of a perfect commitment to God and God's mitzvot. We must seek to examine ourselves and identify those things which mark our spiritual "foreskin." Having done that, we must then work very hard to peel them off, layer by layer by layer. We must circumcise ourselves.

Yes, God will help us finish the job — our verse promises us as much. But, just as HaShem has given us the physical brit milah as a sign that we must participate in the act of perfecting God's world, so too must we take an active and meaningful role in our own spiritual growth.

Each one of us needs to do this. No one is exempt. And although this is a lifelong project, this is the best time of the year to start working on it.

L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu VeTichatemmu. May we all be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Live for a year of success and happiness and blessing.

Rabbi Y. Bernamou is the spiritual of Herzlia Adas Yeshurum Congregation in Winnipeg. Gary Dolovich is one of his congregants.



Books

By Bernard Baskin

Survivor weaves a tale of terror and triumph

***The Endless Wait*, by Joseph Peretz (Lugus Publication (no price indicated)).**

The author of *The Endless Wait*, a native of Antwerp, served in the Belgian army that was so quickly overwhelmed by the Nazis. Interned in a German labor camp, he managed to escape from a death train on its way to Auschwitz. "It was only about four feet from the platform down to the track, yet I felt as if I had dived headlong into a bottomless abyss. Hoping that the railroad car would shield me from the guard's view, I subconsciously expected to hear the bark of his machine gun firing at my back. In a crouch, I started running as fast as I could, meanwhile ripping of my yellow Star of David."

In north France, reunited with a girlfriend who has survived under an assumed name, he witnessed the liberation of a happy community. "The main street was lined with people, in some spots, three deep. It seemed as if the entire population had taken to the street to witness the long awaited event. Hanging out of the open windows, the tricolor fluttered in the breeze. The pavement shook as huge tanks rumbled by. The liberating soldiers sitting on top of the gigantic iron monsters, their goggles pushed up on their foreheads, smiled and waved at the jubilant crowd welcoming them, throwing flowers, clapping hands, yelling, 'Vive les Allies! Vive la France!' at the top of their voices."

He and his bride, who were the first Jews married in Antwerp after the liberation, eventually made their way to Toronto.

This survivor's story of terror and triumph deserves a wide readership.

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Roots & Remembrance

The genealogist as detective

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Here's a short tale to illustrate that even official documents can lie and that a genealogist often has to be a good detective to get at the truth.

The Citizenship Registration Branch of the federal Department of the Secretary of State (P.O. Box 7000, Sydney, N.S. B1P 6V6) can provide details about a citizen's date of arrival and naturalization. Some years ago, that office informed me that my great-grandfather Harris Glickstein "came to Canada from London, England, by way of Black Rock, N.Y., some time in 1908."

This, I knew, was wrong. True, my Polish-born great-grandfather had grown up in London, but a U.S. passenger list offered proof that he did not arrive in New York until April 1909.

I wrote to the Reference Services Section of the National Archives of Canada (395 Wellington St., Ottawa K1A 0N3), which suggested a search of the U.S.-to-Canada border crossing records (available through many libraries). "Unfortunately, a search of various gazetteers has failed to produce any reference to Black Rock, New York," the letter read.

Where was this mysterious Black Rock through which my great-grandfather supposedly crossed? Through a chance discovery, I learned that Black Rock was a town that merged anonymously with Buffalo early in this century. Next question: If my great-grandfather left the United States from Black Rock, at what Canadian port did he land?

The National Archives supplied a list of some 30 Ontario ports, including Crystal Beach, Fort Erie, Erie Beach, Lewiston and Niagara Falls.

Then there was Bridgeburg, which was described as being near Fort Erie, Ont. I was instantly drawn to the name – Bridgeburg, city of the bridge – but no amount of searching by map or gazetteer could help me locate it.

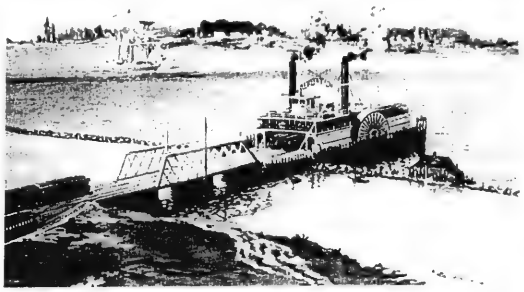
On a hunch, I ordered the three Bridgeburg microfilms, which like all Canadian passenger lists are unindexed, and I painstakingly wound through the first reel (May 1908 to Aug. 1911). Halfway through the second reel, in the midst of the January 1913 arrivals, I found my great-grandfather.

Unlike their American counterparts, Canadian passenger lists do not give place of birth or the names of relatives back home or at a destination. This record described my great-grandfather as a 37-year-old tailor of Russian-Hebrew descent, a citizen of Russia, travelling alone from Brooklyn to Toronto with $80 in his pocket. (No mention of his wife and three children in Brooklyn who would soon follow.)

A railway ferry once operated between Black Rock and Bridgeburg, I later learned. At each terminus, a wooden truss bridge extended into the water, connecting the steam-powered ferry to the train tracks.

Bridgeburg was probably never much of a town. It may have possessed one end of a railway bridge, a customs inspection office and little else.

Its chief distinguishing feature, the wooden truss bridge, was apparently demolished after the ferry stopped running in the mid-1920s.



Many immigrants crossed the Niagara River on this railroad ferry

The Jewish Highway

Exploring the Torah on the World Wide Web

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Today, more of the best sites on the Jewish Highway, with a focus on the Torah...plus a Rosh Hashanah bonus.

I have raved about Navigating the Bible **[http://bible.ort.org/]** before and I will do so again. Every verse of the Torah can be viewed in Hebrew, in Hebrew transliterated into English and in English **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/index/inx_tora.htm]**. Since each verse appears as a picture rather than as text, you can read the Hebrew on your computer even if you *don't* have Hebrew fonts installed. And last but not least, if you want to have the verse sung to you, just click on the little speaker icon. And if your browser can read Hebrew (subject of a future column) you can read the entire Tanach at the Hebrew University Bible site **[http://www1.snunit.k12.il/kodesh/bible/mbible.html]**. And in English at **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/index/inx_tora.htm]**.

If you want to study some Torah, then don't miss The Torahnet Page: Torah Study Opportunities on the Net **[http://shamash.org/reform/uahc/torahnet/]**. This is a very handy centralized listing of Jewish Web sites and e-mail lists available on the Internet. The beauty of subscribing to an e-mail list is that you will receive a regular mailing in your e-mail box, so that you can continue your learning on a regular basis. Also, check out the Shema Yisrael Torah Network **[http://www.shemayisrael.co.il/]**.

Jews may be the People of the Book, but the folks at 613.org **[http://www.613.org/]** have a different way of expressing it. Through over 300 hours of Jewish audio and video, 613.org presents numerous classes, short stories and songs. It's not every Web site that can boast being "The First World-Wide Jewish Audio Since Mount Sinai."

And here's that promised Rosh Hashanah bonus: I can still remember those long nights years ago when I stayed up to help stamp, lick and seal our family's Rosh Hashanah cards. Although those cards don't seem to be as popular as they once were, you can now send off a free Rosh Hashanah card to anyone with an e-mail address. The prettiest cards can be found at **[http://www.hagim.co.il/brachot.html]**. Although your message is sent in English, you will need Hebrew fonts installed in your browser in order to read the instructions. Also, keep your greeting innocuous since anyone can browse old messages. You can find more electronic postcards at **[http://www.marlo.com/hashana.htm]**.

They're almost as much fun to send as the old kind of cards and they won't leave the taste of glue in your mouth!

Next week, more of the best on the Jewish Highway with some sites from the religious movements.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

NOTICE OF ANNUAL, SPECIAL AND GENERAL MEETING
of
MEMBERS OF BATHURST JEWISH CENTRE

NOTICE is hereby given that the annual, special and general meeting of the members of the Bathurst Jewish Centre will be held at 4588 Bathurst Street, Jerusalem Room, North York, on the 30th day of October, 1997, at the hour of 7:00 o'clock in the evening, to:

(a) accept as Members of the Corporation those Members listed in good standing tabled and delivered by the Secretary of the Corporation;

(b) election of Directors;

(c) approve the Financial Statements for the Corporation for the year ended June 30, 1997;

(d) appoint auditors and authorize the directors to fix their remuneration; and

(e) transact such further and other business as may properly be brought before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Copies of the Financial Statements and Auditors Report together with the slate of nominated directors, may be obtained from the Business Office of the Corporation between the hours of 9:00 am and 6:00 pm until the day of the annual meeting.

Dated the 1st day of October, 1997

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
"Phil Daniels," Secretary

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Feminist author brings unique views to liturgy

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

'Must keep Hebrew alive'

TORONTO — She has been called a pantheist and an atheist, but poet and Judaic scholar Marcia Falk, giving her first talk in Canada, said she is not afraid of labels.

"I've been called so many things lately," she said. "My answer is: 'Where do we find peace? And I go toward it.'"

The feminist author of a new gender-inclusive prayer book, Book of Blessings, a 13-year-project, spoke to 225 people recently at Holy Blossom Temple.

"As a poet, I'm drawn to the lyrical intensity of the Hebrew blessings, but I'm uncomfortable with the heavily patriarchal picture of God in traditional liturgy and a lot of creativity begins with discomfort."

Her book has a new version of the Sh'ma, one of the best known pieces of Jewish liturgy. She replaces the classic declaration, "Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One," with a prayer about the unity of creation: "Hear, O Israel/ The Divine abounds everywhere/ and dwells in everything/The many are One."

Whereas the traditional Hamotzi prayer, praising God for bringing forth bread from the earth, begins, "Blessed are you Lord our God, King of the Universe," her adaptation introduces the blessing with *N'vareych et eyn hachayim*, Let us bless the source of life."

She has also written blessings to be recited upon awakening and on going to sleep. For the Friday evening service, she substitutes a suite of poetry in Hebrew, Yiddish and English, including poems by the Yiddish poet, Malka Heifetz Tussman, and the Israeli poet, Leah Goldberg, as well as two of her own poems which celebrate human connection with the natural world.

"In traditional liturgy, our voices [those of women] are completely unheard," she said.

It was her commitment to Judaism which made her a feminist, she added.

Although she thinks Hebrew prayers need to be briefer, she said, "If we want to keep civilization alive, we must keep Hebrew alive; without that, there is no hope. Send your kids to Hebrew school. My mother is 86 and she is teaching Hebrew."

Marcia Falk

As for her Book of Blessings, which sells in hard cover for about $60, "I am not making bubkes on the book." The cost of typesetting the Hebrew in it is what keeps the price high, Falk said.

In the question period, Falk said she is not deterred by criticism that she is advocating paganism. "Paganism is a buzzword that stops debate."

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Kolel director, said Falk's new prayer book "represents not only a change of words, but a change of heart."

The talk was co-sponsored by Kolel, Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood and Canadian Women for Reform Judaism. Sheila Smolkin, president of Canadian Women for Reform Judaism also spoke.

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Communal leaders get life lesson in Jewish program

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An intensive two-year Jewish educational program for up-and-coming Jewish community leaders has no in-class tests for participants. "Their lives are their tests," said Rabbi Nathan Laufer during a recent visit to Toronto to introduce the program here.

Rabbi Laufer is president of the Wexner Heritage Foundation (WHF), the brainchild in the early 1980s of Leslie Wexner, the Columbus, Ohio-based founder of The Limited chain of clothing stores.

The foundation, with a seven-figure annual budget, underwrites the cost of the program and boasts an elite faculty of dozens of Jewish thinkers including professors, rabbis, authors and Israeli politicians.

Among the guest speakers at a recent summer institute in Israel were Labor party leader Ehud Barak, former deputy foreign minister Yossi Beilin and Israeli president Ezer Weizman.

Rabbi Nathan Laufer

The program runs every other week, and participants receive up to 100 pages of study material on Jewish history, theology or philosophy per four-hour session. Faculty members, handpicked to suit the community's needs, are flown in to teach.

In one exercise at a summer institute (not all of which are held in Israel; some are in North America), participants examine "what they stand for as Jews and human beings, and what they would like their children to stand for."

Wexner, the story goes, had been asked to lead the United Jewish Appeal's American campaign and organized the foundation's pilot project to fill the gaps in his own Jewish background.

Rabbi Laufer's visit to Toronto, at his initiative, represents WHF's first foray into the Canadian Jewish community after running the program for a total of over 40 groups in 28 American cities.

He has also met with community leaders in Montreal and is scheduled to do the same in Vancouver late next month.

UJA Federation officials here were happy to welcome the foundation.

"It's a rare opportunity when someone's prepared to come in at their own expense and provide perhaps the best program of its kind in the world," said Alan Reitzes, executive director of UJA Federation. "If you're committed to Jewish life and being a leader, there's nothing that can top this experience."

Participants, age 30 to 45, must be nominated and screened in personal interviews before being admitted to the program.

Wexner felt that many of the leaders in the Jewish community a dozen years ago were "what he termed empty suits," said Rabbi Laufer. "They were impressive business people, very successful, but not people who had a lot of Jewish content. They didn't have Jewish values or Jewish vision. He felt the community was getting poor leadership."

Likely candidates for the program are "people likely to become the presidents of their agencies or institutions or schools and [who] can really make a difference in their community," said the rabbi.

A youthful 40-year-old Brooklyn native with smichah from Yeshiva University and a law degree from Fordham University, Rabbi Laufer personifies the qualities like commitment, vision and communication skills he seeks in participants.

He is in fact not only president of the foundation but one of its faculty members (although he says he teaches only if he can do so "as well as or better than anyone else"). He has been with the foundation almost a dozen years.

"You can't sell something you don't know yourself," he argues. Even day school graduates, if they didn't pursue their Jewish education, "have a 16-year-old's understanding of Judaism.

"Would you buy the same thing as a 40-year-old as you would as a 16-year-old?" he asks.

Graduates of the program, among them four presidents of local Jewish federations, have taken on a variety of local and national leadership positions, said Rabbi Laufer. One has started a synagogue, another a Reform day school.

"This is an investment in the future of the North American people."

Winshevsky Shule marks 70th year

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Morris Winchevsky Community Shule (MWCS) is marking its 70th anniversary this year, with a return to formal Yiddish language studies, which formed the school's roots.

Operated by the United Jewish People's Order (UJPO), a secular Jewish organization, the MWCS had traditionally placed a strong emphasis on the teaching of Yiddish and Yiddish culture rather than Hebrew and Jewish liturgy, Maxine Hermolin, UJPO executive director, said in a recent interview.

During the formative years of the school, some of Toronto's foremost Yiddishists – Manya Lipshitz, Nechama Yanovsky and Label Basman – taught there, but by the '90s formal Yiddish language studies had lapsed, Hermolin said.

She stressed that formal study of Yiddish has been reintroduced into the curriculum and the students will also be learning some Hebrew this year.

The school's new educational director, Marcy Gilbert, who was also present at the interview, explained that the program provides students with the opportunity to learn about Jewish heritage and traditions within a secular humanistic framework.

"The fundamental philosophy of the shule [school] as a community is the need for the community to work for Tikkun Olam, making the world a better place," Gilbert said.

The curriculum emphasizes Jewish history and holidays, Yiddish language and literature and Jewish folk creativity in dance, song and drama, she said. The groups are split between junior and senior grades and there is a cultural component, with each child choosing an option: newspaper, debating club, dance, drama, cooking and story telling, she said.

Each grade studies a particular theme and in Grade 7 there is a b'nai mitzvah program with a formal graduation.

The classes, which run from kindergarten to Grade 7, are small and intimate. Some 80 children are now enrolled and registration for the 1997-98 year is still open, she noted.

For every holiday celebration, connections are made to a relevant social action project, Hermolin said. Last year on Sukkot a speaker from the Out of the Cold program spoke to the school, which sponsored a clothing and blanket drive for the homeless, she said. And the year before, there had been a speaker from the Shalom Food Project and a corresponding food drive.

Every year, the whole school goes to Camp Naivelt in Brampton, which is run by UJPO, to celebrate Sukkot; the community goes apple picking there and presents a bushel of apples to the breakfast program operated by the Shalom food project, she said.

She said that in conjunction with Rosh Hashanah this year, students from Grades 4 and up will be participating in a walk on Sept. 28, to raise money for AIDS research.

The school is very much a community of families according to Hermolin. "This community welcomes and embraces and intercultural and non-traditional families ... We have a rich diverse community.

"We care for each other. We celebrate holidays together. Every holiday has a ceremony."

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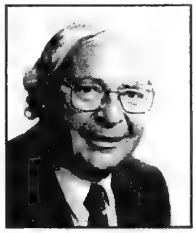

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JUNIOR VOLUNTEER
Two month old Tamar Lesser was definitely the youngest volunteer who turned out on Super Sunday helping to raise $2 million on behalf of Jews all over the world. Hundreds of volunteers contacted more than 6,000 contributors durng what has become UJA Federation's most successful fundraising event.

Kashrut in Toronto

Cost of Passover products troublesome

[Cont'd. from page 3]

house brand products under kosher supervision, which brings their cost down considerably, since they are under the same price considerations as the non-kosher product.

The higher prices for Israeli and United States products reflect the increased costs for shipping and handling which are incorporated into the sale price, according to a spokesperson from IGA.

Passover Products

The high cost of Passover products is a constant thorn in the side of kosher consumers.

Rabbi Mordechai Levin, executive director of the Kashruth Council, explained that supervision of Passover products is even stricter than that of regular products during the year. Things which might be acceptable all year round, may not be acceptable on Passover.

He cited the example of sugar. Ordinarily, sugar does not need a hechsher at all. But, because the people packing it may use gloves coated with cornstarch, which is *chametz*, prohibited on Passover, even a minute quantity may seep into the sugar.

Therefore the stricter supervision which would be unnecessary during the year, becomes imperative at Passover.

Even with the needs for heightened supervision there is recognition at the Kashruth Council that some stores raise the price of Passover food beyond a reasonable amount.

"Our Vaad and other ones as well have appealed to merchants to keep the costs down," Rabbi Levin said. "But it is for the customer to insist. Promoting competition is the best way to keep costs down."

Rabbi Jay Kelman, associate rabbi of Beth Jacob Congregation in North York however, favors a more active approach to keeping Passover costs down.

He advocates establishing a volunteer monitoring service, where people compare prices at different stores, not just during Passover, but between the holiday and the rest of the year.

In that way, he says, people would be able to avoid shopping at those stores that charged over a certain price.

This is not a new concept, Rabbi Kelman said. It has been done before in New York, and at various times in Jewish history.

In fact, a similar protest occurred in Toronto shortly before World War I. When the price of a loaf of bread went up to 12 cents, the local housewives boycotted the bakeries with the result that eventually, the prices dropped.

Rabbi Kelman is convinced that store owners "would fall in line, if they know the community is organized behind the effort."

People have complained about COR's new rules

Kashrut certification

Some people have complained about new rules which COR has implemented regarding the granting of kashrut certification. They expressed concern that new certification for restaurants, catering establishments and butcher shops are only being given to people who are themselves religiously observant. A "grandfather" clause allows continued supervision to businesses that were so certified before the new rules came into effect.

The Kashruth Council explains their decisions as being a matter of trust.

Rabbi Yitzchok Kerzner, chair of the Rabbinical Vaad Hakashruth, says that "to maintain maximum standards of kashrut, we have to have people who care themselves. If someone doesn't care about Shabbat and Halachah, for instance, why should they care about complex halachic standards [of kashrut]?"

This is particularly true, Rabbi Kerzner said, of "24-hour situations," like a restaurant or catering facility, where food is constantly being brought in and handled, as opposed to a manufacturing company, which generally operates on a business day schedule.

In fact, he noted, COR certifies many manufacturing facilities, processing plants and similar businesses that belong to both non-Jews and non-observant Jews.

He added that when kashrut certification is given on an occasional basis to a facility such as a hotel or hall that offers kosher catering, whoever the owner, operator or caterer is, "we have a mashgiach there at all times, who keeps the key to the kitchen and stores, so we are in total control."

This explanation however does not satisfy those people who see the new rules as representing a sharp departure from practices that were acceptable in former times.

They also make the claim that the new rules operate in a discriminatory and unfair manner.

COR is willing to certify non-Jewish establishments but not establishments owned by Jews who may be personally non-observant. Yet by COR's own reasoning, these people point out, the distinction is unfair and illogical.

Why should COR assume that a non-Jewish proprietor will be more trustworthy and reliable in terms of compliance with Kashrut requirements than a non-observant Jewish proprietor? In both cases, they point out, the establishments will have to rely on the guidance of the mashgiach.

Again, Rabbi Kerzner repeated, COR (and other certifying bodies) question how trustworthy in terms of kashrut observance someone will be who does not feel called upon to himself or herself observe other commandments.

Vegetables

A fairly recent consumer concern has arisen in connection with the use of vegetables, especially the leafy, green variety, like broccoli, spinach and lettuce, at catering establishments and restaurants. COR has prohibited their use at mass functions.

The problem, explained Rabbi Levin, is that with government bans on the use of pesticides, many more

[Cont'd. on page 18]

Israel's short history has been marked by incredible change. From a fledgling agricultural state in 1948, Israel has grown into a thriving technological leader and is now among the economic elite of the Western world.

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Kashrut in Toronto

Costs of keeping kosher

[Cont'd. from page 17]

bugs are lodging in folds and flowerets of vegetables. In a private home it is not too onerous to carefully check a head of lettuce or broccoli. But in a large facility, which might easily use several hundred lettuces for a salad course at a dinner, it is far more problematic.

Insects, it must be recalled are absolutely prohibited for eating.

Rabbi Levin said that "a whole booklet" has been sent out giving detailed instructions on how to deal with the problem, including meticulous washing and preparation.

For some vegetables, it is sufficient to check three items from each box of produce. It is also acceptable to use vegetables like asparagus and broccoli "if they are cleaned, washed, inspected, and then ground up [such as for soup]" the rabbi said.

Some vegetables, like romaine lettuce, require so much checking that "it is simply not warranted," Rabbi Levin said.

He did add however, that new technologies like hydroponics may help the situation.

The upshot of the vegetable situation is that people planning a large celebration, a wedding or bar mitzvah party for example, are very limited in the vegetables they can use for the meal, and even the salads they can serve.

Many people ask: is COR being too strict?

Private caterers

Aubie Himel, catering co-chair of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda synagogue, has another problem. The proliferation of private catering establishments and premises that offer kosher catering under COR certification is harming the viability of the community's synagogues.

"Of course they can charge less," Himel said, explaining that the private enterprises do not have to worry about synagogue maintenance or about sharing part of their revenue with the synagogue.

Whenever catering business is down in synagogues, the lost revenues, he said, affects their ability to work for Jewish continuity and Jewish education, responsibilities hotels and private catering establishments do not have. As well, he said, without the income from catering, "synagogues have to raise dues, and that means we will lose 40 to 50 families from our membership."

Himel and others point to the irony that the community, through its central kashrut supervision apparatus, is making it increasingly difficult for the synagogue, one of the key religious and cultural instruments of the community to engage fully in the fight to ensure continuity.

Conclusion

As we stated at the very outset of these articles, one of the proofs of the vitality of Jewish life in the greater Toronto area is the fact that we have a strong, central body regulating kashrut.

The variety of choice, the reliability of the supervision and the sophistication of the body's work are tremendous and much appreciated assets in the community.

But when it came to researching the questions and concerns that have arisen in relation to COR's work, this reporter discovered an atmosphere of silence in the community that is disturbing.

A number of people had expressed privately quite genuine concerns, but refused either to go on the record or allow any kind of dialogue through the publication of this series out of fear, they claimed, that their businesses would be harmed.

As a result, it was difficult in certain circumstances to judge the merits of their complaints.

But a community can only be truly healthy and whole, when issues of concern are aired through open communication among all parties. Until that communication unfolds, there will be a noticeable flaw in this otherwise most impressive picture of kashrut in our community.

Higher form of Kashrut?

Genesis 1:20 is the first instruction on kashrut in the Torah: "Behold I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, on which is the fruit yielding seed; to you it shall be for food."

It suggests that vegetarianism is the ideal form of eating. In fact many Torah scholars, including Rabbi Abraham Kook, the first Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Palestine (as it was then), have believed this.

Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, director of Kolel: a Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, has been a vegetarian for nearly 20 years. She and her family follow a vegetarian lifestyle not for health reasons, but as a higher form of kashrut, observing the injunction of *tsaar baalei chayim*, not to cause undue suffering to animals.

Rabbi Goldstein points outs that according to many, including Rabbi Kook, permission to eat meat was G-d's concession to human weakness. "We didn't eat meat in Gan Eden. After the flood, Noah was given that permission. We see it [meat eating] as a fallen state."

Rabbi Goldstein and her family take vegetarianism even one step further. She incorporates into her dietary approach, Arthur Waskow's philosophy of eco-kashrut.

Eco-kashrut demands that animals used for slaughter be raised in a humane manner. By this requirement for example, veal would not be permissible for eating "even if it is shchitahed according to kosher principles, because it isn't raised according to kosher principles."

Eco-kashrut also requires that workers employed in the food industry be treated fairly. Thus, Rabbi Goldstein cited the exploitation of migrant grape harvest workers as a reason to disqualify the eating of grapes that those workers harvested. "If workers are so maltreated, against the ethics of employment [in Jewish law], we shouldn't say the food they grow is kosher, even if it is something like grapes, which are inherently kosher."

Rabbi Goldstein also pointed out that many of our (non-vegetarian) notions of kashrut are the result of the cultural components which we have defined as "Jewish eating" which in fact, are European Ashkenazi concepts. For example, "Ethiopian and Indian Jews don't eat chicken soup with matzah balls."

It is generally regarded as common custom that celebratory occasions include a meat or poultry element in the festive meal. Most sages have ruled this to be the case. Rabbi Kerzner told *The CJN*, "that is certainly not mandatory."

And if you think there is no true simchah, and certainly no elegant one, without meat, Rabbi Goldstein recommended "come to a vegetarian wedding." She said that she sends kosher caterers gourmet recipes for vegetarian dishes so she and her family can have an elegant meal too.

"Keeping kosher is a challenge in itself," Rabbi Goldstein said. "We [vegetarians] feel just as commanded by the ethics of vegetarianism, and we can't imagine breaking them."

It is sometimes thought that vegetarianism obviates the need to be concerned with observing dietary law details. However, this is not the case.

There are always concerns about ingredients. For example even oil may pose a problem depending upon what is in it. The term "vegetable oil" does not always mean that there is absolutely no animal fat in the product.

Cheese too is generally problematic because it may contain rennet, a coagulant which often contains animal products.

The same concerns over ingredients apply to grocery stores that are called vegetarian. Not only is it sometimes difficult for the average consumer to recognize the name of some of the ingredients listed on a package, but consumer labelling laws exempt small amounts from having to be included in the ingredient list.

This is not to suggest any dishonesty or lack of care on the part of those who operate vegetarian establishments. They may simply not know the many complicated intricacies of kashrut, and without the presence of a mashgiach can easily slip up even with the best will in the world.

—L.A.

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Community Matters

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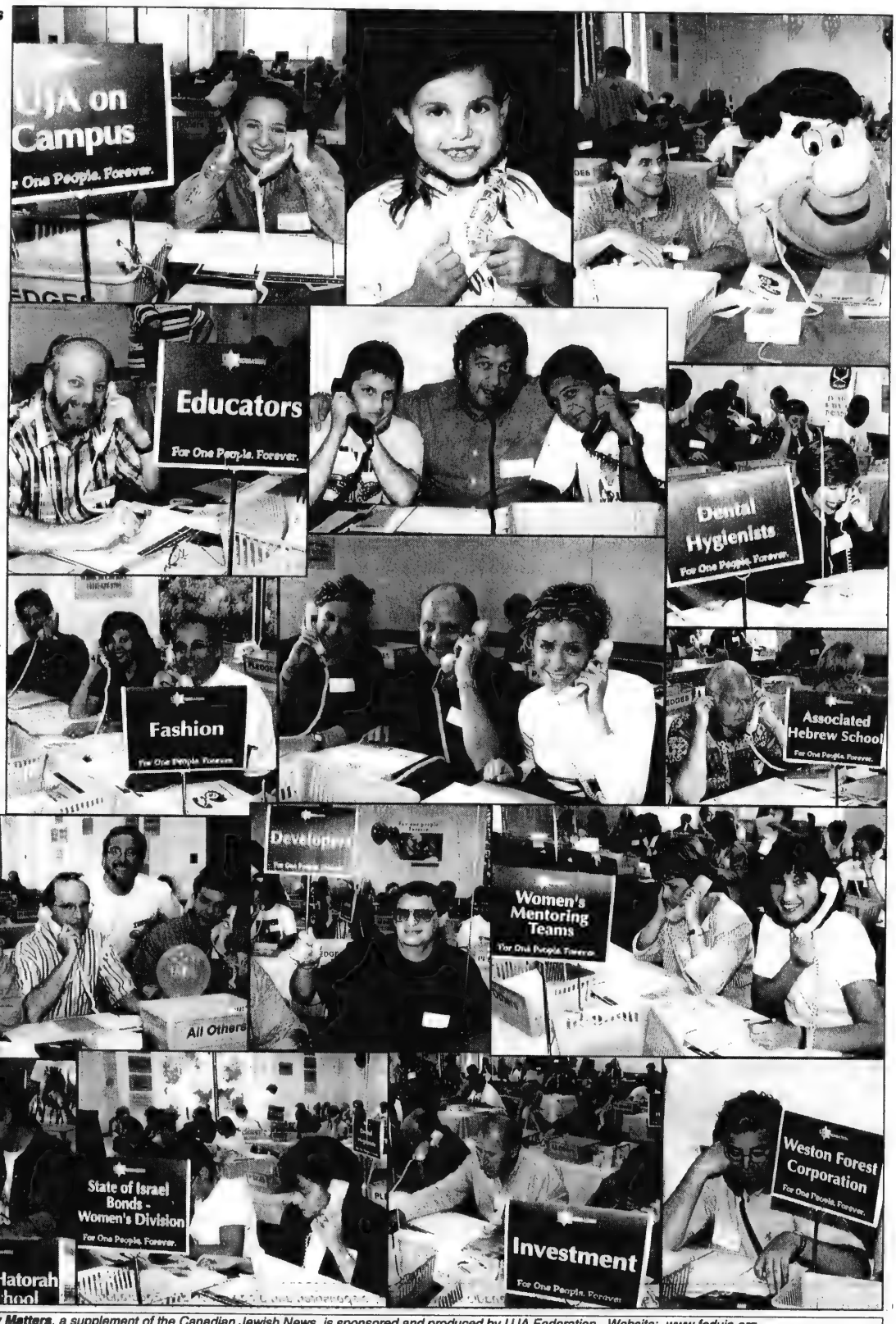
Associated Hebrew School, Bathurst Jewish Centre, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, Beit Halochem, Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, Beth Israel Hebrew Academy, Beth Tikvah, Beth Tzedec, Bialik Hebrew Day School, Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, Emunah Women, Hadassah-Wizo, Israel Aliya Centre, Jewish Family & Child Service, Jewish Immigrant Aid Service, Jewish Theatre Projects, Jewish Women International, Jewish Vocational Service, National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, Netivot Hatorah Day School, Reena, Senior Care, State of Israel Bonds, Torkin Manes, Cohen & Arbus, Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa, UJA on Campus, United Synagogue Day School, Weston Forest Corporation, Women's League for Conservative Judaism.

Photos by Stephen Epstein.



***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Community Matters

UJA Federation Campaign '98

CAMPAIGNERS ENCOURAGE NEW GIFTS

UJA Federation wants to expand its family. This Sunday, September 28, hundreds of volunteers will be enlisting new supporters for UJA Federation's work on behalf of Jews in need.

Last year 3,000 new donors were welcomed to the UJA Federation family that has grown to 27,000 committed supporters. Earlier this month, a series of telethons, launched by Super Sunday, brought the campaign total to over $23 million so far.

The drive to attract new gifts was given an extra boost two years ago when UJA Federation introduced the Three Year Vision – an initiative through which donors were asked to pledge their support for three consecutive years to give campaigners more time to contact non-contributors. About 8,000 donors subscribed to the Three Year Vision.

"This is the last year in which we can do what we promised and try to reach new people," stresses Reesa Sud, who is co-chairing New Gifts Sunday with Debbi Stern. Sud and Stern, who have both been recognized for their exemplary campaigning over the years, are pleased the drive for new gifts is taking place so soon after a highly energized Super Sunday.

Reesa Sud

Debbi Stern

"I am certain the community will recognize the importance of UJA Federation and the need to expand our donor base," says Stern.

Participants in New Gifts Sunday can collect Frequent Flyer points and become eligible to win free tickets on UJA Federation missions to Ottawa and Israel. Prizes including Blue Jay memorabilia, Cineplex Odeon movie passes, and restaurant vouchers will also be given out.

To sign up for a shift, call (416) 635-2883 ext 115.

March Marks 10th Year

Applications for the UJA Federation funded March of the Living mission , April 19 – May 4, to Poland and Israel are now available in many Metro area high schools.

Every two years over a hundred Toronto high school students join 6,000 of their counterparts from all over the world for a lesson in history, which begins in Poland with a three kilometre journey by foot from Auschwitz to Birkenau, the largest concentration camp built by the Nazis during WWII. The second leg of the mission takes participants to Israel for Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations.

Those interested in the program are invited to attend a March of the Living information session on October 8, 7:00 p.m. at the Lipa Green building, 4600 Bathurst Street. Applications must be submitted by November 14.

A special conference is being conducted in Israel, December 30 – January 6, for the International March of the Living alumni to mark the 10th anniversary of the March. Conference highlights include meetings with high level government officials, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, study sessions and a memorial ceremony at the Kotel.

Thousands of high school students and chaperones from all over the world march together in a show of solidarity and strength. ***Photo by Nir Bareket.***

Marlo Shaw, a 23 year old Queen's Law School student who participated in the 1990 March of the Living, hopes to make it to Israel for the conference. "I made a vow to myself when I came home from the March of the Living that I will always maintain a strong connection with the Jewish community," she says.

Barbara Bank, chair of the 1998 March of the Living, says she's "proud to be a part of a program with such a tremendous amount of integrity."

"Our alumni come away with a sense of obligation to live more complete Jewish lives on behalf of the millions who perished," adds Bank. "They really make the experience count."

For more information about the March of the Living, or the alumni conference, please call Karen Worb at (416) 631-5731.

Training Compassionate Campaigners

Two years ago UJA Federation revolutionized the way campaigners relate to donors by sending contributors personalized thank-you notes. Miriam Rosenberg and Richard Sadowski are taking campaigner training a step further by emphasizing sensitivity and compassion towards donors.

"We want to bring some passion into a process that can often be mechanical," explains Sadowski, who is co-chairing UJA Federation canvasser training for the 1998 campaign with Miriam Rosenberg. "We have asked our campaigners to share a little of themselves and their commitment to UJA Federation when they call potential donors," he adds.

"By sharing their enthusiasm and personal experiences, campaigners can capture not only the ear of the person at the other end of the phone, but their hearts as well," explains Rosenberg. "It's like an emotional trickle down effect."

When Bernard Betel Centre For Creative Living volunteer Evelyn Rabkin spoke to 30 trainers before campaign began, Sadowski says her ability to "tug at our heart strings was an added bonus."

Miriam Rosenberg

Richard Sadowski

"Her story about losing her husband and the loneliness that followed, touched us all," adds Rosenberg.

Other changes introduced this year include smaller, more customized training groups and a more user-friendly manual which provides campaigners with responses to frequently asked questions.

Both Rosenberg and Sadowski believe more compassion and understanding will go a long way to building a wide base of community support for UJA Federation.

Royal Barbeque

Staff of the Royal Bank of Canada, Bathurst and Cedarcroft branch, held an outdoor barbeque which raised more than $700 for UJA Federation. Pictured (left to right): Debra Kerbel, Assistant Manager, Lynn White, Area Manager for North York and Tom Parisi, Branch Manager.

Greater Toronto Area

Continuity program provides support for converts

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When Claudette Edghill, a single woman, completed her conversion classes and became a Jew one year ago, she realized that something was missing in the community.

"Recent converts need a mentor to show them around – where to buy kosher groceries, find kosher restaurants and even help them kosher their kitchen. They also need to meet people in a similar situation. I was fortunate to have friends to help, but not all converts are that lucky," she says.

Edghill did not know that this had been a matter of concern to the Rabbinical Assembly, Ontario region, for a number of years. What evolved some six months ago was a unique group, whose goals mirror Edghill's concerns.

Partners in Jewish Living, a project funded by the action committee on Jewish continuity of UJA Federation, was set up "in order to give Jews by choice and their families an opportunity for ongoing Jewish study and mutual support," says Rabbi Irvin Beigel, interim rabbi at Beth Sholom Synagogue and rabbinic coordinator of the group.

When someone converts to Judaism, says Rabbi Beigel, there are issues to face that are unique to their situation. "What do they do when their non-Jewish parent dies? What do they do when their parents want them to celebrate a non-Jewish holiday with them?"

He says that Partners in Jewish Living gives people the opportunity to gather and discuss these and any other issues that may be of concern. "Its a support group and a study group geared at converts who may feel a little lost after their conversion classes have ended."

One of the objectives, he says, is to help people integrate into their Jewish community. "One of our concerns about converts is that we teach them about Jewish observance and then they go out and meet Jews who are not observant in that way."

Edghill, a member of Adath Israel Synagogue, has become active in Partners in Jewish Living. The group, she says, offers support to people "who have to deal with the families they are coming from and with their new Jewish family. We also have to contribute to Judaism. Converts should have a responsibility to help. I'm hoping that as a group, we can instil this feeling."

Since its inception, the group has had three study evenings and has "put together an active planning committee that is enthusiastic about moving the group ahead. There is a marvelous core of people working hard to make it a success," says Rabbi Beigel.

Claudette Edghill

Partners in Jewish Living, he says, is a great opportunity to let people get to know each other and "explore how we, as Jews, live in a world that isn't Jewish. There is a spectrum of responses. Some people hide from the secular world and others assimilate. Most people, however, are somewhere in between and people coming to Judaism have to deal with that issue."

Rabbi Beigel, who is from New York, says there have been programs in the United States for converts, but this group is unique in that "its members are actively involved in planning. They are setting the course. I am there to offer my knowledge and expertise, but they are running the show."

Partners in Jewish Living is sponsoring a weekend Nov. 14 to 16, at Maple Lake Resort and Conference Centre in Parry Sound. It will feature a traditional Shabbat, guest speaker Dr. Aaron Nussbaum, recreational facilities before and after Shabbat, and all meals and snacks. Anyone single or married, who may be preparing for or has completed conversion to Judaism as well as their partners and children are invited. Some subsidies are available.

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Greater Toronto Area

Schochet to help fight against cults, drugs

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto's Jewish community has a new full-time resource person to try to help stem the tides of cults and drugs.

Rena Schochet already has 18 cases on her roster, about a third of which involve Jews in cults.

Schochet stresses, however, that she doesn't work directly with the victims. Rather, she "empowers" family members and other loved ones to enable them to deal with the problem.

Schochet is setting up an office here of Torah Life and Living, a Florida-based outreach group that has offered American Jews anti-cult and drug counselling for a decade.

Apart from running the toll-free National Anti-Missionary and Cult Hotline, Torah Life and Living's executive director, Aaron Schwartzbaum, travels anywhere he's needed in North America to help bring Jews who have fallen in with a cult back into the Jewish fold.

Schochet, a soft-spoken grandmother of four, said she sees her role as being more of a reference point, and sees herself as someone who can help families of victims not only cope, but solve the problem.

"I'm really a resource person who's qualified to help family members," she told *The CJN*. "I try to get parents to strengthen one another, and to emotionally bolster them to carry out advice. I'm like an empathetic wall with ears."

She hopes to complement the work of Jews for Judaism and its expert on cults, especially those on college campuses, Rabbi Michael Skobac.

She also gets calls from Jewish families whose children are interdating, and from people who are just lonely. But the calls so far are mainly about drug use and from people whose children or spouses have joined a cult.

Several U.S. studies have found a disproportionate number of Jews drawn to cults and Schochet says there's no reason to believe it's different in Canada.

According to Torah Life and Living, it's estimated there are between 300 and 400 cults and cult-like groups in the United States and many have operations in this country. They range from the obvious to the more subtle, like white-collar organizations specializing in pyramid marketing schemes that make it difficult, if not impossible, to quit.

And studies have also found that Jewish families are not immune from illicit drug use.

Schochet, the wife of Rabbi Avi Schochet, principal at Eitz Chaim Day School, is also a facilitator for Jewish Family & Child Service, where she leads a support group for agunot.

She was director for seven years of Ohr Somayach's women's study program and taught high school in Johannesburg for 15 years. As well, she has a Jewish Marriage Education Certificate, counselling brides-to-be on Jewish law within marriage.

Schochet says she'll work one-on-one with any affected family, in a completely non-judgmental way.

If her approach doesn't work, she says, she can refer families to experts for more immediate help.

Funds are being raised for the Toronto office of Torah Life and Living. Schochet can be reached by calling 905-709-6183. Her pager number is 416-375-1611.

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Intrusive or sensitive: striking the right balance

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

The day after the triple suicide bombing on Jerusalem's Ben Yehuda Street, I picked up the phone to place a long-distance call to a total stranger — Vancouver dentist Sherri Wise, believed to be the only Canadian injured in the blast — and ask her what it was like.

As a journalist, I often pose questions I might be too reserved to ask otherwise, but the thought of stirring up Wise's raw emotions so soon after the bombing made me distinctly uncomfortable.

Opinion

It's one thing to seek comments from politicians and spokespeople who field media queries as part of their jobs, or to interview someone after setting up an appointment to do so. It's another to call a hospital room thousands of miles away and speak to someone in whom we've developed a sudden interest because of their involvement in a tragedy.

Had Wise been a friend of mine, I would have called to find out how she was and offer support. I wouldn't have dreamed of asking what exactly she remembered of the circumstances surrounding the blast.

As a journalist, I wouldn't think of not asking that question — and similarly intrusive ones.

I don't see my opposing instincts as a source of major conflict. I like to think I can be a human being and a journalist at the same time. I try — not always as successfully as I would like — to bring sensitivity to my work.

The day of my interview with Wise, a colleague mentioned hearing a radio talk show caller say she was more upset about Princess Diana's death than about the bombing in Jerusalem because she "knew" Diana through so many media reports.

I hope that caller saw Wise on a television newscast that Friday night or read about her in one of the daily newspapers that weekend. (I suspect she doesn't read *The CJN*.)

By allowing us to let readers and viewers "know" her, even just a little, Wise helped people understand an event to which perhaps they felt they had no connection.

Speaking with her, I was struck by how "together" she seemed. I admired her fortitude in dealing with a traumatic situation and I appreciated her candor as she shared her thoughts.

I found myself rendered inarticulate at some of her recollections. The thought of her having the wherewithal to hunt for her purse so that no one would find her identification and wonder about her fate, still moves me.

I didn't know what to say. It didn't help that part of me was engrossed in recording her words as accurately as possible.

There's been a lot of media introspection in the weeks following Princess Diana's untimely death. How intrusive do we have a right to be? Do we sensationalize stories?

Sherri Wise

Do we cross boundaries we shouldn't? How do we balance the public's right to know with an interview subject's right to privacy?

Readers have every right to expect accurate, balanced, sensitive reporting. Reporters have an obligation to be accountable. In the last few weeks, we've been held to a higher standard, not an unfamiliar one at *The CJN*, but one that bears repeating.

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Rabbi Naftoli Friedler

Yeshiva leader dies

VAUGHAN — An overflow crowd at Ner Israel Yeshiva paid tribute to Rabbi Naftoli Friedler who died recently at age 76.

Rabbi Friedler, author of two books on the Talmud as well as others which are being prepared for publication, was rosh yeshivah at Ner Israel from 1971 to 1988.

He spent 25 years as rosh yeshivah of the Rav Samson Raphael Hirsch School (Breuer's) in New York, before coming to Ner Israel.

Rabbi Gavriel Ginsberg, current rosh yeshivah at Ner Israel, said that learning and "disseminating Torah was [Rabbi Friedler's] sole purpose in life."

Guest speaker, Dr. Shea Werzberger, a pediatrician in New York, said that Rabbi Friedler was his mentor, first at Ner Israel and more recently in Monsey, where he attended Rabbi Friedler's daily lectures for nine years.

Rabbi Uri Mayerfeld, a lecturer at Ner Israel and son-in-law to Rabbi Friedler spoke of his father-in-law's "unflinching quest for truth."

Rabbi Friedler leaves his wife Judith, eight children, as well as his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Shaping the Future

The sun was shining and there was a sense of excitement and anticipation at the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care on the morning of August 28, 1997.

Over three hundred Baycrest donors, dignitaries, residents and staff attended the special groundbreaking ceremony for the new Apotex Centre, Jewish Home for the Aged, and The Centre for Cognitive Disorders.

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The Campaign was a success, but your support remains vitally important to meet the needs of our growing seniors population.

Baycrest Centre
for Geriatric Care

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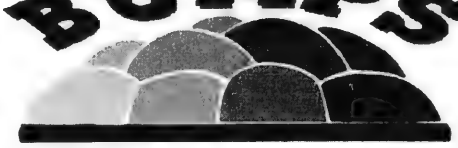
in the road of life
... but not all of them are bad bumps. With Rosh Hashanah fast approaching, now is the time to celebrate all the *good* bumps — like baby dimples, birthday bumps and the many delicious bumps in Alan Cherry's challah. One soothing taste will "put all right" in your world as you usher in the New Year.
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Hazelton Lanes: 55 Avenue Rd. at Yorkville 968-8850

Kolel offers holiday program for unaffiliated community

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning has created a unique learning experience to introduce unaffiliated members of the community to liberal, egalitarian prayer.

Kolel director Rabbi Elyse Goldstein and Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz, the newly hired assistant director, will be co-leading participatory educational services, which will be held at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) during the upcoming High Holidays.

Music on the second day of Rosh Hashanah and the afternoon of Yom Kippur will be provided by children's entertainers, Judy and David.

The Neila service will include a communal vegetarian meal to break the fast. Full day-care services with Judaic activities will also be available .

Rabbi Goldstein told *The CJN* in a recent interview that she was "really excited" to be offering this educational liberal High Holiday service, a first for the Reform movement. The service has "the blessings of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism (CCRJ)."

Endorsed by CCRJ

This High Holiday service format — it falls within Kolel's mandate to provide liberal education programs as well as outreach to unaffiliated Jews — underscores Kolel's role as a trail-blazer within the Reform movement, she said.

"We don't know of anyone in any other Reform community in North America that has High Holiday services that are specifically educational and specifically outreach. We feel proud to be in the forefront."

The centre was the first liberal Jewish educational centre to be established in North America, she said. "Six years ago it was revolutionary for the Reform movement to have an outreach institution" geared to "Jews who are just entering or re-entering Jewish life."

According to Rabbi Goldstein the impetus for the special High Holiday services came from Kolel's program advisory committee, made up of its students, who for years had requested this kind of educational service. She was unable to comply until Rabbi Schwartz joined Kolel's staff, she said. "Having a second rabbi made it possible to take on this kind of project."

It was "really important" that the CCRJ has publicly endorsed the services, she said. "[The Reform rabbis] see it as an entrance point into the liberal Jewish world and then perhaps on to a synagogue and greater communal involvement."

In fact, the purchase price of the ticket, which is tax deductible, can be applied as credit toward annual membership fees for most of the Reform congregations in the Greater Toronto Area, she added.

Many of Kolel's students, are in the midst of studying as they will be reading Torah and Haftorah portions at the services; Rabbi Goldstein made 22 tapes for those participants who need audio assistance to learn to chant their Torah portions, she said.

"It took the entire month of August to help [with the planning]. That's my role as the rosh yeshivah. My job is to teach. I saw that as a part of teaching."

She noted that many people involved in the service are unaffiliated and "felt very honored to be invited to take leadership roles...In larger congregations they would not have the same opportunity for leadership."

The service, which Rabbi Goldstein called "eclectic," will incorporate traditional liturgy as well as creative readings and meditations; and offer text study, explanations and explorations into the history and structure of prayers, melodies and Torah portions, she said.

Sales of the tickets have been brisk Rabbi Goldstein said. "It was a heartening response...We didn't know how people would respond. Everyday we are calling the chair company to add another 100 chairs to our order."

To reserve tickets call the Kolel office at 905-764-1329. Tickets can also be purchased at the BJC on Sept. 28 10 a.m to 8 p.m and Sept. 29 and 30 5 to 8 p.m. The Zuckerman Charitable foundation has made a limited number of pay-what-you-can seats available to those who cannot afford the full price.

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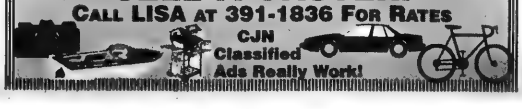
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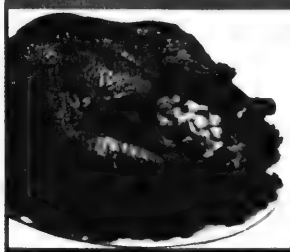

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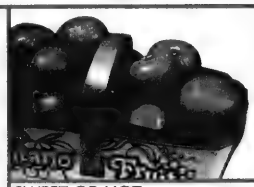

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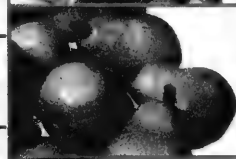

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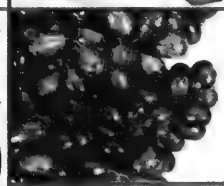

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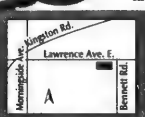

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If yes, one spot_____ two spots_____

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CJC helps make Israel a reality for teens

TORONTO — Many of the 23 Jewish teenagers from Ontario small communities cried at the Kotel, on their final night together in Israel.

It was "not only because we were going to miss each other, but because we had become attached to the country itself, its spirit and spirituality," said Leanne Rosen, coordinator of the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region's High School Outreach Program.

"They had become closer and more unified, not only as a group of youngsters sharing similar experiences living in smaller centres, but unified Jewishly," said Rosen after the youngsters returned home following a five-week summer study tour of Israel. The trip was the culmination of a three-year educational program under the auspices of CJC's small communities and youth activities department.

Jennifer Turack, the department's director who also accompanied the group to Israel, said, "It was wonderful to see how they absorbed the flavor and history of the country, and embraced their heritage."

The Canada-Israel Experience Centre organized the itinerary and provided support services for the tour. UIA Canada provided some financial support.

"Everyone goes to Israel with certain expectations," said Rosen who was making her first trip there. "What amazed me was that not only were all of my expectations met, but in most cases, my experiences were better than I ever could have dreamed or imagined."

Leah Kilberg, 15, of Guelph said that she was "overwhelmed" by the visit to Israel. "Usually when you go away, you get homesick after a while. But in Israel, it was like going home. I hope to move there one day."

Stephen Weir, 15, of Timmins also did not expect "Israel and Israelis to be a lot like Canada and Canadians in so many ways, despite its ancient culture and history."

As part of a pre-Sabbath program in Jerusalem, the group went to Machane Yehuda market." It was like nothing I ever experienced before with its hustle and bustle, variety of food and people," said Rosen.

When the group returned to Jerusalem during its final week in Israel, Kilberg said that they "found it very hard to be restricted. We understood the need for precautions [after the bombing], but we saw from our windows Israelis going about their every day life."

A positive experience for the Ontario teenagers was the five days spent on an army base in Sde Boker learning about the IDF.

On Campus

Jewish Campus Services gets new staffers

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two of the newest staffers at Jewish Campus Services (JCS) of Greater Toronto, Stephanie Wener, 22, and Barbara Friedman 25, are delighted to be working at jobs they love.

The two women are part of Hillel International's Jewish Campus Service Corps, which sponsors 77 one-year fellowships across North America.

Wener, a new graduate of McGill University with a BA in Psychology, divides her time between the University of Toronto, where she is an "engagement" worker (a position formerly known as outreach worker) and Ryerson Polytechnic University, where she is Hillel program coordinator.

Friedman, who was born in New Jersey and raised in Toronto, is based at York University, where she earned a combined BA/BEd. Her portfolio includes engagement work, UJA on Campus and liaison with UJA Federation's York Region office.

Ironically, neither Wener nor Friedman was involved in Jewish campus life as a student. Wener, a native of Montreal, did attend a Hillel coffee house once. "It was nice. I had a good time, but no one approached me. I probably would have been a very easy recruit."

As a student, Friedman found the Jewish Student Federation (JSF) "cliquish. No one approached me.

Stephanie Wener

I could have been the prime student [to become involved]."

Of course, she added, the JSF was different then.

The fellows were both youth advisers in university – Wener for B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO) – where she also served as a chapter president and a regional vice-president. Friedman for United Synagogue Youth at Shaar Shalom Synagogue. She now works part-time at Beth Tikvah Synagogue as youth coordinator.

After moving to Toronto following her graduation last April, Wener sought work in the Jewish community here. "Even as a B'nai Brith [Youth] member, I loved the work.

At U of T, Wener is focusing on outreach to graduate students and resident students. She is especially familiar with concerns of the latter group, "being away from home and trying to orient myself to the city," and has an affinity with the former, many of whom, like her, recently completed an undergraduate degree.

At Ryerson, she replaces Tami Sitcoff, who also had responsibility for Seneca Hillel. (Rabbi Michael Skobac of JCS is now the Seneca Hillel staffer.)

Although Wener does engagement work at Ryerson, much of her work there involves raising awareness of Hillel.

While Ryerson supposedly has the fifth-largest Jewish student population in Canada, with an estimated 1,200 Jewish students, its Jewish population is decidedly low-profile. Their facilities consist only of a broom closet-sized shared office and a room rented for a weekly open house. Their mailing list has 200 names, with more anticipated as the year progresses.

Upcoming events include building an on-campus sukkah. Earlier this week, Steve Paikin of TVOntario was scheduled to speak on Journalism and Judaism.

For Friedman, who returned this summer from a year in Israel where she took part in the World Union of Jewish Students program in Arad and took a teacher training course in Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem, a conversation at York last week reinforced what the fellowship is all about.

An Israeli student told Friedman she hadn't met any other Israelis at York.

"I said, 'You've got to be kidding me. There's tons of Israelis here. Let's plan something, maybe a social evening, for Israelis.'

"Now," Friedman told *The CJN*, "not only will she have a community, we have someone who's involved. It's great. It's the perfect job. I love it."

Former *CJN* intern Simone Joseph, seated, and reporter Frances Kraft talk to Ryerson students about the paper at a Jewish Campus Services partners' fair last week. [Ron Csillag photo]

Barbara Friedman

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By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

What's New and About People holiday deadlines:

Friday, Sept. 26 – deadline for Oct. 9 issue.

Monday, Oct. 6 – deadline for Oct. 15 issue.

Friday, Oct. 10 (until 2:30 p.m.) – deadline for Oct. 22 issue.

Monday, Oct. 20 – deadline for Oct. 30 issue.

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Sept. 25

GENETIC TESTING

The Ambassadors of the Weizmann Institute of Science, a young leadership group, lecture on Genetic Testing for Human Disease: Lots of Questions – What Are the Answers? by **Dr. David Malkin** and **Prof. Mary Rowell**. $10. Reserve. **Edie Bayer** 733-9220.

Saturday, Sept. 27

SELICHOT

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto: address 12:15 a.m. by **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz** on The Other Torah – The One We Often Overlook. Service follows with a comprehensive explanation of the prayers by **Rabbi Mordechai Yaffe**, 613 Clark Ave. W. Thornhill.

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue: panel discussion 9:15 p.m. on Jewish Education and Jewish Continuity, Making the Dream Happen, panelists **Elaine Todres, Alex Pomson, Rabbi Joseph Kelman**, moderator **Rabbi Barry Schneider**. Services at midnight.

Adath Israel Congregation: annual Sidney and Tillie Colt Memorial Lecture 9:30 p.m. on The Thunder of Prayer: A Bang or a Whisper with **Rachel Turkienicz**. Question period, refreshments 10:30 p.m. Service and dedication of memorial plaques 11 p.m., **Rabbi Steven Saltzman, Cantor A. Eliezer Kirshblum,** choir.

Beth Tzedec Congregation: Refreshments 9:30 p.m., trialogue 10:15 p.m., the Pearl Gertrude Brody Annual Memorial Lecture, What Happens After I Die?, **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, Canon Milton Barry**, Grace Church on the Hill; **Prof. Suwanda Sugunasiri**, Bhuddist scholar, University of Toronto. Service at midnight, **Cantor Paul Kowarsky**, choir.

Downtown Reform Minyan: Shabbat service and Torah study 10 a.m. led by **Rabbi Ariel Friedlander** of Holy Blossom Temple, Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Room 204. At 9 p.m., in the Wallin Lounge, High Holy Day music learning workshop with **Arlene Turner** and **Rich Glauber** followed by Selichot service. **Shelly** 469-4287.

MAZON FUNDRAISER

Lounge Night, Mingle Productions fundraiser for the university crowd, co-sponsored by CHRY 105.5 FM, the York campus radio station, 9 p.m. Taboo Wine Bar and Grill, 2345 Yonge St. $8. Funds go to Mazon Canada.Ticketmaster 870-8000. Information 905-709-6438.

Sunday, Sept. 28

CULINARY CLASS

Beth Tikvah Synagogue low fat cooking classes revolving around Jewish holidays start with Rosh Hashanah sweet goodies, 4 p.m. Classes are dairy or pareve, supervised by **Rabbi Wayne Allen**. $20 per class, $145 for 9 classes. Preregister 221-3433, ext. 0.

REMEMBRANCE PARADE

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, Remembrance Parade and Ceremony to the cenotaph to honor the memory of the 440 Jewish servicemen killed in World War II., at Mount Sinai Cemetery 10 a.m. Government dignitaries and general public welcome. Kiddush following for invited guests.

Monday, Sept. 29

MISSIONARY THREAT

Battle for the Jewish Soul, The Missionary Threat lecture and town hall meeting, **Julius Ciss** and **Rabbi Michael Skobac**, 8p.m., Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Bathurst St. Sponsored by Jews for Judaism. 789-2851.

Tuesday, Sept. 30

ETHICAL TRADITION

The J. Richard and Dorothy

[Cont'd. on page 31]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 30]

Shiff Chair of Jewish Studies inaugural lecture, The Jewish Ethical Tradition in the Modern University with **Prof. David Novak**, chair of Jewish Studies, University of Toronto, 8 p.m., OISE/UT auditorium, 252 Bloor St. W. 978-5301.

And What Else Is New

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

Temple Sinai Scholar-in-Residence weekend, Personal and Communal Perspectives of Tshuvah, with **Prof. David Novak**, director, Jewish Studies Program, University of Toronto. Friday, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m. Shabbat services, Can We Move Toward Jewish Unity in 5758?; Saturday, Sept. 27 (Selichot) 9:30 p.m., Teshuvah – the Personal Road to Return. 487-4161.

LEARNING NON-SERVICE

Free Rosh Hashanah learning non-service, explore the spiritual meaning of the Jewish New Year at Congregation Shaarei Tzedec (the Markham Street Shul), 397 Markham St., Thursday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m.–noon, and Friday, Oct. 3, 10 a.m.–noon, led by **Rabbi Michael Skobac**. Sponsored by Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto. 785-1465.

ORAYNU EVENTS

Rosh Hashanah celebration, Thursday, Oct. 2, 2 p.m., North York Central Library. RSVP **Sarah** 385-3910.

The Kashe Cafe, The History of Anti-Semitism: Pre-Christian Era presentation by **Peter Gilbert** Sunday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m., St. Andrew's Junior High.

DANCE TEACHERS

The International Folk Dance Division of Canadian Dance Teachers' Association (Ontario Branch) eight-session teacher training course with **Teme Kernerman** using Israeli dance repertoire, begins Wednesday, Oct. 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre. $200. Pre-register, deadline Oct. 6. 905-584-2139.

HOLIDAY SEATING

Details about High Holy Day seating at congregations in the Greater Toronto area are available by calling Jewish Information Service, 635-5600. Details include who to contact, type of service, donation expected. Also available via the Internet on Jewish Toronto at [http://www.feduja.org].

SINGING GROUP

Enjoy singing Jewish music, like to have fun? Join Kol Shira Singing Group, under the direction of composer/conductor **Srul Glick** Wednesdays at 8 p.m. at Beth Tikvah Synagogue. 221-3433.

JVS PAST CLIENTS

Jewish Vocational Service is trying to locate clients who were served by the agency since it opened in 1947 to assist in 50th anniversary celebrations. At its annual general meeting, Tuesday, Oct. 14, 6 p.m. at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, JVS would like some past clients and their families to discuss how JVS had an impact on their lives. **Joy Levy**, 787-1151, ext. 244.

CHALLENGE OF ANGER

Jewish Family & Child Service group, The Challenge of Anger: For Women, will help women express anger in an effective, assertive and non-aggressive way. Daytime and evening groups begin in October. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

ISRAELI FOLKDANCING

Israeli folkdancing with **Teme Kernerman**, Thursdays at Leah Posluns Studio Theatre, basic beginners class 8 p.m., intermediate 9 p.m. 636-1880, ext. 364.

BOWLING LEAGUES

Bowling leagues looking for new members:

Judean Bowling League, 5-pin, male and female, young and old, Sundays 10:15 a.m., York Bowl, 545 Wilson Ave. **Sid** 222-7828.

Couples league, every other Saturday evening. **Harvey** 223-0780 or **Lorne** 905-764-6310.

Seniors social league, 5-pin, couples, singles. 223-0082.

ISRAELI SONGS, DANCE

Children of all ages are welcome to join in Israeli songs and dance Sundays 11:15 a.m., starting Oct. 12, at Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Bring your bubbies and zaydes. Admission $1 per child. Sponsored by Canadian Zionist Federation, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. 905-881-6340.

JEWISH ANTHOLOGY

Jerusalem journalists **Michele Chabin** and **Rikki Horowitz** are seeking true-life Jewish stories and anecdotes for an anthology they are compiling, tentatively titled *The Jewish Heart* . Send submissions , from 300– 3,000 words, to P.O.B. 8800, Jerusalem, Israel 91086 or e-mail to[michele@netmedia. net. il]

JF & CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Looking Ahead (feelings, loneliness, new relationships) begins Oct. 21; Step-Parenting: Coping with His, Hers and Mine, begins Oct. 29; The Self-Confident Woman begins Oct. 14. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting, Thursday, Sept. 25, 9:30 a.m. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Reta Deunisch-Turner** speaks on How We Can Make Advocacy Work For Us. Lucky door prize. Everyoner welcome. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Join the Creative Writing class for seniors at the **Wagman Centre**, in conjunction with North York Board of Education, Mondays 10 a.m.–noon. Instructor **Sylvia Warsh**. Register Sept. 29 at the centre, 55 Ameer Ave. 10 classes $35 for North York residents. Seniors whose first language is not English are welcome. 491-0682.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Election of officers Monday, Sept. 29, 1 p.m., Community Centre; Sunday dance Sept. 28, 7:30-10:30 p.m.; seminar on ABCs of Fraud, Oct. 4, 10 a.m.; Thornhill Square, Oct. 6; Washington and Atlantic City Oct. 26-31; shopping in Buffalo Nov. 5; Square One Shopping Centre Nov. 19. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning – Nov. 3, movie video, *Mr. Holland's Opus* ; Nov. 10, opening musical luncheon, entertainers **Ivory** and **Silver. Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club is taking registration for 1998 Miami trip. **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

North York Board of Education Continuing Education 10-week sculpture course (soapstone, alabaster), Tuesdays 12:30-2:30 p.m. starting Sept. 30, $70. North York seniors $35 or Learning Card. 395-5036 or 395-5041.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-a-long, dances, bingo. Sept. 30 is a free evening. **Anna**.

Movie, *Michael* , Sunday, Sept. 28, 2:30 p.m.

Dance to music of Creative Band Sunday, Sept. 28, 7:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Jewish Women's Cabaret hosted by **Libby Scheier** and **Kate Lushington** and featuring multi-talented women writers and performers, Thursday, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m.

Books and Bagels with **Matt Cohen** reading from his latest book. *Last Seen* , Sunday, Sept. 28, 11 a.m. Non-members $8.

Bizaare Autumn Af-Fair Art and Craft Show, Sunday, Sept. 28, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Future Jobs in the Future Workplace, **Sandy Vale,** outplacement counsellor with expertise in job search techniques, Tuesday, Sept. 30, 7:30 p.m.

Seniors Club, *Jazz Singer* with **Danny Thomas** and **Peggy Lee**, 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 25. **Judy**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Learning Experiences program presents **Yoram Rosias** in The Joy of Relaxation, Tuesday, Oct. 7, 1-2:30 p.m. Non-members $2.

Senior Adult Services courses co-sponsored by North York Board of Education Continuing Education, starting the week of Sept. 29: Bridge, Yoga, Tai Chi, Hebrew. **Yvonne** ext. 259.

Senior Adult Services opening luncheon Tuesday, Oct. 14. Entertainment by **Jack Garson,** members $6, non-members $8. Tickets at Information Desk. **Teme** ext. 364.

Break the Fast 10K and 15K Run, Sunday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m. **Grant** ext. 374.

ABOUT PEOPLE

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Bialik Hebrew Day School announces the first recipients of the Marina Goldfarb Memorial Scholarship. **Elisha Usher** and **Shira Spring**, recent Bialik graduates, will be spending the next year studying in Israel. The scholarships are awarded yearly to graduates of Bialik who wish to further their studies in Israel.

Barbara Friedman

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Beth Tikvah Synagogue welcomes **Barbara Friedman** as the new youth coordinator. As a recent graduate of York University (Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education) and former Conservative synagogue youth advisor, Friedman has the knowledge and experience to provide the leadership needed to administer fun-filled and stimulating programs for Shabbat, Kadimah and USY participants

NIF NEW DIRECTOR

Minda Davis has joined the New Israel Fund of Canada as its director. She was most recently a vice-president with Canada Life Assurance Company where she gained extensive experience in corporate and strategic planning, communications and organizational change and development. She also directed the company's initiative to increase the number of women at senior levels of government.

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FOOD IDEAS FOR

Rosh Hashanah

Holiday dishes can be fast and easy

By EILEEN GOLTZ
Special to The CJN

The holidays are fast approaching. Those of us who do the plans for *all* the meals are starting to get into panic mode. Rosh Hashanah is just over the horizon and even though it's "late" this year, it doesn't mean that we actually have any more time than any other year to get ready. No matter how much time we think we have, it's never enough.

I for one haven't begun to plan, invite, shop, or even clean the house. If your days are like mine, you'll think you have enough time to prepare fabulous meals but end up driving yourself nuts and vowing not to do the same thing next year (we never learn). So, with this thought in mind, I decided that for the main dishes this Rosh Hashanah (and the Shabbat that immediately follows) I would make dishes that are *easy* and *fast*.

Yes, I said easy and fast. They will also be so delicious that everyone will rave. Best of all you'll be able to prepare these dishes ahead of time. What more could you ask for? Oh, you're asking for low fat and different? OK, we can do that too by sticking with chicken and turkey.

CHICKEN WITH CARAMELIZED ONION AND GARLIC

4 bone-in split chicken breasts, skin removed
1 tbsp. olive oil
2 medium onions, sliced
6 cloves garlic, minced
1/3 cup brown sugar
2 tbsp. kosher white wine vinegar

Rinse chicken with cold water and pat dry with paper towels. Preheat oven to 450. Spray 12 x 8-inch baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Heat oil in medium nonstick skillet over medium-low heat. Add onion and garlic, mix well. Cook and stir 6 to 8 minutes or until soft. Stir in sugar and vinegar until dissolved. Cook and stir 7 to 9 minutes or until liquid evaporates. Remove from heat.

Place chicken, bone side down, in baking dish. Spread onion mixture evenly over chicken. Cover loosely with foil. Bake for 25 minutes or until chicken is done.

This recipe can be doubled or tripled. Serves 4. This can be cooked for 20 minutes and then reheated for 15 minutes at 375 and then served.

ORANGE PINEAPPLE CHICKEN STIR-FRY

4 boneless skinless chicken breasts
1 clove garlic, minced
1 medium onion, sliced in rings
1 pkg. (6 oz.) frozen snow pea pods
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1/2 tsp. ginger
1 can (14 oz.) pineapple tidbits in juice, drained
2 tbsp. cornstarch
1/2 cup chicken broth, divided
1 can (11 oz.) mandarin orange slices, drained

Rinse chicken with cold water and pat dry with paper towels. Cut into thin slices. Preheat heavy fry pan (or wok) about 3 minutes over medium-high heat, spray with nonstick spray. Add chicken breast strips and minced garlic and stir-fry about 3 minutes.

Increase heat to high and add onion and snow pea pods, stir-frying about 3 minutes. Add salt, pepper, ginger and pineapple, continuing to stir-fry about 3 minutes more. (If you're preparing this ahead of time stop at this point and refrigerate the chicken and vegetables. Just before you want to serve continue by putting the chicken and vegetables into a skillet.)

In small bowl, mix cornstarch with 2 tablespoons of the chicken broth, stirring until smooth. Slowly add remaining broth, stirring constantly. Add broth to mixture in fry pan, stirring gently to mix evenly. Add mandarin oranges and heat only until hot through, about 2 minutes, stirring gently to keep orange sections from breaking. Makes 4 servings.

This can be doubled or tripled. Sprinkle with rice noodles, chow mein noodles or fried flat noodles if you like.

BAKED CHICKEN WITH CIDER AND APPLES

2 chickens (2 1/2 to 3 lbs. each) quartered
2 cups apple cider
1 cup flour
1 tbsp. ground ginger
2 tsp. ground cinnamon
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
3 tbsp. brown sugar
1/3 cup apple liquor
2 apples, cored and cut into thin wedges

One day before preparing, place the chicken pieces in a shallow dish. Pour the cider over the chicken and marinate overnight in the refrigerator, turning the pieces occasionally (sometimes I only have time to marinate for a couple of hours and that's OK).

When ready to cook, preheat the oven to 350. Remove the chicken from the cider but reserve the cider. In a large bowl, mix the flour, ginger, cinnamon, and salt and pepper to taste. Dredge the chicken with the flour mixture and place skin side up in a shallow baking pan. Bake the chicken, uncovered for 30 minutes.

Meanwhile combine the reserved cider, the brown sugar, apple liquor, and apple slices in a bowl. Add the remaining marinade and then pour the mixture over the chicken and bake 25 minutes more, basting occasionally with the pan juices. Serves 8.

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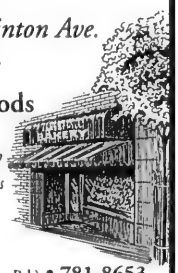
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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Cookbook helps tackle the last minute rush

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

You know the drill. You make plans to prepare everything for the holy days long in advance. Lists detail how you will make a kugel a night for three nights, make double of your chicken recipes and make at least one pastry recipe every other day.

At the same time, because you are only making one or two extra things every day, you will still give your family tasty, nutritious meals.

Then reality hits. You find yourself making three kugels on Monday night, two cakes and a chicken dish on Tuesday, and stuffing the kids with more pizza than even they can tolerate.

Fortunately, a new cookbook has appeared that can help – Monda Rosenberg's *Quickies: ten quick ways with everyday foods* (Chatelaine Food Express, McClelland & Stewart, 1997).

Not only is it full of quick, easy recipes, made of ingredients that you probably have in your cupboard, but the techniques are mostly just one or two steps. There is considerable use of the microwave, which means dinner is on the table before your husband has finished the bag of potato chips.

The book is arranged alphabetically by main ingredient (apples, bananas, cranberries, noodles, olives, pumpkin, rice, sweet potatoes, tofu, zucchini). Many sections start with a page of quick suggestions. "Burgers," for instance starts with recipes for the ultimate BBQ Burger, sassy salsa burger and oriental sesame burger, followed by a page of toppings – onion and garlic; tex-mex, a mixture of barbecue sauce and salsa; and Spanish sauce, made with chili or salsa, olives, Spanish onion and crushed garlic.

That is not to say that you won't find quick ideas for Rosh Hashanah. What could be wrong with Harvard beets, lemon tarragon rice or chicken breasts with sage and peaches? Or a salad made with peaches, walnuts and lettuce, tossed with a mayonnaise and orange juice dressing?

HARVARD BEETS

In a saucepan, stir 1/4 cup brown sugar, with 1 tbsp. cornstarch, 1/4 tsp. dry mustard, 1/4 tsp. salt and generous pinches of ginger and pepper.

Stir in 2 tbsp. lemon juice or vinegar and 1½ cups diced cooked or canned beets.

Stir over medium heat until thick, about 3 min. Continue stirring often for five more minutes. Serves 4.

CURRIED ONIONS AND POTATOES

In a 10-cup casserole dish, stir 2 tbsp. melted butter with 2 tbsp. hot water, 1 tbsp. curry powder and pinches of garlic powder and pepper.

Stir in 6 small halved onions and 6 small quartered potatoes.

Cover, bake at 350 for 45 minutes. Stir occasionally.

Stir in 1 cup sour cream. Great with fish. Serves 4.

MICROWAVE BERRY RHUBARB CRISP

Place 3 cups chopped rhubarb in an 8-cup microwave-safe dish with 425gram package thawed frozen strawberries and juice.

Blend 1/4 cup sugar with 2 tsp. cornstarch. Stir into fruit.

Microwave, covered, on high, 5 min. Stir well.

Combine 1/4 cup chilled butter or pareve margarine with 1/4 cup brown sugar, 1/3 cup rolled oats, 1/3 cup all-purpose flour and 1½ tsp. cinnamon until crumbly. Sprinkle over fruit.

Microwave, uncovered, on medium, 10 min. Let stand, 5 min. Serves 6.

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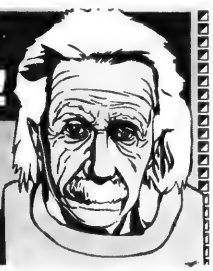

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

'People-friendly' cookbook offers helpful tips

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Some of my favorite cookbooks are produced by women's organizations, auxiliaries, or charities. Not only do they tend to have recipes that are, for want of a better word, "people friendly," in both taste and preparation, but they give an insight into the mindset of those a lot like you or me – only divided by distance.

Check out *Beyond Chicken Soup: a collection of contemporary and traditional food favorites*, prepared by the Jewish Home Auxiliary in Rochester New York. It is one of the best to appear in recent years.

While you will certainly find here the old favorites, like lentil barley soup, tzimmes, compote, roast brisket and poppy seed cake, you will also find chicken cooked with eggplant or with artichokes and mushrooms, lemon layered Alaska pie, tomato risotto and ratatouille pie.

All recipes indicate whether they are meat, dairy or pareve, although many are easily converted. Preparation and cooking times are noted, as are the proper size of pot, storage information and special notes.

The index is excellent, a characteristic that is not always present in cookbooks such as this.

Beyond Chicken Soup is available at Jewish book stores.

CURRIED CHICKEN SOUP WITH SPROUTS

4 tbsp. pareve margarine
1 onion, chopped
1 cup celery, with leaves, thinly sliced
1 apple, peeled, cored and chopped
1/4 cup flour
4 cups chicken broth
1/2 tsp. curry powder
2 cups cooked chicken, diced
1 cup bean sprouts
salt and pepper to taste

Melt margarine. Saute onion, celery and apple for five minutes, or until tender. Stir in flour. Gradually stir in broth and curry powder. Bring to a boil.

Add chicken and sprouts. Reduce heat, simmer 5 minutes. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serves 6

GLAZED CARROTS AND APPLES

4 tbsp. margarine
2 tbsp. water
1 1/2 cups baby carrots, cut in half lengthwise
1 1/2 cups pared and thinly sliced apples
1 tbsp. brown sugar
1/4 tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. nutmeg
1/8 tsp. dried marjoram

Melt margarine in skillet. Add water and carrots. Cover and cook over low heat for 20 min. Add apples and sprinkle with brown sugar, salt, nutmeg and marjoram. Cover and cook until apples are tender, approximately 5 min. Serves 4.

'90s CARROT-APRICOT CAKE

3 cups flour
2 tsp. baking soda
2 tsp. baking powder
2 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ground mace
1/4 tsp. ground allspice
1 cup sugar
1/4 tsp. salt
1/2 cup oil
1 cup applesauce
5 egg whites
1 tsp. vanilla
3 cups shredded carrots
1 cup raisins
1 cup chopped walnuts
1 cup chopped dried apricots

In a large bowl, sift flour together with baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon, mace, allspice, sugar and salt.

In a medium bowl, mix oil, applesauce, egg whites and vanilla. Add carrots, raisins, walnuts and apricots. Blend well and add to flour mixture.

Pour batter into lightly greased 10 x 3 1/2 inch Bunt pan. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the centre of the cake comes out clean, about 1 1/2 hrs. Serves 12 to 16.

This next recipe is great for the busy cook – simply make it in the evening and take it out of the oven the next morning:

FORGOTTEN COOKIES

2 egg whites
1/4 cup sugar
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350.

Beat egg whites and sugar until shiny. Stir in chocolate chips and pecans. Drop about 2 tsp. of batter for each cookie onto greased cookie sheets, approximately 1 inch apart. Place in oven. TURN OVEN OFF. Do not open for 8 hours. Store in covered container. Makes 36 cookies.

CHICKEN ROLL UPS

2 boneless skinless chicken breasts, split in half
1/2 lb. pastrami
2 cups seasoned bread crumbs
1 cup mayonnaise (low fat)
1 cup ketchup
2 tsp. grated horseradish
1 jar duck sauce

Preheat oven to 350. Wash the chicken and dry. In a bowl combine the mayonnaise, ketchup and horseradish. Mix well and then dip the cutlets in the mixture and coat it. Pour the bread crumbs onto a plate and then roll the coated chicken pieces in the bread crumbs, both sides.

Lay the cutlet down flat. Place a piece or two of pastrami on the cutlet and then roll it up. Secure with a toothpick. Place seam side down in a greased 9 x 13 baking dish. Cover all rolled cutlets with duck sauce. Bake for 35 minutes. Serves 4.

This can be doubled or tripled. It can be prepared and baked for 25 minutes and then refrigerated until ready to prepare. To serve, cook an additional 15 to 20 minutes.

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שנה טובה

Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Creating vegetarian, dairy-free holiday menus

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

There is a saying that when things get tough, the tough get going. Francine Teller, a former critical care nurse, must be very tough indeed.

When she faced difficulties in her private and professional lives, she didn't succumb to despair; she decided to open her own business, Just Eat It, catering low fat, vegetarian, dairy-free menus.

The idea came to her, she says, because she realized that she herself had to eat a more healthy diet. As a nurse, "I knew what I should eat."

Her diet, heavy on beans, vegetables and grains, not only helps those with illnesses and food allergies and sensitivities, but, she says, helps people deal with stress as well.

"You feel more energized, more able to think clearly," she says.

As well, legumes, especially soy and broccoli, have been proven to lower the risk of colon cancer, and improve the immune system.

While she does not use organically grown fruits and vegetables, except by special request, all produce is washed in filtered water and a solution of three per cent hydrogen peroxide to remove all traces of pesticides.

She does not use curries or other exotic spices, but sticks to fresh "North American style" herbs, such as onions and garlic.

Teller is careful to point out that while the food is prepared in her own strictly kosher kitchen, she is not under kashruth supervision.

She offers her clients two weeks worth of menus at a time. Customers must order by Thursday for delivery the following Monday afternoon. All shopping, cooking and cleaning up are done on Friday, after Shabbat and on Sundays.

"Sometimes we are even finishing a dish on Monday morning," she says with a sigh.

Teller shares a few of her *meichels* with *The CJN* readers:

PASTA WITH WILD MUSHROOM RAGOUT

1 tbsp. organic cold pressed olive oil
1 each medium yellow onion, red pepper and yellow pepper, diced in half inch dice
1 tbsp. minced garlic
4 portabella mushrooms, destemmed, gills scraped off and sliced into 1/4 inch slices, or 1 lb. shitake mushrooms or other mushrooms
1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper
2 bay leaves
1 tbsp. oregano leaves
1 bunch fresh basil, chopped
3/4 cup sundried tomatoes, chopped coarse
4 vine ripe tomatoes, diced
1 can organic tomato puree
12 oz. pkg. whole wheat rotini or other pasta favorites
2 qts. distilled water or pure water

Heat olive oil. Add onions, peppers, and garlic and saute. Add mushrooms, cayenne and herbs. Continue to simmer until tender. Add tomato products and simmer 30-45 min. to incorporate all the flavors.

Bring water to a boil. Add pasta and cook 6-8 min., or until al dente. Strain pasta and serve with mushroom ragout. Serves 4.

For an added touch, sprinkle pasta with soy parmesan cheese.

OVEN FRIED SWEET POTATO SPEARS

4 medium sweet potatoes, unpeeled
1/4 cup organic cold pressed olive oil
1 tsp. minced garlic
2 tsp. fresh chopped thyme and rosemary
2 tsp. fresh chopped basil or oregano

Preheat oven to 425.

Scrub sweet potatoes under cold running water. Cut in half lengthwise, then cut in wedges 3/4 in. thick.

Whip together olive oil and herb mixture in a blender or in a bowl.

Toss oil mixture with sweet potatoes. Reserve remaining oil, and place potatoes on a sheet pan. Bake for 45 minutes to an hour on the top rack or until tender and a little charred. Serves 4.

For a more carmelized flavor, bake longer, being careful not to burn.

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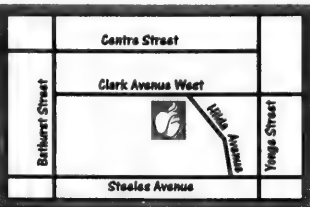

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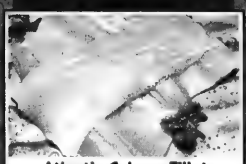

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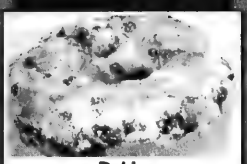

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Variety of new wines available for holiday

Jewish tradition decrees that, during the High Holy Days, we bestow upon one another the blessings for a healthy and prosperous New Year. Along with the synagogue service, the season includes the festive meals that begin with Rosh Hashanah and continue through the Sukkot holidays.

Every cuisine tells a story. The varied Jewish holiday recipes reflect the homelands and culture of the past. The Ashkenazi custom of stuffed cabbage, freshwater fish and chicken prevails in many homes of Russian and eastern European origin. Lamb, eggplant, saltwater fish and olive oil endures in Moroccan and Sephardi cooking.

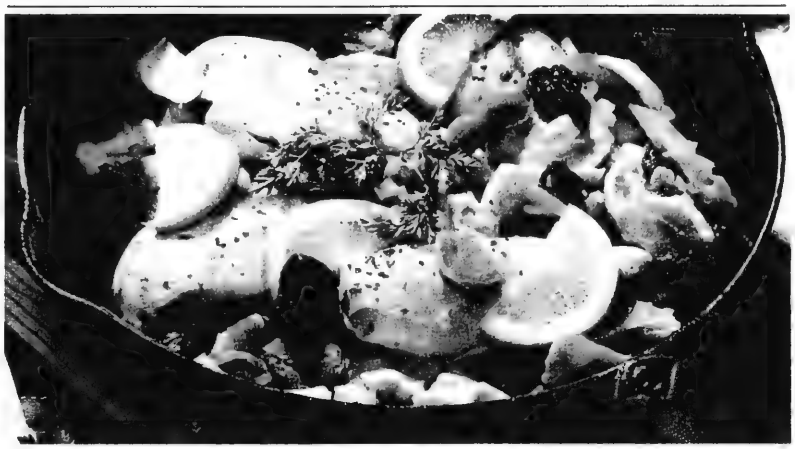
All holiday meals share the traditional partner to food, good wine. We wish a l'chaim for the new year and celebrate with the finest wines available. It's interesting to note that in the French language, the word "chai" translates to mean the barrel-aging facility. In the Bordeaux region of France, virtually all red wines are kept in "chais" where they are stored and aged. In Hebrew, chai means life.

New for the holidays are award-winning kosher wines that are produced and distributed by the Royal Wine Corporation, which is owned and operated by the Herzog family. The Herzogs have built up an enterprise that spans eight generations. This kosher wine-making dynasty traces its roots to Czechoslovakia. Their first winery was started 150 years ago and having survived the Nazi occupation, relocated in New York in 1948. Today, their wines are renown throughout the world. The following are examples of three favorites available in Canada.

A must for your holiday beef, veal or lamb dishes is the Herzog Special Reserve, Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 1994. This "unfiltered" red wine was grown in a unique microclimate, allowing the grapes to ripen evenly due to a balance of crop, canopy and exposure. To enhance and elevate the nuances of the wine, it was aged entirely in new barrels for 12 months. This wine is *mevushal* and consistently wins medals in competition against non-kosher wines. This is truly a great wine.

Also new this year is the first kosher State of Oregon product. The Weinstock Cellars' Pinot Noir was made from Pinot noir grapes grown in the Sweet Cheeks Vineyard of Oregon's famous Willamette Valley – an area known for growing some of the finest Pinot noir grapes. This wine exudes aromas of violet, berry and spice. It will accompany saucy veal and chicken entrees.

And finally, this year is the Baron Herzog Clarksburg Chenin Blanc 1996. This semi-dry, grassy white wine is a perennial gold medal winner. It is intensely fruity, exhibiting aromas of peaches and nectarines. Enjoy it chilled with poultry dishes. It has been described as "The Chenin of the decade."



Chicken with dried fruit from *Quickies* by Monda Rosenberg. See page 33 for review.

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Some holiday recipes available from COR

Every year, the Kashruth Council of Toronto (COR) issues recipes for different holidays – and this high holy day season is no different.

COR reminds you that eruv tavshilin, the rite that allows you to cook on Friday yom tov for the Shabbat, is performed erev Rosh Hashanah (Oct. 1), erev Sukkot (Oct. 15) and erev Shemini Atzeret (Oct. 22).

Here is a sample of this year's recipes. For the whole menu, call the Kosher Information Service, 635-9550.

MARINATED HONEY CHICKEN SUPREME

1 3-4 lb. chicken, in eighths
Marinade:
½ cup honey
½ cup pineapple or orange juice
1 cup ketchup or chili sauce
1 tbsp. soy sauce
2 garlic cloves, crushed

Clean and dry chicken pieces. Mix marinade ingredients together. Pour over chicken. Refrigerate overnight.

Preheat oven to 400. Bake uncovered 1 hr., basting frequently. Serve with couscous, rice or noodles. Serves 4 to 6.

COLORFUL MARINATED VEGETABLES

3 carrots, thinly sliced
3 small zucchini, sliced
½ lb. snow peas, trimmed
1 red pepper, thinly sliced in rings
Marinade:
3 tbsp. kosher balsamic vinegar, **or** 1½ tbsp. white vinegar and 1½ tbsp. semi dry kosher wine
¼ cup vegetable oil
¼ cup extra virgin olive oil
1 tsp. basil, crushed
1 tsp. finely grated lemon rind
2 tbsp. honey
freshly ground black pepper

Place all vegetables in a glass bowl.

Place all marinade ingredients in a jar and shake well to combine or process in blender or food processor. Pour over veggies, toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least one hour. Serves 6.

QUICK, EASY TOMATO SOUP

1 med. onion, finely chopped
1 clove garlic, crushed
1 tbsp. oil
1 28-oz. can plum tomatoes
1½ cups tomato juice
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
¼ cup semi-dry kosher wine
3 tbsp. tomato paste
1 tsp. thyme
1 tsp. basil
¼ tsp. dried dillweed
1 tbsp. sugar
½ tsp. salt
½ tsp. pepper

In a large saucepan, saute the onion and garlic until transparent. Add remaining ingredients and simmer for half an hour. Garnish with chopped, flat parsley.

For dairy, replace tomato juice with milk or light cream, being careful not to bring to a boil. Serves 6 to 8.

Since Worcestershire sauce contains fish, this soup should not be served with meat.

K COR 32

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Food Ideas for Rosh Hashanah

Natural food recipes

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Twenty-eight years ago, Edith Rothschild suffered from crippling arthritis. That is when she decided to "turn my back on medicine and take charge of my own health."

Since then, after much research and reading, she has eaten only foods that are natural and wholesome. She has also spent her time showing others, both formally and informally, that food that is healthy can also be tasty and elegant.

Rothschild comes by her interest in natural food honestly. In the 1920s, her mother, was interested in nutrition and often went to lectures on the subject.

"She used to give me muesli and raw oatmeal," the petite, fit-looking Rothschild told *The CJN* in a recent interview.

Healthy, not boring

Her children don't follow her eating path and her husband – businessman, communal activist and philanthropist Kurt Rothschild – "doesn't have a whole lot of choice," she says with a laugh, but her grandchildren "love my stuff."

Even yom tov recipes don't have to be boring, just because they are healthy. "There is no logical connection between chicken soup and Rosh Hashanah," she said wryly.

Her table is loaded with delicious, elegant offerings like stuffed tomatoes, zucchini boats, creamed soups, quiches, vegetables, salads and great desserts, even if they are low fat, low cholesterol, and sugar-free.

You don't leave the table bloated, she noted.

Agreeing that cooking her way, using a lot of vegetables, beans and rice, takes a lot more time than conventional cooking, she said "you have to be organized and plan ahead. Make lists."

For instance, she said, you can soak beans on Sunday for Monday's supper, and cook a whole bunch of rice at once and put it in baggies in the refrigerator or freezer.

Other suggestions were to get the children to help and use your cleaning help, if you have any, "to prepare vegetables instead of dusting behind the pictures."

She is in the beginning stages of writing a cookbook, with the working title *Cooking for Wellness and Beyond.* Recipes will be low fat, low cholesterol, high quality, natural, kosher, tasty and simple to prepare, she said, joking that her motto for it is "the 8 Fs – fast food for fun and frantic days for frazzled folk."

Here are a few of her recipes perfect for Rosh Hashanah.

YAM CRANBERRY CASSEROLE

4 medium yams, peeled
¼ tsp. sea salt
2 cups fresh cranberries, or one package frozen
1 orange, peeled and chopped fine
1 tsp. orange zest
½ cup pure maple syrup
½ cup water
1 tbsp. arrowroot powder
½ cup pecans or walnuts, chopped (optional)

Preheat oven to 350.

Steam or boil yams until soft.

Meanwhile, prepare cranberry sauce. In a saucepan, combine cranberries, orange pieces and water, and cook on medium heat for about 10 min., or until all cranberries have popped. Add maple syrup and simmer another 5 min., stirring occasionally.

Dissolve arrowroot in 1½-2 tbsp. cold water to form a paste and add to hot cranberry mixture. Bring to the boil, while stirring vigorously until mixture is thickened. Remove from heat and cool.

In a medium bowl, mash the yams, preferably (while still warm) with the salt and orange zest. In an oiled oven-proof serving dish, place half the mashed yams. Cover with a layer of half the cranberry sauce. Add remaining yam mixture, and top with the remaining cranberry sauce. Sprinkle with nuts and bake uncovered in a 350 preheated oven for 25-30 min. Serves 8 or more.

This casserole can be prepared in advance and baked when needed, or finished and reheated covered. It can also be frozen.

PINEAPPLE STRAWBERRY MOUSSE

1 sweet pineapple, peeled and cored
2 tbsp. pure maple syrup
½ cup pecans or cashews, roasted and chopped, or a mix of both.
1 pkg. frozen strawberries

Remove strawberries from package and place in a bowl to defrost (do not defrost in the package). Roast the nuts in the oven (275 degrees) or in a skillet on the stove until they give off that special aroma. Be careful not to burn them.

Slice pineapple into 1-inch rings and cut each ring into 1-inch chunks. Place pineapple into food processor and use the knife blade with a pulsing action until the pineapple forms a mousse. *Do not over-process.* Remove mousse from processor and strain through a sieve. Place drained mousse into a bowl. Reserve liquid for another use.

Process strawberries in the processor with the maple syrup until pureed.

Fill ⅓ of crystal stemmed glasses with pineapple mousse, then sprinkle lightly with a layer of chopped nuts and cover with a layer of strawberry sauce. Repeat layering until glasses are full, ending with strawberry sauce.

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Human rights advocate Matas among NCJW honorees

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Asking a government to protect human rights is "like leaving violators to police themselves," says human rights advocate David Matas.

"While governments everywhere accept human rights, their performances tell a different story. Since the end of World War II, we have seen a revolution in human rights worldwide," Matas says. "But human rights advocates have to remain volunteers and ever vigilant."

The internationally known advocate for refugees, and for the prosecution of Nazi war criminals in Canada, made his comments in accepting a Centennial Community Award from the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Winnipeg section.

He was one of five Winnipeg recipients of Centennial Awards presented by National Council branches across Canada in celebration of the organization's 100th anniversary.

The presentations here were made at the Winnipeg section's annual meeting and installation of officers and board earlier this month at the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue.

Other award winners were Naomi Coodin, a teacher at the Simkim Early Years School, and Stav Gamliel, a third-year education student at the University of Winnipeg, who received two of three Irene Samuel Scholarships the NCJW awarded this year across Canada; Glenna Kay the new co-president of the Winnipeg section, who was presented with the National Centennial Award for Young Leadership; and Bunny Gurvey, presented with a Centennial Member Award.

Gurvey praised the National Centennial Member Award winner, longtime honorary president Lucille Lorie of Toronto, as the "consummate NCJW person."

In Winnipeg, however, Gurvey is known as "Mrs. National Council." Her long time involvement with NCJW has included spearheading the creation and distribution around the world of a manual on women's health issues; presenting a brief on pensions for women, to the federal government on behalf of NCJW Canada; and being part of the Canadian delegation to the United Nations Women's Conference in Nairobi, Kenya.

Last April, she was the recipient of the Premier's Volunteer Service Award.

Outgoing National President Sharon Wolchock praised outgoing Winnipeg section president Sharon Allentuck for the growth and achievements of the Winnipeg section over the last two years under her leadership. "You set the highest standards," Wolchock said.

Pfeffer noted that in December, NCJW Winnipeg Section will be kicking off the centennial celebrations with an archival display in the new Jewish Museum of Western Canada.

The new co-presidents are Glenna Kay and Shelley Pfeffer.

SINGLES EVENTS Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

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The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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Students, survivors hold vigil

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Vladimir Katriuk was not home.

But the absence of the 75-year-old beekeeper mattered little to the 50 students and Holocaust survivors who held a vigil last week outside his residence in the east-end Rosemount section of Montreal.

Katriuk is a suspected Nazi war criminal whom the Canadian government is trying to strip of citizenship for allegedly lying about his wartime activities in the Waffen SS in order to enter Canada.

On the quiet, tree-lined street, curious neighbors looked on as speakers standing directly in front of Katriuk's 38th Ave. triplex harshly criticized the Canadian government for doing so little to pursue Nazi war criminals who found safe haven in Canada over the last five decades.

"We are here as a presence and as a moral statement, to focus our attention on the Canadian government" said Rabbi Reuben Poupko, spiritual leader of the Beth Israel Beth Aaron synagogue and a Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) officer.

'We stand as silent witnesses'

"The government has been nearly criminally negligent in enforcing justice in Canada."

Rabbi Poupko noted that the alleged Nazi past of Katriuk, who moved to Canada from France in 1951 and reportedly spends most of his time tending to his beehives in Ormstown, has been known to the Canadian government since 1986, when his name was given to the Deschenes Commission investigating the presence of alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada. The RCMP had even interviewed Katriuk about his past as early as 1984.

"But it has taken until 1997 to move in a meaningful way," Rabbi Poupko said.

"Today, we stand as silent witnesses, as relatives and families of the victims."

According to court documents, Romanian-born Katriuk, who will go on trial in December at the first such proceedings to be held in Montreal, is accused of lying about his position as a voluntary SS death-squad leader in the notorious Schutzmannschaft in 1942 and 1943.

The squad has been held responsible for the slaughter of thousands of Jews and in Belarus and Ukraine.

Katriuk is also accused of using a false name – Nicolas Schpirka – in his application to come to Canada.

The vigil, organized by CJC and Hillel-Jewish Student Centre as part of a recent CJC impetus to be more proactive on the issue and to exert added pressure on the Canadian government, drew fewer numbers than planned for.

Rabbi Poupko told the crowd that the vigil – held on the 10th anniversary of the passing of Bill C-71, which allowed domestic prosecution of suspected war criminals – was "deliberately small" in order not to disrupt the neighborhood. But organizers had reserved three buses to transport as many as 120 people to Katriuk's home.

Still, the smaller numbers did not appear to diminish the depth of emotion conveyed by speakers or felt by participants.

Holocaust survivor Issie Veisfeld wanted to know why the Canadian government has "protected" Nazi war criminals – even "more than Argentina ever did."

Similarly, McGill University students Saritte Engel, 19, and Sig Shore, 18, could not fathom the Canadian record of being a "safe haven" for Nazi war criminals.

"Canada has been at the forefront for social justice," Engel told the crowd, "but for some reason, it has ignored this dire situation.

"As a Jew, I cannot believe I live in the same community as those with Jewish blood on their hands."

The vigil closed with Rabbi Poupko teaching a page from the Talmud to students to demonstrate that "that which they thought to destroy still lives," and with participants breaking into a spontaneous horah while singing, *Am Yisrael Chai*.

Meanwhile, Rabbi Poupko announced that another vigil would be staged at the Palais de Justice in December, as the proceedings against Katriuk begin.

"We will be there to make sure justice is done," he said.

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Jews for Judaism

From coast to coast

Jews in Victoria strive to maintain identity

By SUZANNE KORT
Special to the Jewish Bulletin

VICTORIA — Whether affiliated with a congregation or not, being Jewish in Victoria takes special dedication and creativity.

While Congregation Emanu-El, the Conservative synagogue in downtown Victoria, is the only structure built for Jewish worship west of the Mainland, it is not the only place local Jews meet.

For the past four years across town at the Jewish Community Centre of Victoria (JCCV), the Society for Humanistic Judaism has gathered to discuss topics from the anthology, *Judaism in a Secular Age*, or Rabbi Sherwin Wine's, *Judaism Beyond God*.

Society founder and current President, Irv Margolese, says the society appeals to Jews who value their identity and are seeking unique ways to express it.

"We started off with seven families and grew over time," Margolese said. The 31 families now involved represent about 5 percent of Victoria's identified Jewish population, according to a 1996 demographic survey by the Jewish Federation of Victoria and Vancouver Island.

The society gathers on the first and third Saturday of each month. They celebrated their fifth Passover seder together at the centre this year.

In addition to the society's meetings, the JCCV has provided space for a bimonthly Orthodox minyan, Aish Hatorah, every other Saturday morning since March, 1996.

"We had to scratch to get enough people to come out of the woodwork for a minyan at the start," said current Aish Hatorah president Arnold Niederhoffer. "Now we can count regular people that want to show up at our minyan."

Niederhoffer gets calls from Vancouver and places farther east about their meetings. "Aish Hatorah [which is not affiliated with the international group by that name] adds a little extra character to Victoria and provides more activities for people who are Orthodox," he said.

In winter, Niederhoffer finds it challenging to transform the JCCV's deli into a shul before sundown. "The deli closes at 2:30 p.m. It's a short time span for set up," he said.

A Reform Congregation held services at the JCCV for the first time in May.

"We were surprised by the number of people (over 30) who came to the first service," said Sandy Fagan who moved to Victoria with her husband, Joel, from Calgary two years ago.

"The service is at a very preliminary stage," said Fagan. "Books had to be borrowed and returned to Temple Shalom in Vancouver. None of us have a background in leading a congregation. Some know songs, others know some Hebrew. We follow a participatory model."

Fagan was impressed with the ability of different groups to work together. "The JCCV was very welcoming to us and other groups about using the space," she said. "It speaks well for the centre's future."

The centre is located in an unassuming storefront on a busy suburban thoroughfare. In 1995, 82 households belonged, almost the same number as the synagogue (78), according to the Federation survey. More than half belong to both institutions. Besides the delicatessen (open September through June, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily), the centre has a library, offices, and meeting rooms for programs ranging from video nights to a Yiddish speaking group.

Traditionally run by volunteers since it was initiated 10 years ago, the first paid staff member came on board in January. Program director, Janis Diner Brinley, ran Vancouver's Jewish Festival of the Arts and initiated the Vancouver Jewish Film Festival before taking on her new post in Victoria.

The disparities in the size and diversity of Vancouver and Victoria's Jewish population and community centres are incomparable, according to Diner Brinley. With no gym, theatre or child care facilities, she focuses on providing other kinds of opportunities for Jewish camaraderie, including bike trips, hiking, kayaking, and pottery workshops.

Diner Brinley said there are more opportunities for spontaneous involvement in a small Jewish community like Victoria. "Many things that I do Jewishly here I create myself," she said.

At a recent Passover seder, the Brinleys invited five intermarried couples who, until then, had very little time or inclination to celebrate Judaism.

Even so, they discovered that their offspring had unexpectedly caught Janis' creative spirit. After the children, seated at a separate table, had discussed their common "half and half" heritages, they disappeared, later re-emerging to present a dramatic rendition of the story of Moses.

Suzanne Kort is a Victoria freelance writer.

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Thursday, October 2	Shacharit (Morning) Service	10:00 a.m.
Friday, October 3	Shacharit (Morning) Service	10:00 a.m.
Yom Kippur		
Friday, October 10	Kol Nidre	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 11	Shacharit (Morning) Service	10:00 a.m.
	Study Session	1:00 p.m.
	Experiential Workshop	2:15 p.m.
	Mincha (Afternoon) & Healing Service	3:30 p.m.
	Yizkor (Memorial) Service	*5:30 p.m.
	Ni'ilah (Concluding) Service	*6:00 p.m.

*service times are approximate

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From coast to coast

Support of Israel still essential, Bonds group told

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Pleas to support Israel marked the recent State of Israel Bonds women's division luncheon at Adas Israel Synagogue.

Traditionally the first major fundraiser of the season, this year's luncheon in honor of Helen "Dolly" Cohen, a dedicated worker on behalf of virtually all major Jewish and Israeli causes, was "very successful," said Hamilton Bonds office manager, Barbara Balonjan.

Keynote speaker, Bess Myerson, told the over 200 guests that [Diasporah Jews] can play "a very constructive role in helping to shape and build the Israel of the 21st century.

"We are so few — we have always been so few — and that," she reminded her audience, "is why we must do so much."

Frequently referring to the Holocaust and the six million who perished, she said that "those who wish to understand why Israel is so important to us, must begin by understanding our long history."

Proud of having been not only the first Jewish Miss America but of being "the only" Jewish Miss America, Myerson said that she was there when Israel Bonds was initiated in 1951, and that she has "criss-crossed the country" on behalf of Bonds for 46 years.

First major fundraiser

With affectionate humor, she recalled her "tyrannical" mother, who only spoke Yiddish, and often lapsing into Yiddish herself, spoke of her own love for Judaism and Israel.

She remembered the day in 1948 "when Israel was born and we danced in the street...danced for those who could not be there..."

She said she had gone to Israel during every war except the 1948 War of Independence, in order "to witness what it is like to be a civilian in Israel during wartime."

Rabbi Morton Green of Adas Israel Synagogue, for whom Cohen had worked for many years, delivered the tribute, and in her response, Cohen recalled her mother who, "although she had little to give, always found a few pennies to put into the pushke."

Sylvia Klein presented the Jerusalem City of Peace Award and other tributes included Federation vice-president, Cheryl Greenbaum, Sarah Rochwerg for Hadassah-WIZO and a moving letter from Cohen's younger son, Rabbi Steven Cohen of Israel, read by his older brother, Alan, of Toronto.

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Features

Book's essays deal with Holocaust

Jewish authors

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

Kenneth Sherman labors in relative obscurity.

TORONTO — The author of nine books of poetry including the recent *Clusters* (Mosaic Press, $12.95), Kenneth Sherman has received considerable critical recognition, yet he acknowledges he still labors in relative obscurity in an age when the public has lost much of its passion for poetry.

The Toronto writer teaches English composition at Sheridan College and creative writing at York University in order to gain the freedom to maintain his poetry habit.

"If I ever get time off my work, I'll try to write a novel," he says. "But other than that, it's just poetry and essays."

This fall, Mosaic Press is publishing *Void and Voices: Essays on Historical and Literary Currents*, a collection of essays that Sherman wrote after visiting his ancestral town in Poland.

"It's really a book of meditation on the Holocaust, and many of the essays deal with the Holocaust and Holocaust literature."

As for *Clusters*, Judaic themes are inherent in many of the poems, but so are more universal themes involving memory, loss and exile.

The imagery is crisp and the effect often stirring and sad, even when Sherman writes on remote subjects such as the mating rituals of a Galapagos turtle or something that exists only in his memory like a pier that once stood at Jackson's Point.

The weird lava landscape that the Galapagos turtles inhabit resounds with the "drawn-out, eerie chorus" of "a hundred moaning voices" during the mating season. "I would like to travel / to that desolate lunar island / and hear for myself / passion mixed with lamentation," he writes in the poem *The Galapagos Tortoises*.

Sherman travels beneath the surface of experience like the "great, moping bass" that swims beneath the imaginary pier at Jackson's Point. In his poems, especially the masterly title piece *Clusters*, love is some fleeting mystical process that happens somewhere else and long ago.

"I think the basic human condition is probably alienation. People have different ways of connecting and mine is with words. When I write I get to speak to other writers, living and dead. There's a great line by W.H. Auden — he said, 'Writing is breaking bread with the dead.'"

There's a captivating quality to Sherman's brand of quiet desperation, and even readers who don't normally delve into poetry may be rewarded and moved by these poems.

A prodigy of Montreal poet Irving Layton and a devotee of the Nobel Prize-winning Polish poet Czeslaw Milosz, he is quick to offer a defence of poetry. "A lot of poetry nowadays is just word games. But the best poets have always said something about the anguish of being a human being in one's historical time frame."

Several years ago Sherman was one of three founding editors of *Parchment*, a journal of contemporary Canadian-Jewish writing, and he speaks excitedly of a literary scene "burgeoning" with good young Canadian-Jewish writers to follow in the footsteps of giants like Layton and Leonard Cohen.

"The Jewish community in Canada is being well represented by a number of fine writers in both prose and poetry. The writing, of course, is very diverse. Anne Michael's style is very different than Carey Fagan's or Matt Cohen's. I wouldn't call it a school but I'd say there are a number of young and middle-aged writers who are attempting to capture the Jewish experience."

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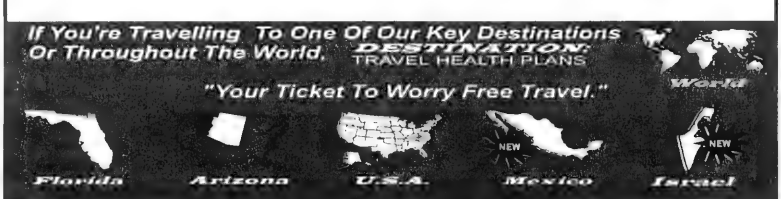

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פון דר. פרעד ווייַנבערג

דער מנהג פון דערמאָנען די פֿאַרשטאָרבענע משפּחה־מיטגלידער בשעת די יום כּיפּור תּפילות האָט זיך אָנגעהויבן נאָך חורבן פונעם ערשטן בית המקדש אין ירושלים, ווען די מערהייט פון דאָמאָלטדיקן יידישן פֿאָלק איז פֿאַרשיקט געוואָרן אין גלות בבל אין פּינף הונדערט אָן זעקס אָן אַכציק פֿאַר דער נייער צייט רעכענונג. אין אַ שפּעטערדיקער צייט איז די תּפילה אויסגעבריידערט געוואָרן, אינעם אַשכּנזישן רעליגיעזן נוסח, אין די שלוש רגלים פון פּסח, שבועות אָן סוכות, נאָך דער הריגה פון די יידישע געמיינדעס אין דייטשישן רהיינלאַנד אין משך פון דעם ערשטן קרייצצוג עס איז אויך אינטערעסאַנט, אַז דער מנהג פון אָנצינדן אַ יאָרצייט ליכט אין זאָגן קדיש נאָך אַ טאָטן אדער מאַמען שטאַמט אויך פון דער זעלבער צייט אין דייטשלאַנד.

די יסוד תּפילה באַשטייט נישט נאָר פון אַ רעציטירונג וועגן דער באַליבטער משפּחה. באמת איז עס אַ געבעט פאַר אַ וויידער־שאַנונג וועגן אונדזער אייגענעם לעבן, כדי פעסטצושטעלן צי אונדזער אויפֿפֿירונג שפּיגלט אָפּ אָן גיט צו מער כבוד צו דער לעבנס געשיכטע פון אונדזערע קרובים, וואָס וועלן דערמאָנט אינעם קדיש.

טראָץ דעם, וואָס די רבנישע אויטאָריטעטן האָבן געפֿירידיקט, אַז אונדזערע תּפילות זיינען געצילט צו העלפן די פֿאַרשטאָר־בענע, האָבן זיי אָבער אויך געפֿילט, אַז די דאָזיקע תּפילות האָבן נאָר אַ וועלט אויב די קינדער זיינען איבערגעגעבן צו טראַדיציאָנע־לע יידישע וועלטן. די רבנים האָבן אויך דערקלערט, אַז לויפן אין שול אַריין נאָר צו זאָגן קדיש אַדער יסוד אָן נישט אַנטיילּ נעמען אין גאַנצן דאָוונענען, האָט נישט קיין שום פּעולה.

אין מיטל־אַלטערטום איז דער מנהג געווען אויסצולייענען — אין מיטן פון דער יסוד תּפילה — אַ רשימה פון נעמען פון די קרבנות, וואָס זיינען דערמאָרדעט געוואָרן דורך די קרייצפֿאָרער. אָבער ווייל די אָריגינעלע רשימה פון די קרבנות איז פֿאַרלוירן גע־גאַנגען במשך פון יאָרן, זיינען זיי פֿאַרבליבן געוואָרן אָן מען האָט אויסגערעכנט די נעמען פון פֿאַמיליע מיטגלידער. נאָך יסוד גע־בעט קומט די „אל מלא רחמים" תּפילה, וואָס איז פֿאַרפֿאַסט גע־וואָרן דורך רבנים אין פּוילן נאָך די כמיעלניצקי פּאָגראָמען אין יאָר 1648, ווען בערך הונדערט טויזנט יידן זיינען דערמאָרדעט געוואָרן. די תּפילה שפּיגלט אָפּ דעם אינפֿלוס פון דער קבלה, וואָס פֿונקציאָנירט צו פֿאַרלייכטערן דעם מצב פון די אומגעקומענע משפּחות אין עולם הנא. אין אונדזער געדאַנק וויל מיר צו זיי דער־גרייכן אָן מיט זיי זיך פֿאַרבינדן.

אַן אַלטער מנהג איז פֿאַר די מענטשן, וואָס זיערע עלטערן לעבן נאָך, אַרויסצוגיין פון שול בשעת מען זאָגט יסוד. דאָס איז צוליב דער מורא פֿאַר אַן עין הרע. אין מער מאָדערנע שולן, ווי למשל בי קאָנסערוואַטיוע קהלות, פֿאַלגט מען נישט נאָך דעם מנהג אָן יעדער אייגנער בלייבט אין שול.

היינטיקע צייטן גיט מען צו אַ געבעט אין אָנדענק פון די קרבנות פונעם נאַצישן חורבן אָן אויך פֿאַר די יידישע קעמפֿערס, וואָס זיינען אומגעקומען אין דער צווייטער וועלט־מלחמה אָן אין קאַמף פֿאַר מדינת ישראל.

אין דער מערהייט שולן זאָגט דער גאַנצער עולם קדיש נאָך יסוד. דער קדיש פֿראָקלאַמירט אמונה אָן גלויבן אָן וויקט ווי אַ היילונג פֿאַר דעם, וואָס איז צעטומלט אָן צעווייפֿלט. נאָכן פֿאַר־לוסט אָן שאָדן צו דער משפּחה. עס העלפֿט צו באַהאַלטן אָן שלום מאָכן מיט דעם פֿאַמיליען וויטיק.

בי די מפֿרשים אויף אַ פּסוק אין חומש ספֿר דברים ווערט גע־שריבן, אַז „ס'איז דער חוב פון די, וואָס לעבן, אויסצולייַן די פֿאַר־שטאָרבענע עלטערן". פֿיל טרערן ווערן פֿאַרגאָסן יום כּיפּור, בשעת דער יסוד תּפילה, ווען קינדער גדענקען די איבערגעגעבע־קייט אָן לויבשאַפט פון זייערע עלטערן.

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IDF arrests 40 Hamas activists to prevent attacks

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Security forces have arrested 40 Hamas activists in West Bank villages in a mass arrest campaign aimed at preventing attacks, and learning the identities of the five suicide bombers who carried out recent attacks in the capital, the IDF said Sunday.

The arrests came after information was received that Islamic extremists were planning to carry out an attack within Israel north of Nablus.

The sweep was mounted late Saturday night under the command of OC Central Command Maj.-Gen Uzi Dayan, as part of a wider effort to smash Hamas' infrastructure.

"Security forces conducted a wide-ranging operation...during which they arrested dozens of Palestinians who are now being interrogated. The operation was conducted as part of activities to deter and prevent terror," the IDF spokesperson said.

IDF soldiers of the Haruv unit of the Golani Brigade, undercover Duvdevan troops, paratroopers and border police clamped curfews and then raided villages near Nablus, in area B, which is under Israeli security control.

Shortly after midnight, security forces swept down on a village in the Nablus area. The troops asked Palestinian police officers to remain in their station before carrying out the raid. Then soldiers raided several houses.

The village was later placed under closure, and telephone lines were cut, Palestinian sources said.

They said that hundreds of villagers were rounded up at a local girls' school, and that 20 to 30 were taken into custody after questioning.

At dawn, IAF planes circled the village on the lookout for Palestinians attempting to flee the area.

Arrests were also made in other villages in the Nablus area. Palestinian sources claim that at least 15 men from these villages were taken.

The IDF also ordered the bridge to Jordan closed early Sunday, for fear that Hamas accomplices could attempt to flee.

In all, more than 200 Palestinians suspected of involvement with Hamas or Islamic Jihad have been arrested since the suicide bomb attacks in Machane Yehuda on July 30 and Rehov Ben-Yehuda on Sept. 4 that killed 20 Israelis.

Recently, security forces uncovered a Hamas terrorist cell operating in east Jerusalem and an Islamic Jihad cell operating in the Samaria region.

During his visit to Austria, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told reporters he was 100 percent sure that the Jerusalem suicide bombers came from the West Bank and not from overseas.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai added that the attackers received backing in the territories.

Meanwhile, members of the Tsurif gang were brought to the Lod Military Court Sunday.

Suspects Ra'ad Abu Hamadiya, 21 and Ayman Kafisha, 27, both of Hebron, have been charged with the kidnap and murder of IDF soldier Sharon Edry in September 1996, the suicide bomb attack in Tel Aviv's Apropo cafe in March that killed three women, and three drive-by shootings in 1996 in which seven Israelis were killed.

The victims were Uri Monk, his son and daughter-in-law from Moshav Tirosh; Yaron and Efrat Unger of Kiryat Arba; Maj. Oz Tivon and Sgt. Yaniv Shimel in a shooting near Karmei Tzur.

In all, the gang numbered six, including the bomber who blew himself up in Apropo, and three being held by Palestinian authorities.

The session was postponed after the suspects' lawyer, Leah Tsemel, failed to show, reportedly due to illness.

But an angry confrontation took place in the courtroom while reporters interviewed the suspects.

Edry's brothers surged at Hamadiya and Kafisha, but were restrained by IDF guards. It was the first time they had seen the suspects in court.

Hamadiya stood up and told them, "I am not afraid of you."

Edry said he hoped the two would get the death penalty. "We are in an emergency situation and must act accordingly," he said.

According to the IDF, the Tsurif cell was led by Ismail Ranimat, 25, of Tsurif, who studies in Hebron. He was jailed in 1993-4 as a Hamas member. Two other members are Gamal Jibril Alhour, 27 of Tsurif and, Ibrahim Abdullah Ranimat, 39, of Tsurif, who was detained numerous times for membership in terrorist cells. These three were detained by the Palestinian Authority.

Notice to the Canadian Jewish Community From the Executive, Chevra Kadisha of Calgary

During the High Holydays, it is customary for families to visit the graves of their ancestors.

The Calgary Chevra Kadisha has been unable to locate the descendants of the persons listed who are interred at the Erlton Street, Calgary, Alberta Cemetery.

These graves require a certain amount of restoration due to normal deterioration over the years.

It would be most appreciated if anyone aware of the whereabouts of family members of the deceased, would inform them of this information.

Please direct all calls for further information to the Calgary Chevra Kadisha, (403) 244-4717. Office hours are 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Plot	Row	Name	Date of Death
47	7	Bardach-Lederer, Katie	10.04.33
19	7	Bercezovsky, Liba	14.11.36
58	7	Bercovitz, Jacob	18.08.20
12	23	Finberg, A.	05.08.55
31	4	Gerber, Jacob	02.02.17
51a	6	Goodman, Dora	06.06.07
33	3	Goodman, Fanny	25.02.18
44	12	Goosman, Benjamin	09.02.56
41	3	Hacker, Bessie	11.09.09
8	8	Korbin, Velvel	1946
59	7	Kuner, Simon	08.10.16
44	10	Lederer, Morris	05.05.41
33	2	Leibovitch, B.	02.07.28
32	7	Perell, Sonia	13.02.33
42	4	Ratchesky, Israel	07.02.09
46	3	Romanoff, Sheina	14.08.23
24	14	Smith, Francis	16.02.80
23	14	Smith, Leo	08.04.85
46	4	Spung, Sarah	04.01.11
32	4	Vineberg, Harry	10.02.09
44	4	Vinecour, Harris	06.10.10
40	4	Yampolsky, Rubin	15.07.07

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Israel & the Jewish World

MAUTHAUSEN VICTIMS REMEMBERED
Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks at a Menorah monument on Sept. 21, after laying a wreath for the Holocaust victims at Mauthausen. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Mubarak refuses to pardon Israeli convicted of spying

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has announced that he has no plans to pardon an Israeli citizen sentenced by a Cairo court on charges of espionage.

Mubarak told reporters that, in the case of Azam Azam, he blamed Israel for its "arrogance" and for "mishandling" the situation.

Mubarak said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had insulted the Egyptian judicial system when he called the verdict in the case "twisted."

Azam, a mechanic at an Israeli-Egyptian textile plant in Cairo, was convicted Aug. 31 of spying for Israel. He was sentenced to 15 years in prison with hard labor.

Netanyahu said earlier this month that he expected Mubarak to pardon the 35-year-old Druze man.

Azam, who was arrested last November in Cairo, was charged with giving women's underwear soaked with invisible ink to an Egyptian national, Emad Abdel-Hamid Ismail, who then used the ink to write messages to Israel about the state of Egyptian factories.

The Cairo court sentenced Ismail to life imprisonment for being an accomplice.

Israeli officials have insisted that Azam was not a government agent.

His arrest and trial, which began in April, have exacerbated tensions between Israel and Egypt.

Social gap narrowing

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The gap in educational achievement between Ashkenazi and Oriental Jews is closing at a steady rate of two percent a year, and could be nonexistent by 2015, a Bar-Ilan University researcher found.

Dr. Micha Razel of the School of Education found, that based on nationwide representative samples, whatever gap remains is no longer socially significant. His study also showed second-generation Israelis did better in school than the first-generation, among both Ashkenazi and Oriental families.

Educational achievement was found to be greater among second-generation Israelis as compared to first-generation Israelis, whether from Ashkenazi or Oriental families.

The diminishing gap can also be seen in the fact that in the past, Education Ministry efforts to help children having trouble in school focused on integrating Sephardi children into schools with larger Ashkenazi populations, he said.

Razel said his research indicates that attempts at bridging ethnic gaps have largely succeeded.

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A Message to CJN Snowbirds

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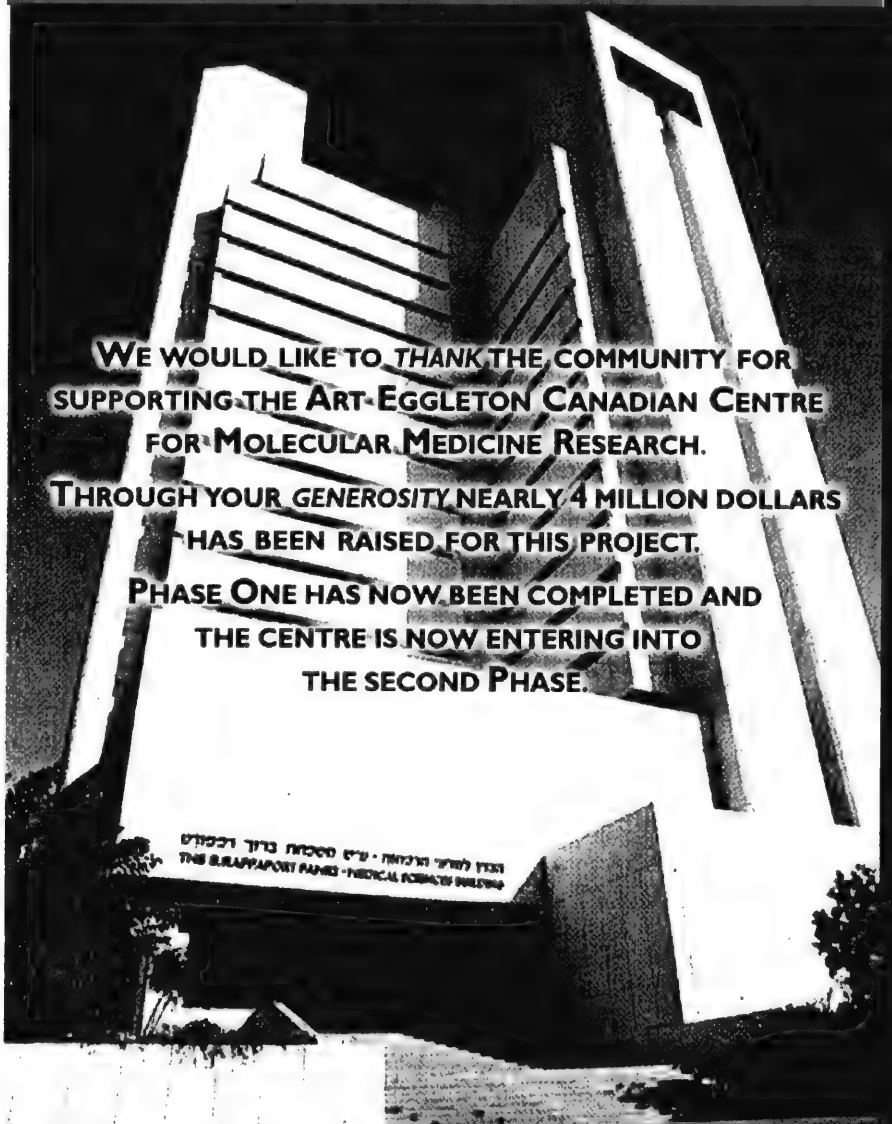

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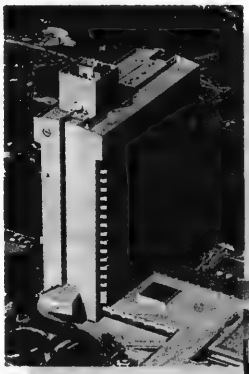

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The politics of violence

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

A year ago this week, Palestinian rioting erupted throughout East Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Mideast Analysis

The violence, the worst since the Six Day War, caused the deaths of 15 Israeli soldiers and 61 Palestinian civilians and policemen. It was touched off by Israel's decision to open an entrance to an archeological tunnel in eastern Jerusalem running alongside Muslim holy places.

The riots were contrary to the spirit and letter of the Oslo peace accords, the first phase of which, the Declaration of Principles, was promulgated four years ago on Sept. 13.

Since then, there have been scores of further incidents — some 300 — and senior Israeli and Palestinian officials have warned of a renewed intifadah (the 1987-1991 Palestinian uprising, which claimed the lives of 1,067 Palestinians and 114 Israelis).

Such is the situation that the Israeli army has carried out exercises for a possible guerrilla war with Palestinian forces in the autonomous areas.

In the numbing aftermath of last year's bloody outbreaks, there was a lull as Israel and the Palestine Authority (PA) got down to the unfinished business of negotiating an Israeli redeployment from Hebron.

The tranquility was shattered in March, when the PA broke off talks with Israel after Benjamin Netanyahu decided to build a massive Jewish housing project in Har Choma, a district in eastern Jerusalem claimed by both sides.

Palestinian rioting waxed and waned for the next few months, particularly in Hebron, Nablus and Bethlehem. During this period, nine Palestinians were killed and the nature of Israel's increasingly tense relationship with the Palestinians reverted to the pre-Oslo mode.

The sporadic violence — which is symptomatic of the growing mistrust between the Israeli government and the PA, on the one hand, and Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat, on the other — is basically a function of several factors: the breakdown of the peace process and of security cooperation since Har Choma and Hamas' suicide bombings, the closure of the territories, and the recurrence of provocations (such as the notorious poster in Hebron which depicted the prophet Mohammed as a pig).

Is the rioting orchestrated by the PA? Ami Ayalon, head of the Shin Bet, has said that the PA — the weaker party in terms of manpower and weaponry — considers limited and controlled violence as a negotiating tactic, a means of exerting pressure on Israel. Unlike Netanyahu, Ayalon does not believe that the PA has given the "green light" to terrorism.

Although Arafat and his lieutenants stoutly deny any involvement in organizing violence, there is circumstantial evidence to the contrary. In the past month and a half, as the peace process has sharply deteriorated, Arafat has delivered a succession of dire statements which strongly suggest that he is not averse to bloodshed.

- On Aug. 20, he declared that "all options are open to the Palestinian people."
- On Aug. 9, after Israel imposed punitive economic sanctions on the PA in the wake of the July 30 bombing in Jerusalem, he asserted that "we must confront them, in every sense of the word.
- On Aug. 7, following a warning that Israeli measures would lead to "a giant explosion," Arafat called on his Fatah faction in the PLO to "prepare for the battle that Netanyahu is forcing on us, because what is coming is worse than what has already been."

Clearly, the PA regards violence as a bargaining chip in its arsenal.

Notice of Special General Meeting
Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel

Take notice that the **Special General Meeting of Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel** will be held on **Tuesday, October 14th, 1997, 7:30 p.m. at CMDA Headquarters, 6900 Decarie Blvd., suite 218, Montreal, Quebec.**

The nominating committee has proposed the following slate for election as the Directors:

DIRECTORS SERVING THE SECOND YEAR OF THEIR TERM (1997 - 1998):

Irwin G. Beutel, Oscar Costin, Irving Friedman, Ted Nashman, Joseph Paperman, Dr. David Shapiro, Jerry Wiseblatt.

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Dated at Montreal this 17th day of September, 1997 by order of Arthur Levitt, National President

Sept. 15

- A class action suit was filed against Israel's only cigarette manufacturing company. The lawsuit against Dubek, which is seeking approximately $4 million in damages, is the first of its kind in Israel.

Sept. 16

- Israeli media reported on the visit to Lebanon by Iranian president Mohammed Khatami. Khatami hailed the actions of Hezbollah, called on Muslim countries to support Lebanon against Israel and urged Qatar to cancel its hosting of the regional economic summit in November to which Israel is invited.

Sept. 17

- Israel eased its closure of the West Bank by allowing 5,000 more Palestinian workers into the country.

- The High Court authorized the General Security Service to use special methods in the interrogation of a suspected Hamas militant believed to have information of planned terrorist attacks. In its judgment, the court ordered that the methods not exceed "moderate physical pressure."

Sept. 18

- First-Lt. Eyal Shimoni, 21, was killed and three soldiers lightly wounded when 13 IDF and South Lebanese Army positions throughout the security zone in southern Lebanon came under heavy bombardment.

- Menachem Porush, former head of the Agudat Israel party, told the media that authorities had kidnapped Yemenite babies in the 1940s and 1950s and had given them to Jews, mostly survivors of World War II, for adoption.

- A compromise was reached between the government and Dr. Irving Moskowitz, the owner of a building in Ras al Amud. The three families in the building will leave immediately to be replaced by 10 yeshivah students.

Sept. 19

- The Tel Aviv District Court temporarily banned the sale of a book on the Dakar submarine which disappeared in 1968 with 68 crew members aboard.

With files from the JTA

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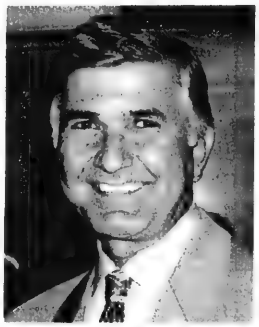
Unorthodox procedure helps heart patients

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An unorthodox surgical procedure not sanctioned in North America has helped "countless" heart patients in Europe, says the director of cardiac surgery at the Toronto Hospital.

Dr. Tyrone David, speaking on New Frontiers in Heart Surgery at the Four Seasons Hotel for Weizmann Women & Science, explained that transmyocardial laser revascularization is a procedure inspired by the hearts of reptiles and amphibians, which "seem to do all right" despite a complete lack of coronary arteries. Instead, the reptile heart has "a bunch of little holes" through which the heart muscle feeds.

With the new procedure, surgeons use lasers to create tiny holes in the human heart. "Surprisingly, the patients survived and many of them had the pain cured," said David, a native of Brazil who has practised in Toronto since 1978 and is known for his own surgical innovations.



Dr. Tirone David

"Unfortunately, the holes closed," he continued, explaining why both the U.S. Food and Drug Authority and Health and Welfare Canada have not approved the procedure for clinical use. (It is being done on an experimental basis in the United States and in Halifax, N.S.)

He's willing to bet the procedure, developed by an Indian surgeon, will become widely available within a year or two. In Europe, it has been used when other therapeutic approaches have failed or cannot be used, he said.

In the past decade, bypass surgery has been shown to have an edge over balloon angioplasty in the case of widespread coronary artery clogging, David noted.

When all else fails, transplantation is the way to go, although there is a dearth of human donor hearts, he said. In England, a clinical trial using genetically engineered pig hearts for transplanting into humans is about to begin, he said. (Pig valves are already used successfully in heart surgery, both here and even in Israel.)

In the United States, mechanical hearts have been approved for clinical use, said David. In New York, he had a taxi driver who was using a mechanical heart as a bridge before a transplant, he said.

The devices "work perfectly well," but cost about $65,000 (US) and can only be unplugged for four hours at a time. "Whether it will come to a point where they have nuclear batteries that work 10 to 12 years, only time will tell," said David.

According to American Heart Association data, this year 1.5 million Americans – and 150,000 Canadians – will suffer heart attacks, of which one in three will be fatal, said David. Although he termed the numbers "alarming," he noted they were much higher 30 years ago.

Exercise is likely the single most important thing people can do to reduce the risk of coronary artery disease, he noted, stressing that the disease, in which deposits of fat eventually clog coronary arteries, is incurable and fatal. "You don't have to be an athlete, but you should be physically active," he advised.

Exercise is a key factor

David also lamented "how wrongly we eat... Ironically even teenagers have some fat in their arteries if they grew up in this part of the world, where the main source of calories is animal fat and animal protein."

He recommended a meatless diet, cautioned against excessive amounts of sugar and fat and noted that the combination of smoking and a diet rich in animal fat is "lethal."

In addition to diet and exercise, weight and how one copes with stress are factors that can be controlled, he said.

To prevent heart attacks, cardiologists advise their patients to change their lifestyles and use preventive therapies, he said.

"Exercise, aspirin, red wine and sex increase the protective [type of cholesterol]," said David.

"I hope my wife is listening," quipped a grey-haired member of the capacity audience.

* * *

Michael Sela, professor of Immunology at the Weizmann Institute of Science and co-developer of Copaxin, a new treatment for multiple sclerosis, brought greetings from the institute.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. With the High Holy Days coming up, I have been wondering about the fat and calorie content of honey.

A. Honey is completely fat free and contains 64 calories per tablespoon. That's just a few more than jam and jelly. Enjoy apples and honey, it is a fat free snack.

Q. I am struggling with what to send my kids for lunch at school. What do you suggest is most important?

A. Send your children a lunch that they like. Too often, parents get caught up trying to send balanced and nutritious lunches, but these efforts usually go unappreciated. Most children prefer eating the same one or two lunches each day. The most important thing is that your child eats lunch and doesn't trade it, throw it out or go the whole day without eating. Try to include a source of protein such as peanut butter, meat, fish, egg, cheese, yogurt or milk.

Q. I have just made my first batch of chicken soup of the season. After skimming, is it high or low in fat?

A. Because we do skim most of the fat off chicken soup once it has cooled, what is left is low in fat and calories. One cup of chicken broth can have as little as 25 calories and 1.2 grams of fat.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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Canada-Israel Business Excellence Awards

Five Canadian companies honored

By ADAM BELLO
Special to The CJN

Recipients of the Canada-Israel Business Excellence Awards, from left, Alex Glasenberg of Apotex Inc.; E.A. Relle of Atlantic Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals; Martin Maxwell of National Home Products Ltd.; Morrie Gurevitch of Northern Telecom Inc.; and Michael Bregman of Second Cup.

TORONTO — Since the January 1997 free trade agreement with Israel opened the door wider for business, Canadian companies have found new opportunities in Israel, from serving cups of java on the streets of Jerusalem to programming JAVA store fronts on the World Wide Web for Tel Aviv businesses.

The annual Canada-Israel Business Excellence Awards recently paid tribute to five Canadian companies who had the foresight to develop trade relations with Israeli business, even before the free trade agreement came into effect.

Former Ontario premier Bob Rae was a keynote speaker at the event held at the Inn on the Park by the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The past uncertainty about building trade with Israel has been replaced by a new optimism among Canadian companies seeking investment opportunities, Rae said.

"The range is huge in Israel for the creation of services as much as goods," he said. "Many of the companies being honored are owed a great deal of gratitude because they were the pioneers [in Israeli trade] who took initiative."

The Israeli economy is taking a new shape, he said, showing a willingness in its public sector to seek alternatives. "I think the Israeli government has come to terms with the limits of public finance and recognizes the potential for partnership in the private sector, which Canada can be part of."

Transportation is a growing area for these kinds of partnerships, Rae said, adding that he has maintained a line of communication with the Israel Ministry of Transportation, to discuss opportunities for Canadian companies.

He said, for example, a proposed Tel Aviv subway system would involve significant private investment to run, while a proposed highway through the centre of Israel to be used on a toll basis would involve great investment. Canadian Highways International is currently competing in international bidding on the project.

High technology investment was recognized, as Northern Telecom (Nortel) received an award for its investment in Telrad, Israeli's leading telecommunications equipment supplier. The purchaser of one-fifth ownership was a strategic alliance for both companies, said Nortel president Jean C. Monty. Earlier this year, he indicated that the company is looking forward to realizing the benefits of the Telrad partnership to develop innovation and solutions in its global telecommunication business.

Another Canadian success story recognized at the event was much comparatively low-tech. Second Cup Ltd. was awarded the Price Waterhouse Award for retail operations in Israel for the introduction last year of its first franchise in Jerusalem.

"The way we offer our services is certainly in a North American style, but it has fit into Israeli society quite easily," said Michael Bregman, president of Second Cup Ltd. "We entered into the partnership with an Israeli operator who knew the market and the public's tastes, so time was not lost on having to re-educate ourselves."

He said that iced coffee beverages now becoming popular in North America have been a popular Second Cup offering in Israel.

"I think Israel is a very exciting place to do business, with growth unmatched," he said. "The key is learning to deal with the high levels of red tape associated with business start-up, which are far greater than those found in North America."

Other companies awarded were National Home Products Ltd. for its 20 years in the importing of shaving products, especially razor blades, from Israel's Bond International; Atlantic Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals for its quarter century of industrial importing of pharmaceuticals in its venture with the Teva Group; and Apotex Inc. for exporting generic pharmaceuticals to Israel in partnership with Koor Industries.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

JEWISH WOMEN'S CABARET AT BLOOR JCC

Kate Lushington and **Libby Scheier** are co-hosts of the second Jewish Women's Cabaret Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave.

Lushington is a writer, director and performer, whose work has been heard on CBC Radio. Scheier has written five books of poetry, directs the Toronto Writing Workshop and is literary programmer for the biannual Ashkenaz festival.

Joining them are the comedy duo **Shoshana Sperling** and **Lisa Brooke**, ethnomusicologist **Judith Cohen**, author **Ann Decter**, musician-singer **Ann Lederman** and writer-performer **Dorothy Lichtblau**. Members $6, non-members $8. 416-924-6211.

* * *

Books & Bagels: The Bloor JCC is presenting its popular Books & Bagels literary mornings, starting Sept. 28 with **Matt Cohen**, author of *Last Seen*. 11 a.m., 750 Spadina Ave. Members free, non-members $8. Coffee and bagels will be served. 416-924-6211.

Other dates in this series are: **Rick Salutin**, Oct. 19; **Linda Frum**, Nov. 23; **Cynthia Holz** and **Nora Gold**, Jan. 25.

* * *

Erica's Paradise: Dr. Erica Knoller's one-woman show chronicles the life of this octogenarian psychologist-artist-actress and Holocaust survivor.

Knoller, raised in an orthodox Jewish home in Berlin, hid in a closet in Holland for three years to escape the Nazis, then went to Israel and India. How she managed to preserve her life, her sexuality and her spirit is the theme of this story.

Sept. 25, 8 p.m., Up There Theatre at Barcode, 549 College St. Sept. 30 and Oct. 3 at 8 p.m., Palmerston Library Theatre, 560 Palmerston Ave. at Bloor St. Tickets $5 at the door. Presented as part of Artsweek '97. Magpie Productions, 416-538-2890.

* * *

Richler Play: Young People's Theatre has announced an upcoming production of *Jacob Two-Two's First Spy Case*, by **Mordecai Richler**, directed by **Maja Ardal** and starring **Zale Mednick**. For ages 6+. Nov. 8 to Jan. 4. 165 Front St. E. 416-363-5131.

* * *

The Play's The Thing: "Brevity,"said Polonius, "is the soul of wit." Judge for yourself when a trio of actors take on more than 100 roles between them when they stage *The Compleat Works of Wllm Shkspr (Abridged)*, opening Oct. 21 at the Bathurst Street Theatre.

Dressed in Elizabethan garb, the cast members are said to provoke enormous laughs as they race through all 37 of Shakespeare's play in just 97 minutes.

"Weep tears of mirth" and "You will laugh until it hurts," said reviewers of earlier productions on off-Broadway and London's West End. Tickets $20 to $39.50.

* * *

Canadian Culture: *Idea of North: A Guide to Canadian Arts & Culture* by **Tom Henighan** is a comprehensive guide to music, theatre, film, dance, visual arts, literature and other arts north of the 49th parallel.

The thumbnail sketches, lists of favorites and the author's lively discussion of the "cultural revolution" that has occurred here since the 1960s highlight the astonishing range and diversity of Canadian artists and their many accomplishments. An interesting book that invites page-flipping. (Raincoast, $21.95).

* * *

More Books: Recent titles distributed by Raincoast Books include *Hitler and Geli* by **Ronald Hayman** (Bloomsbury), about Hitler's love affair with his niece; and *Hezbollah: Born With A Vengeance*, by **Hala Jaber** (Fourth Estate), which paints a chilling portrait of the world's most secretive and deadly organization.

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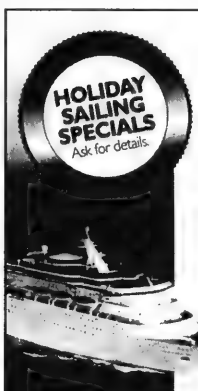

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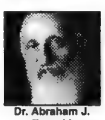
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Yankele Bodo a real treat for Yiddish lovers

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The 20-year-old Toronto Jewish Theatre celebrated its first appearance on the Leah Posluns stage with a large crowd of Yiddish-loving fans.

Yankele Bodo, the famed, diminutive Israeli comedian, did not disappoint them with his Yiddish stories, some new, some old.

"We finally made it," said veteran producer Chaim Avron, founder of the Jewish Theatre, referring to the first time that it has been able to rent the commodious facility at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

Appearing for the first time in five years, Bodo revealed the true art of the thespian with a bittersweet monologue by an old man bemoaning the failure of his son to visit him, as promised.

In more traditional vein, he lit up the hall with flashes of humor about the current Israeli scene. One favorite was about the 152-year-old ' Soviet immigrant, weighted down with war medals, who, in a quavering voice, admitted that 50 of his years were a gift from the Russian revolution of 1917.

Singer Jenny Feyerman also appeared, along with the Ted Labow trio orchestra.

Bravo! profiles 'great entertainer'

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Al Jolson was fond of calling himself the world's "greatest entertainer." Like most show business figures, he was a ceaseless self-promoter. But even after the jarring hype is stripped away, Jolson was doubtless an entertainer of the first magnitude.

Jolson, the subject of a one-hour biography on the Bravo! channel on Sept. 30 at 9 p.m., was born in Lithuania, the son of a cantor who brought his family to America in 1894.

Running away from home, he crooned for pennies at greasy spoons and, at the age of 12, joined a risque burlesque act.

According to *Al Jolson,* the documentary which competently distills the essence of his life, Jolson made his mark in blackface in a touring minstrel show. Blackface, a reflection of deep-seated racism, evokes shame today, but it was considered a mainstream art form until the 1940s.

Jolson's career blossomed on Broadway. There, before launching into *My Mammy* and *Swanee,* his beloved trademark songs, he would boast, "You ain't heard nothin' yet."

By today's more cynical standards, Jolson's singing style can best be described as corny. But in his day, between the two world wars, he could turn virtually any song into a hit, as one former colleague recalls.

In 1927, he appeared in *The Jazz Singer,* the first Hollywood talkie, and its unexpected success prompted him to make a succession of frothy films (*The Singing Kid* and *Big Boy,* to name but two) in which he was the star attraction.

By all accounts, Jolson, a monumental egoist who was insecure at heart, was a study in contrasts, his cruelty and impatience set off by his generosity.

When his career faded, he devoted himself to entertaining American combat troops abroad. Jolson, a Republican, was an ardent patriot who was forever grateful to the country that had embraced him and his parents as immigrants.

During the post-war period, a new generation discovered Jolson, and he capitalized on his renewed popularity in radio and concert appearances and in a movie entitled *The Jolson Story.* In 1948, two years before his death at 64, he was America's top male singer, surpassing Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra.

Not bad for a Jewish boy who had once dished out songs for a cup of coffee.

Book places food in its cultural context

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Claudia Roden, a renowned culinary maven, rightly believes that food should be placed in its correct context.

Food, she writes in *The Book of Jewish Food* (Random House), a magnificent compendium of history, lore, reminiscences and recipes, is "a link with the past, a celebration of roots, a symbol of continuity."

Right on.

Being a dispersed people, Jews have adopted the foods of the countries they've lived in. But in observing dietary laws, they've often developed entirely distinctive dishes.

As a result, she notes, there was always "a touch of otherness" in Jewish cooking, a cosmopolitanism that was almost immediately recognizable. Citing an example, Roden refers us to the Middle East. There, you could tell a Jewish home by the smell of oil, which was used instead of clarified butter.

But even within a single Jewish community, such as India's, there were considerable gastronomic permutations. And in many nations, ranging from Italy and Morocco to Greece and Turkey, cooking varied from one city to another.

In describing the components of Ashkenazi and Sephardi cuisine, Roden reminds us that both were profoundly influenced by local conditions.

Ashkenazi food grew from a medieval German base, with French and Italian influences, and gradually incorporated dishes from Eastern Europe, notably Poland, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania.

East European Jews were partial to substantial foods: warm soups thick with barley and groats, dumplings, pickled and boiled meats, heavy breads, freshwater fish and salt herring, and cabbage and carrots.

By contrast, Sephardi cooking evolved in the Mediterranean basin and throughout the Middle East, writes Roden, who was born and raised in Cairo, educated in Paris and now lives in London.

Roden identifies four broad styles of Sephardi food: Judeo-Spanish (Turkish and Balkan), North African (Moroccan, Algerian and Libyan), Judeo-Arab (Syria and Lebanon) and Iraqi/Iranian.

Sephardi dishes are sensual, aromatic and colorful. "Their cooking is of a kind that lifts the spirits," she declares. Having been brought up by a doting Polish mother, I could argue that a similar case can be made for Ashkenazi delights. But since I savor both culinary traditions, I will leave her statement unchallenged.

The Book of Jewish Food, which is lavishly illustrated, contains more than 800 recipes. Some (schav borscht, klops, and Bulgarian yogurt and cucumber soup) are instantly recognizable. Others (the bride's pigeon, capsicum chicken and meatballs with a sour cherry sauce) may mystify you.

Be that as it may, *The Book of Jewish Food,* a 600-page plus tome, will satisfy every conceivable taste. It is a landmark in Jewish cookbook publishing.

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We offer top service in cleaning & maintaining your Chandeliers & Fixtures
Call for a **FREE** estimate today!
(416) **438-5848**

Adanac Maintenance cleans stores, offices, factories, bldgs. Fully insured. 694-2065.

370 CATERING

POULTRY KING
ALWAYS FRESH!
wishes all their customers a Happy and Healthy New Year

We're now taking orders for the High Holidays

We carry only grain-fed yellow poultry, specializing in fresh and smoked poultry, chicken kolbassa, chicken pepperoni sticks and assorted salamis. All smoking is done on the premises, all natural with no preservatives.

ORDER YOUR SMOKED TURKEY EARLY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Full butchering services available at no extra charge.

We provide various catering services to meet your needs.

PHONE ORDERS ACCEPTED

10620 Yonge Street, Unit 13
(Yonge/Elgin Mills) Richmond Hill
Phone: (905) 883-8596

Dairy Treats *Restaurant & Catering*
Brit Milah • Bar/Bat Mitzvahs (COR)
Home or Office • Shiva Meals • Corporate Accounts
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חתונה. ברית מצוה
Weddings • Bar Mitzvahs
Tri✡Elm Catering
3 Banquet Halls • Joe Elmaleh
Glatt Kosher **631-7322** COR 200
e-mail:trielm@pathcom.com

372 CHUPPAHS

Aviv-Floral Design. Chuppah and aisle runner rentals. We specialize in wedding flowers. **Call 416-256-2554**

380 CLOTHING

• Women & Preteen Clothing
• Children's Formal Wear
QUALITY KID'S TIGHTS **$6.75**
SOCKS ON THE RUN
Quality socks for children at below retail prices
Call for appointment
(905) 886-0711

395 ELECTRICAL

Air Conditioning, Electrical Contracting, licensed, repair services, reasonable, guaranteed. 905-882-5474.

Electrician seeks small jobs only, Lic #E-329.Call 636-5732.

400 ENTERTAINMENT

ZG PRODUCTIONS- Affordable DJ Entertainment. Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Sweet Sixteen, Birthday Parties, etc. Call Zev, 416-809-5530 or fax: 416-630-4594.

405 FURNITURE

Carrocel Restorations
Antique and Fine Furniture Gallery
• TABLES • CHAIRS • OCCASIONAL TABLES • BEDROOM SUITES • DINING SUITES • REFINISHING • REUPHOLSTERY
WE CUSTOM BUILD
405 - 14TH AVENUE, UNIT 4
(905) 475-6942

Furniture restoration and refinishing. Touch-ups & small jobs done on your premises. **Free estimates**. 416-654-2430.

Marcantonio Furniture Repair Specializing in touch-ups. Restoration & general repairs done on premises. 654-0518.

410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS

Acrylic nails, $15., full set & fills, evg. appt's. 416-663-8691.

Pnina, 15 mins. electrol. $13., man.+ ped. $25. 416-667-8012

Professional Hairstylist available at your home for special occasions/private sessions, on Sun., Mon. & evgs. Call Loula at (416) 499-6453 for an app't.

415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS

REPAIRS & RENOVATIONS
• Drywall • Plaster • Painting
• Carpentry • Fences • Decks • Doors
• Locks • Tiles
Specializing in:
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Fast Service - Quality Work
MOSHE 416-445-6438

BATHTUB REGLAZING Sinks, tiles from $199. & up. **FREE** Estimate. 416-753-3097.

Before signing any contract, make sure your contractor is appropriately licensed with the Metropolitan Licensing Commission (416) 392-3000

CESTA CONTRACTING, all types of home improvements, since 1981, no job too small. Call Carmen 249-4143.

City East Hardwood Flooring. Sand, stain, finish. 839-0733.

Electrician - master license, res., ind., comm. Experience, **reasonable rates**- prompt service. Call 403-1480 or 743-7692.

HANDYMAN 638-5488 Improvement/Repairs, Ephram.

Home Services. Painting, plaster, carpentry, plumbing, electric, ceramic, tiling. 736-1179.

Super Handyman, lic., elec., plumbing, drywall, carpentry, in. bsmt, reas rates. 733-0640. **I will build you a Sukkah.**

420 INVITATIONS/ PRINTING

Call Gilda Lefton for your **invitations & accessories**. Weddings, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs - Cdn., U.S. & custom. **(905) 881-5588**.

Invitations for all. Unbeatable price, selection & service. Call Mark, A & D 905-731-5864.

427 JUDAICA

Miriam's Fine Judaica has avail. a **child's Lulav set**, consisting of 1 fresh Palm Branch, fresh Hadassim & fresh Arovot. Etrog not incl. $15.00. Suitable for ages 4-6. **Call 781-8261**.

445 MOVING

AROMA Moving, any size truck + 2 men,$35/hr. & up. 450-0381

B-K Movers. 2-28' trucks. Homes, offices, apts. Family busnss. Reasonable. 274-6144.

G&M Moving and Storage. Apts., homes, offices. Short notice. Large or small. We carry supplies. 738-4030, 663-0630.

S&M Movers. Short notice. 1 man $35/hr, 2:$50.,3:$65. 16' & 30'. Metro/surr. Insur. 747-7082

449 PEST CONTROL

Magical Pest Control will make your problems disappear. Gov't. lic. & approved. Call Moshe Joseph at 416-784-0220

450 PAINTING/ WALLPAPERING

Bargain Painter, apts, houses, offices. Mikhilov, 633-5973.

Benjamin & Moore painting & gen. improv. needs. Prof. workmanship. Comm./Res. 905-761-1542, pgr. 416-379-3082, Ben.

David Painter. Prof. Workmanship. Jewish, Hebrew, Hungarian, Romanian. 905-660-7794.

E. Kats Painting, Free est. 416-219-4182, 905-709-4017.

Exp. painter/ plasterer/ vinyl tile flooring. Best prices. Free est. Guaranteed. Bill, 638-9249.

Harry's Painting, for painting & wallpapering needs. 755-2021.

Ontario Wide Painters. Faux finishings & lead testing.Commercial, residential & industrial painting. Certified by the Ministry of Education. Call Robert, 638-1969.

Prof. painting/paperhanging, Jacob 667-9869, no shabbos calls.

Painting & Decorating, stucco work, Res./Ind., **FREE Estimates**. Experience & Refs. 633-9017.

452 PARTY SERVICES

Caricatures by Don. Quality caricaturist works at parties, Bar Mitzvahs, etc. Book now, high Demand! Don, 416-538-4100.

455 PHOTOGRAPHY/ VIDEO

PRESERVE THOSE PRECIOUS MEMORIES. YOUR Stories; YOUR memoirs...and more. YOUR **"BIOGRAPHY"** on **VIDEO**. Movies, Slides and Photos transferred to VIDEO. Fred Nelson 905-886-3210.

Please note that due to the Rosh Hashanah holidays, the office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on Thursday, October 2nd and Friday, October 3rd.

477 SECOND HAND STORES

AmeLia's DeaL Ya
consignment company
MOVING? DOWNSIZING?
We sell •FINE FURNITURE •ACCESSORIES •ANTIQUES
PRIVATE IN-HOME CONTENTS & ESTATE SALES.
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3785 Bathurst St. (at Glencairn)

483 SKIING

THE GEORGIAN PEAKS CLUB
A unique opportunity to join Ontario's Premier
Private Ski Club
For Only $12,500
(Save $7500) Limited Time Offer
Call Rick Trumble
1-800-461-9723

490 TABLE COVERINGS

Made To Measure
TABLE PADS
Dover Pad. Finest quality since 1950. Heat resistant to 600ºF. Many colours. Home service, no obligation.
1-800-354-4445

Artege Table Pads Custom-made, top quality, heat resistant. Wide selection, courteous home service. 745-2711.

500 TUTORING/ LESSONS

Cert. exper. Hebrew teacher avail., (all levels), incl. Bar/Bat Mitzvah. (416) 633-6185.

Guitar Lessons - all styles & levels. Experienced, patient teacher makes learning fun and progress fast. Bathurst/ Sheppard. Also piano and computer music (MIDI) instruction. **Call 416-633-9181**

Hebrew lessons by an exper. teacher. Call 787-8503.

Hebrew lessons for all ages, M.A.,Tel Aviv Univ., 6 yrs. Cdn. exper. Progress through fun. **Call Z'ev, 416-730-9113.**

500 TUTORING/ LESSONS

Hebrew Lessons. Exp. teacher. Reading, writing, conversation,Jewish Traditions. All ages. Bath./Centre. 905-771-0500.

Israeli Hebrew Tutor, Ph.D. cand., has opening for new students. See improvement in your children. **416-398-8262**.

Piano Lessons, priv., teaching the love & understanding of music. Conservatory method & exams, all ages. 416-223-7506.

Piano, theory & keyboard lessons, by a qualif. teacher. Bach, Music, Ed. Lina, 416-222-6407.

Private lessons in Hebrew
- Children and Adults
- Competitive Rates
- Certified by the Board of Jewish Education's Teachers Seminary (Midrasha)

Call Hillel at (416) 638-6411

Science, math, chemistry, by exper. teacher. Monica Segal, 416-665-8373.

Tutoring, calculus, physics-the easy way! Qualif., 30 yrs. exper. 905-889-7335.

510 UPHOLSTERY

Arctic Custom Upholstering Free est. Let us beautify your yesterdays furniture. Free armcovers, free toss pillows with every 2-piece suite. 665-3445.

Bathurst Upholstery. Reupholstering sofas, chairs. Lowest prices. 781-1995, 886-3148.

520 WINDOW COVERINGS

Moshade. Blinds, Verticals, Venetians, Drapery tracks. Call 905-886-2352.

Shop at home. Verticals, Venetians, rolling shades, pleated blinds, reupholstering, invisible repairs, cushion rubber change, stainguarding. Work guaranteed, **Free est.** Call anytime 224-2211, 223-1655.

530 WINDOW CLEANING

Jay's Cleaning Services, int./ext. windows, eavestrough, maint. for firs. & gen. cleaning. **Low Rates**. 416-633-2862.

The Canadian Jewish News

CLASSIFIED/SERVICE DIRECTORY
EARLY DEADLINES

To place an ad in the Oct. 16th issue:
Deadline
Tuesday, Oct. 7th, 3pm

To place an ad in the Oct. 23rd issue:
Deadline
Tuesday, Oct. 14th, 3pm

Please Note: The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days:

Thursday, October 2nd
Friday, October 3rd
Monday, October 13th (Thanksgiving)
Thursday, October 16th
Friday, October 17th
Thursday, October 23rd
Friday, October 24th

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

FOREST HILL CLASSIC BEAUTY!
Total reno., 5 bdrm., 2 fam. rms., pool+++. C. Himelfarb* 488-2875

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE $749,000
Lux. custom home to be built.B. Westbrook* 226-1987

EGLINTON/BATHURST $549,900
4 bdrms.; lge. eat-in kit., dble. garage. R. Sherman** 226-1987

BAYVIEW PROPERTIES

$1,495,000 BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS
Lot 100'x250', build your dream! Mark Cowan* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

NEW LISTING BATHURST MANOR $369K
4 bdrm. bung. on cul-de-sac. Barbara Peltz** 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

1ST AD - LOWER VILLAGE GATE
Forest Hill, 2 bed + den, SOLD to patio. G. Mitchell** 488-2875

PRIME FOREST HILL! RAVINE VIEW!
$399,900 spacious 2 bd., balc. J. Bleiweiss* 226-1987

WEST PROPERTIES

JUST LISTED _ ONLY $189,000!
2 Storey, 4 bdrm., dble drive, R. Sherman** 226-1987

BUSINESS PROPERTIES

RETAIL & APT. – ONLY $149,000
2 bdrm. unit above store, pkg. R. Sherman** 226-1987

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

JUST LISTED! BATHURST & CLARK
Spacious detached, 4 bedrooms, main floor family room, fireplace, 3½ baths, complete basement, wet bar, central air, double garage.
Call: **DAVID NAVY - (416) 229-4454**
Homelife/Partners Realty Inc.

ALAN NEWTON
REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

LOWER VILLAGE - EAST OF SPADINA
BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME!
$789,000 - 1st ad! Design your own home up to 4,200 sq. ft., beautifully treed 50'x141' ft. lot, prime block next to & across from multi-million $ homes. Call (905) 764-7200

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BATHURST & CENTRE - WILL CUSTOM BUILD
Over 4,000 sq. ft., extra large private lot w/mature trees, fantastic location! *Cila Fleischmann or *Sarah Tamin

• • •

CUSTOM HOME - BATHURST & CENTRE
New! Under construction, stone front elevation, 9½ ft. ceiling, loaded, only 1 left. *Cila Fleischmann or *Sarah Tamin

• • •

BAYVIEW-WILLOWBROOK – EXCLUSIVE!
Executive home on magnificent ravine lot! Fab country kitchen, complete finished lower level. Must see! *Helen Gould

• • •

"ROSEDALE NORTH" BATHURST & CENTRE
Large 4 bdrm., main floor den & family room, new kitchen, basement apartment w/separate entrance! *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-ROCKFORD "PRIDE OF ISRAEL"
3 bdrm. sidesplit, huge lot, main floor den, dble garage, hdwd., appls., fin. nanny's quarters w/sep. entry. $309K. *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-SHEPPARD – OPEN FOR OFFERS
4 bdrm. sidesplit, fin. basement, close to all! *Mary Fenyes

• • •

BATHURST CENTRE – GREAT STARTER HOME!
Absolutely immaculate 3 bdrm., fin. basement, family room, large lot. Call *Cila Fleischmann or *Sarah Tamin

• • •

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST-FINCH "THE SAVOY"
Executive 3 bdrm. corner suite, marble, hardwood, 2 car pkg., 2 balconies, appls.++approx. 2,600 sq. ft. *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES -MUST SELL!
LARGE 3 BEDROOM UPGRADED CONDO!
Only $199,000! Hardwood floors, ceramics, upgraded appls., sunny kitchen, solarium, approx. 1400 sq. ft., must be seen! Call **Berta Kogan (905) 764-7200 or (905) 881-7248

• • •

BATHURST STEELES – 4 YEARS NEW! $193,500
3 bdrm., ensuite, appls, air, shows like a model! *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-CLARK – NEW LISTING!
LARGE 2 BDRM + SOLARIUM ONLY $189,900!
Promenade Towers, great rec facilities! Spotless condition, 2 yr. old appls., white kit., large living rm., 2 baths, motivated vendor. *Leon Kogan (905) 764-7200 or (905) 881-7248

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

(905) 764-7200

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
633-7373

FIRST TIME OFFERED
$374,500 Blue Forest area, on ravine lot, spac. 4 bdrm., split lvl., huge liv. & din., fam. size kit w/eating area, w/out to deck., fam. rm., main flr lndry., rec. rm., dble. gar., steps to all!

• • •

BATHURST VILLAGE
Spac. 4 bdrm. mod. kit., 3 bths., sep. liv. & din., fin w/out bsmnt.

• • •

NORTH YORK
Tri-plex, 2-3 bdrms + 1-1 bdrm., balcs., bths ensuite, garages. A-1 buy!

• • •

WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
5 bdrm. + fam. rm., 4 bths., fin. bsmnt., dble drive, gar.

• • •

SHEPPARD AVE. WEST
Store + apt., fast poss., ideal for many uses, don't miss.

• • •

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

BATHURST-CENTRE
Ask $219,900 - 3 bedroom, 3 baths, close to Promenade Mall, synagogue, schools.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Lawr,55',spac lrg 3 bdrm bung,bright,upgrades,new deck & kit,fin bsmt. **Private**. 782-1984

24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY

York Mills/Bayview,No agents Private. 416-948-5555.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

2 bdrm to share, Bath./Egl pref. young prof/grad student kosher. Jonathan, 783-5928.

Male looking for roommate male or female, **Bath./Egl.**, lge 2 bdrm apt, n/smkr, $500./mo. avail immed. 416-665-7636.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

MAGNIFICENT PENTHOUSE
EGLINTON-Edenbridge
2 Bedroom., spacious living dining room, 6'x22' terrace, breathtaking view overlooking park. Well kept building, sauna, pool, card room & storage.
416-248-8777

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

A beautiful 1 bdrm. bsmnt apt., furn., pkg., sep. entr., near shul & TTC. For a middle-aged Jewish couple or a student. n/smkrs, n/pets. 782-0774.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

The **SKYMARK** *Specialist*
ZENITH Estate sale. Prime upgraded S.E. corner, 2 bedroom & fam. Approx. 1,711 sq. ft. 2 park & extras.
ELEGANCE new listing. Well designed & upgraded 2 bdrm. + fam. + sun, S. expos. 1,775 sq. ft. w. lots of extras. For our updated inventory, call Mr. Santee Leung, E.R.I.
Santee Realty Inc.
(416) 441-2003
(24 hrs.)
In appreciation of our clients and friends' continuing support
We wish you all a very Healthy & Happy New Year

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

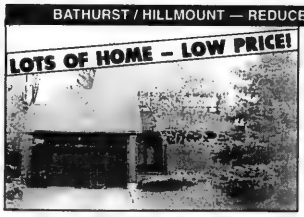
"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED
787-1712

BATHURST / VIEWMOUNT – ARCHITECTURAL GEM!

New listing! Custom built, stunning quality craftsmanship + finishes. 4200 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. 9 1/2 ft. ceilings on main floor, Neff designer kitchen. Live your dreams NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / HILLMOUNT — REDUCED $70,000



3,700 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. Bright open concept, 5 bdrms., 4 baths, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, sauna, hot tub, only $429,000! ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / BAYCREST — NEW LISTING
Excellent 3 bdrm. value, hardwood floors, 2 in-law suites in basement, eat-in kitchen, fabulous location, only $249,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

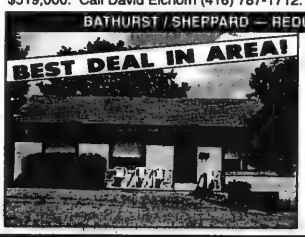
BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE
Luxurious 5 bedroom, custom-built, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + finished basement, loaded with upgrades, main floor fam. room, library, asking $699,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / GLENCAIRN — STORE FOR SALE
Popular retail strip, only $199,900. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

GLEN PARK — SPACIOUS EXECUTIVE HOME
4 + 2 bedrooms, modern family-style kitchen, family room, separate entry to in-law suite, double garage (above grade), asking $519,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / SHEPPARD — REDUCED



Charming 3+1 bedroom bungalow, huge 63' lot, renovated eat-in kitchen, separate entry to in-law suite, WON'T LAST at only $229,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / PRUE
For the discriminating buyer! Custom-built grand executive home, exquisite finishes, ideal for entertaining, prestigious location. A MUST SEE — call for details on this exceptional purchase. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — ESTATE SALE
Spacious 3 bdrm. ranch bungalow on 60 ft. lot, quiet street, fab. location, double garage above grade, only $379,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — REDUCED
Renovated 3+1 bedrooms, spacious 2 storey, hardwood floors, modern white kitchen, breakfast room, '95 roof, new windows, separate entry to finished basement, fabulous location close to all amenities, only $299,000! A MUST SEE! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK — REDUCED
Charming 3 bdrm. on 50 x 150 ft. lot, close to shuls, park, highly desirable location, family values. Great buy at only $289,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp., bright bsmt apt, modern, n/smkr, pkg, sep. entr., gentleman pref. 416-638-4070.

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Bath./Shallmar, avail from Dec. 1st -March 31, 2 bdrm, 1 bth, suit single or couple, pkg, n/smkr. 783-6633.

Promenade, furn 2 bdr lux condo, insuite lndry, n/smkr, pkg, Nov. 1-April 1, $1350./mo. 905-881-7626.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Aventura Beach, Winston Towers 500,condo, 2/2, 14th flr, bay/ocean view, new kit, appls & bthrms, low rnaint, cov pkg, pool, tennis, gym, full secur. Owner. 305-935-2727.

Hallmark of Hollywood, lux. condo, 2 bdr, 2 bth, upgrades, extras, gar, pool, elegant lobby, etc. Social, rec. facil, shops, services on premises. Valet, 24 hr concierge, security. Sacrifice. $78K U.S. Ph 905-294-1785 or fax: 905-294-7920.

Indian Spring-Boynton Beach, stunning 2 bdrm-2 bth villa, Fla. rm, tile in all liv. areas, 2 car gar, loc. on golf course, discount on golf equity, furn or unfurn. 216-464-0223.

The Hemispheres. Beautiful 3 bdrm., fully furnished, completely renovated, on ocean, parking included. 416-488-0442.

HOLLYWOOD BEACH - 2 oceanfront, furnished efficiencies, $38,000 U.S. each or $70,000 U.S. for 2 adjoining units. 1-888-907-2837.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

QUADOMAIN, HOLLYWOOD, FLA. Spectacular oceanview, 2 bdrm, convertible on beach for rent, fully furnished, Kosher. 633-4141.

3 bdrm, 2 full bth condo in **Coconut Creek,**newly decorated, will sleep 8, rent for winter season. 410-484-0835, after 6pm.

Boca, lux. 2 bdrms, 2 bths, furn, scrnd porch, priv. walk-in, gated comm.,all amen, nr. syn. For season. 905-764-3177.

Century Village,Boca Raton, spotless 1 bdrm, 1 bth, mn flr, fully furn & equip. 905-625-3189

Ft. Laud., 1+1 condo, w/encl. Fla. rm,newly renov'd, fully furn, 2nd flr, elev, pool, clubhouse. 3 mo. min. 905-737-9937 (local).

Ft. Myers, 2 bdrm, 2 bth condo, across from beach. 283-6555.

Highland Lakes area, beautif. furn 1 bdrm apt, att. to home, on a lake, gated comm, grnd flr. apt, pool, priv entr, avail Nov.-Mar. Robin, 305-935-6252.

M.B., Ocean Pavillion, kosher, 2 br, 2 bth, lrge balc, dir on ocean, 7th flr, sab elev, Jan.-Mar. $7,500. US. 785-9917.

Miami, Arlen House W., 1 bdrm,1 1/2 bth. 905-771-8434.

Palm Aire, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furnished, main flr., 3 mos. min., beginning Jan. '98. Call 416-496-2900.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Palm Aire - Cypress Bend
Buying, Selling or Renting. Call us for all your Real Estate needs.
Wieder Realty Inc.
(954) 978-8300

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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Looking to **Buy or Sell** in Florida??
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SPECIALIST IN:
TORONTO ↔ VANCOUVER
NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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1-800-561-MOVE

Palm Beach condo., oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, furn., immed. occup. 416-504-4267.

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Hallandale Beach, nice sr. lady wishes to share with same, lux. 2 bdrm, 2 bth apt. Doorman bldg, choice loc., Nov.-April (or partial), $500./mo. 498-7221.

Lady needed to share apt. in Miami. Call 665-4690.

190 VACATION PROPERTIES

LAKE SIMCOE PRIME WATERFRONT PROPERTY
on 116 ft. of frontage. Muskoka type cottage with 5 bedrooms, large solarium, combination kitchen, dining room and living room with 3 way stone fireplace. Lots of character to expand on $169,900. For details call
LOUISE PARKS
Associate Broker,
RE/MAX orillia realty (1996) ltd.
(705) 325-1373 office or
(705) 326-2553 residence

235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Dial for Dollars
Offshore funds for construction and business ventures.
No brokerage fees.
Call **Mikael Vilta**
416-618-6695.

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Accounting firm loc. in Richmond Hill req. a p/t administrative assist./sec. (3 days/wk.). Some bookkeeping exper. an asset, good PC skills are a must. Please fax résumé to: Vivian, 905-764-8323.

Secretary, f/t, exper., responsible, efficient, for busy non-profit organization.Computer skills essen. with proficiency in Wordperfect for Windows. Good judgement, speed & accuracy req'd. Willingness to participate in all aspects of running a smooth operation. Refs. req'd. Fax résumé: 416-665-8055.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
People you trust taking care of people you love.
We have live-in and live-out caregivers. We specialize in helping seniors, and people afflicted with Stroke, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
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264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is with great pleasure that the engagement is announced of **Jennifer Lynn,** daughter of Terry & Stan Budd, to **Michael Stephen**, son of Susan Winton and Norman Winton. A June, 1998 wedding is planned.

Khentov-Bieler. Manya & Mark Khentov are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Kira,** to **Gregory**, son of Michele & Richard Bieler. Proud grandparents are Annie Bieler, Irene and Nathan Tucker.

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Hi guys! I'm an attr. 27 yr. old Jewish female, 5'6 1/2", light brown hair, hazel eyes. I'm large framed, but not too large. I enjoy sports (but not all sports), travel, movies, different varieties of music, long walks & esp. the outdoors in the hot summer weather. I'm honest, down-to-earth, & family oriented. I'm a n/smkr. & have never married. I'm seeking a man for a serious relationship leading to marriage & family. CJN Box 6973.

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Please note that due to the Rosh Hashanah holidays, the office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on Thursday, October 2nd and Friday, October 3rd.

330 OBITUARIES

FAIGAN, Abram - on Sept. 8, 1997, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W.
SASSOON, Selim - on Sept. 8, 1997, late of 55 Ameer Ave.
WEINSTEIN, Jacob Aaron - on Sept. 9, 1997, late of 500 Glencairn Ave.
AVERBUCH, Evsei - on Sept. 11, 1997, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W.
MANDEL, Solly - on Sept. 11, 1997, late of 2121 Bathurst St.
SZOLLOSI, Ilona - on Sept.12, 1997.
AVISAR, Margarit - on Sept. 13, 1997.
BROWN, Sylvia - on Sept. 13, 1997.
KANE, Natan - on Sept. 13, 1997.
MARGEL, Perry - on Sept. 13, 1997, late of 307 Chelwood Dr.
SHAY, Hilda - on Sept. 13, 1997, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W.
DE HOND, Abraham - on Sept. 14, 1997, late of 28 Jondan Cres.
SHELTER, Benjamin - on Sept. 14, 1997.
TESSIS, Joseph - on Sept. 14, 1997, late of 133 Torresdale Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

BAKER, Brian - on Sept. 2, 1997, late of 200 Roehampton #708.
BRILL, Elsie - on Sept. 3, 1997, late of 25 Northcliff Blvd.
PEPPER, Elliott - on Sept. 4, 1997, late of 56 Duncannon Dr.,
STEIN, Matthew - on Sept. 4, 1997, late of 30 Albany.
BIENSTOCK, Sol - on Sept. 6, 1997, late of 37 Roxborough E.
BLOOM, Morris - on Sept. 6, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
SMITH, Sally - on Sept. 6, 1997, late of 11 Townsgate Dr., #710.
TIMANOFF, Shirley - on Sept. 6, 1997, late of 144 Pressed Brick Dr.
REDIKER, Dolly - on Sept. 7, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #415.
MENDLEWITZ, Jack - on Sept. 8, 1997, late of 54 Waterloo Ave.
SWITZER, Leon - on Sept. 8, 1997, late of 28 Garthdale Crt.
BLINICK, Mary - on Sept. 9, 1997, late of 37 Hearthstone Cres.
LIPINSKY, Sally - on Sept. 10, 1997, late of 19 Kanarick Cres.
SILVERSTEIN, Sam - on Sept. 10, 1997, late of 85 Skymark Dr., #605.

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Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
EVALYN MILDRED LIPTON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, September 28th at 12:00 noon
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Ivansker Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ROSE BERNATT ז"ל
loving mother of Rueben Bernatt & Ruth Jacobson
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 28th, 1:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Farband Labour Zionist Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MARSHALL JUBAS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 28th, 10:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
(Bathurst St., S. of Steeles)
Shaarei Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

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ANNA TEICHBERG ע"ח — Bathurst Lawn Jewish National Brotherhood 11:00 a.m.
SARA ZUPNIK ע"ח — Pardes Shalom B'nai Torah (J) 11:00 a.m.

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Itzy (Irving) Newman ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 28th, 10:15 a.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
3169 St. Clair Ave. E
Temple Emanuel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
BESSIE ROSSOFF ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Sept. 28th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Shaar Shalom Section
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Please Note: The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days:
Thursday, October 2nd
Friday, October 3rd
Monday, October 13th (Thanksgiving)
Thursday, October 16th
Friday, October 17th
Thursday, October 23rd
Friday, October 24th

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
436 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
476 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
483 SKIING
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
548 WORD PROCESSING
550 WORKSHOPS

Israel & the Jewish World

Conversion committee head hopeful solution can be found

By CYNTHIA MANN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — The head of the Israeli committee charged with resolving a crisis over conversions in the Jewish state said a solution could come soon, but at the same time he warned against imposing the pressure of a deadline on the effort.

Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman, whose committee members represent the three major religious streams, made the comments here last Friday at a briefing to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

"The fact that we are at one table is in itself an important part of the solution," he said of the committee effort, but "I wouldn't push for a deadline because this will bring us to a dead end."

Ne'eman's formal remarks focused on the Israeli economy, but the discussion inevitably turned to the volatile topic of religious pluralism, in spite of the conference's traditional resistance to providing a forum for what it considers to be a divisive matter.

There has been a steady trickle of reports of various proposals on which the committee is nearing agreement.

But Ne'eman did not spell out any of the plans either at the briefing or at the closed meeting he held afterward with leaders of the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform movements.

The committee was appointed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to find a compromise that would avert the passage of a controversial bill pending in the Knesset.

The bill, spearheaded by the Orthodox parties, would codify Orthodox control over conversions performed in Israel.

Netanyahu's coalition has agreed to suspend the legislative effort, and the Reform and Conservative movements have agreed to suspend litigation in the courts while the committee is working.

The non-Orthodox movements want to gain recognition for their conversions performed in Israel.

The committee was slated to present its recommendations by Aug. 15, but members have yet to reach an agreement.

"I cannot assume the politicians will approve such a decision," said Ne'eman, "but I am confident" that the committee "will come up with a viable proposal for coexistence in dignity and in harmony and in unity."

Ne'eman underscored the complexity of the committee's challenge and in essence, asked for patience from American Jewry, the vast majority of whom are not Orthodox and have reacted angrily to the bill.

Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch, executive director of the Association of Reform Zionists of America, thanked Ne'eman for what he said were "unprecedented efforts" to find a solution to the conflict.

But he also reminded him that it was Netanyahu who set the deadline and that equality is "a fundamental principle of democracy."

Ne'eman replied, "Let's not create conflicts, let's not put more flames into the fire."

"The question is not 'Who is a Jew?'" he said. "All of us worship the same God, each in his own way, and nobody can deny, under Jewish law, the recognition of his brother as a Jew."

But, he said, "The problem is intricate because it does not relate only to the immediate question of conversion."

He indicated that the committee had broadened its scope to try to find some solutions to the dilemma posed by roughly 100,000 immigrants from the former Soviet Union who are not Jewish "by any standard" in a country where matters of personal status are governed by the Orthodox establishment.

Philip Meltzer, president of ARZA, the Zionist arm of the U.S. Reform movement, said it was apparent Ne'eman came to show American Jews how seriously Israel was approaching the problem and to ask for cooperation.

He said Ne'eman "made it clear" in the closed meeting "that if it is not worked out, it will be disastrous for the Jewish people."

Meltzer added that his movement accepts Ne'eman's stance "with hope" along with "pessimism" about the committee's ability to reach a solution.

Dr. Mandell Ganchrow, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, said Ne'eman privately asked leaders "to give the process time."

Compromise reached on Ras al-Amud

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Jews refer to it as the Mount of Olives; Palestinians call it Ras al-Amud.

But by either name, it has become the latest focal point of Israeli-Palestinian friction.

A compromise reached recently between the government of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Jewish families living in eastern Jerusalem failed to assuage Palestinian complaints about a Jewish presence in the mostly Arab neighborhood.

Under the compromise that Israel reached Sept. 18 with three Jewish families living in Ras al-Amud, the families left the building voluntarily, but 10 yeshivah students stayed to maintain a Jewish presence.

The compromise saved Netanyahu from having to forcibly remove the families, a politically volatile step given threats from right-wing members of Netanyahu's coalition that such an action would bring down the government.

But Palestinian officials condemned the compromise. Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat called it a "trick," and during a meeting in Cairo with the 22 members of the Arab League, he urged the Arab world not to improve relations with Israel as long as the peace process remains mired in crisis.

Last weekend, Israeli police scuffled with Palestinians protesting against a Jewish presence in Ras al-Amud, which is located near the Old City.

Protests also spread to the volatile West Bank town of Hebron, but Palestinian police herded away some 20 youths throwing stones at a Jewish settlement there.

In eastern Jerusalem, a former resident of the house that the Jewish families moved into denied that he had sold the structure to Dr. Irving Moskowitz, the U.S. developer who leased the structure to the families.

The Palestinian, Fuad Hadiyeh, said he had been abroad on business and returned to find that the families had moved in and thrown out his belongings.

He also said that he did not own the building, having rented it since the 1980s, and that he was unauthorized to make any transaction involving the building.

Moskowitz maintains that he legally purchased the two-story structure.

The Palestinians broke off negotiations with Israel in March after Israel broke ground for a new Jewish neighborhood at Har Choma in southeastern Jerusalem.

The Palestinians, who want the eastern half of the city as a capital of an independent state, accused Israel of altering the status quo in Jerusalem prior to final-status talks on the future of the city.

In contrast to his reaction to the start of construction at Har Choma, Netanyahu came out strongly against the action in Ras al-Amud, saying that any decisions regarding building in Jerusalem should be coordinated by the government, not individuals.

Israeli and Palestinian officials were scheduled to hold separate talks with American officials this week in Washington in an effort to restart the negotiations.

The talks were arranged during a recent visit to the region by U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy, who flew to New York this week to address the 52nd meeting of the U.N. General Assembly, was scheduled to meet in New York with Albright and Palestinian Authority official Abu-Mazen, who is Arafat's second-in-command.

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Bloor JCC still producing top handball players

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There was a time, not that long ago, when the Bloor Street Y was a mecca for handball enthusiasts.

In the1960s and even into the early '70s, the Y (aka the Jewish Community Centre (JCC), Bloor branch) produced its share of champions. In 1967, it was one of several Toronto venues for the World Handball Championships.

Dozens of guys participated in handball games at the centre in those years and it was known throughout the city and even across Canada for the high calibre of athletes it produced.

Handball no longer enjoys the level of popularity of those pinnacle years, but top players are still coming out of the Bloor Y, now known as the Bloor JCC.

Three guys who play at the centre recently returned from the World Handball Championships in Winnipeg after recording top finishes in their age divisions.

Stan Fromstein, 48, was top Canadian and fourth in the world for those 45 to 50. His son, Bryan, 18, was second highest Canadian and fourth in the world in the 19 and under category while Mike Bargman, was top Canadian and third in the world for those 23 and under.

Fromstein senior, who was designated third seed going into the tournament, played four matches, all against Americans. He sported a 3-1 record going into the semi-finals before losing to a competitor from California.

Fromstein said he was hampered throughout the tournament by an achilles heel injury and then by a sprained ankle he suffered during the competition. By the end, "I felt my feet weren't moving," he said.

His son Bryan had a 2-0 record going into the semi-finals before losing to an athlete from Ireland, while Bargman registered a 2-2 record, including a victory over an Irish competitor to earn the third-place ranking.

Athletes from Canada, the United States, Ireland, England, Wales, France, Mexico, Japan, Australia and Ecuador participated in the championships.

Bargman, who will return to Chicago for the second year of a handball scholarship at Lake Forest College, said his division was weakened by the absence of top players who were trying to qualify for the Spalding/Gatorade Pro Tour in the United States. The top pro handball player earned $60,000 in six tour events last year. Most top players have day jobs, such as firefighters or teachers, he said.

Bargman was nine years old when he was first exposed to handball. Like most kids that age, he was already into hockey and baseball but his father, Stan, played handball at the Bloor Y and he introduced Mike to the game.

By the time he was 11 he was playing in sanctioned tournaments against kids his own age, but he was also getting lots of experience at the Y playing in games against guys in their 30s. In 1991 he finished third overall for kids 15 and under at the World Handball Championships in Phoenix. Eventually he went on to win six Canadian junior championships.

Last season, as a member of the handball team at Lake Forest, Bargman competed in a circuit organized by the U.S. Handball Association. He also was a semi-finalist at the U.S. National Championships, though, he points out, that the tournament didn't include the 16 top pros.

Two years ago at the Canadian Nationals in Edmonton, Bargman advanced to the finals of the open doubles competition before being eliminated. He advanced to the quarter-finals (the final eight) in the singles event before losing to the number three pro in the world.

Fromstein's handball pedigree goes back to 1966 when at age 16, he won his first junior tournament. He watched the world's best players in 1967 when he served as a volunteer at the Bloor Y and in 1980, he won the Ontario title. The Winnipeg tournament was the first time he participated in a world-class event.

Bryan has seen plenty of top level action. He has competed in the Canadian nationals since 1990 and in 1994, coupled with partner Brian Goldfinger, another Bloor player, he won the junior doubles event.

Fromstein added the junior singles title at the 1996 games in Regina and he's attended four U.S. national junior events, advancing to the quarter-finals for his best finish.

In addition to playing regularly at the Bloor Y, both he and Bargman work out at the Fit For Life Club in Scarborough, where, they say, the best competitive handball in Toronto is being played. They also attend clinics at the club as well as teach younger players the intricacies of the game.

"Handball is just a super game. It's a total workout," said Bargman.

Stan Fromstein contends the drop in popularity of the sport over the years is attributable to the difficulty in mastering it. It can take a neophyte a year to play well and it's more physically demanding than either racquetball or squash, he said. Because you don't have the extension provided by a racquet, "you have to run like crazy."

In addition, you have to be ambidextrous to play well and you have to toughen up your hands on a ball that's much harder than those used in racquet sports.

Players can put much more spin on the ball in handball. "You have to take an extra step. Everything is footwork...move, move, move or else you can't be successful," Bargman said.

A lot of racquetball players, he said with more than a trace of scorn, "are broken-down handball players."

Fromstein junior didn't like handball much when he started. But as he progressed he began to appreciate the sport more. He learned a lot playing against older players. "It's a mental game as well as a physical game," he said. Older players "know how to set up rallies, get you moving and put it away."

While it's not that popular in Canada, handball still has a big following in the United States, particularly in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, Bargman said.

Jews have always excelled at the sport because "it developed in the dungeons of the JCCs." It spread in large part from the 92nd Street Y in New York. In New York, a lot of young people learn the outdoor version of the sport, playing on one wall, though the indoor, four-wall variety is played in Canada, Fromstein said.

One of the world's top players from the sport's early era, Vic Hershowitz, was in Winnipeg for the tournament. In addition, Mark Broverman of Edmonton, one of the world's top doubles players, participated. Two non-Jewish Bloor athletes were also in the prairie city. Ken James and Freddie Bowler. Bowler's son, Ryan, captured two trophies in one-wall and four-wall events, Fromstein said.

Handballer Mike Bargman

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L	E	P	K	E		M	A	R	A	H		T	A	S
A	L	A	R	M		I	M	A	G	E		I	R	K
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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

"שנינו נתנהג יפה"; ספרות ילדים חברה המבקשת ללמוד על עצמה ועל תמאפיין אותה מבחינה ערכית, יכולה לעשות זאת בדרך העיון בספרות הנכתבת עבור ילדיה. בישראל, השיניים במאפייני ספרות הילדים העברית, משקפים בבהירות תמורות חברתיות שחלו במדינה. לא מדובר כאן בעיצוב הפסיכולוגי-אישי של הילד אלא יותר במודלים החינוכיים המובאים לידי ביטוי באמצעות דמות הילד-הגיבור בספרות לצעירים.

אם נשווה את דמות הילד בספרות עידן היישוב והקמת המדינה, לעומת הילד בשנות השבעים, השמונים ועד היום, נגלה שינוי נורמטיבי מהפכני שהתרחש בחברה הישראלית.

הילדים חם האוצר הטבעי חחשוב ביותר, וכל חברה מבקשת להטביע את חותמה הערכי על נושאי לפיד העתיד. חברה שדוגלת באידאלים של חלוציות והקרבת הפרט לטובת הכלל, תיצור סיפורים ושירים שבה הילד- הגיבור יממש אף הוא תכנים זהים. חברה הסוגדת בטובת הפרט ושבה טובת הקולקטיב נדחקת לרקע בלבד, תעצב ספרות לילדים שבה יעדר המוטיב של "טוב למות בעד ארצנו". בספרות הילדים של אז, הגיבור האופייני היה ילדותי ופתוח להשפעת הסביבה הבוגרת, משמע החורים יחדיו כל (חלוצי העלייה השניה והשלישית). בשנים שלאחר מלחמת יום הכיפורים, סופרי ילדים כיהודה אטלס, חגית בנזימן ושלומית כהן מתארים גיבור-ילד שלעתים קרובות עולה בתחכומו וביושרו על המבוגרים. פעם היו החורים עובדי עבודת כפיים שסללו כבישים וייבשו ביצות וגאלו את אדמת המולדת; היום אבא ואמא עושים בושות.

על רקע זה נבחן את ספרה העכשווי של אורלי קסטל-בלום, שנינו נתנהג יפה, כתר הוצאה לאור, 1997.

הספר כתוב בצורת דיאלוגים קצרים בין אורלי, האם, ובנה, חנוך. הקורא יוכל לזהות בין דברי האם ודברי הבן על-פי גודל הדפוס; דברי הילד נכתבים מופיעים בגדול ודברי האם באותיות קטנות. אורלי קסטל-בלום ידועה כסופרת למבוגרים, בכתיבתה חבוטה ובסגנונה האוונגרדי. וכך גם בספר זה. הדיאלוגים כתובים בטבעיות וללא ליטוש ומונעים כצילום אותנטי מחיי היום-יום. אין כאן משקע חינוכי מעמיק אלא סתם כך, שיחות.

"מה אתה רוצה לאכול היום?
היום אני רוצה לאכול...קטשופ.
רק קטשופ?
רק קטשופ.
בלי שום דבר? אולי קצת ספגטי לידך אולי שניצל בצורת משולשים? אולי מלפפון?
רק קטשופ."

בשנות הארבעים, אבא היה גיבור ואמא עובדת חרוצה וכך כותב אברחם ברוידס לילדים: "נאמר תודה,/ נישא ברכה,/ לאב עמל/לאם טורחה./ להם נקשיב,/אותם נאהב,/ כבוד ויקר/ לאם ואב." באותם ימים לא היתה הטלת ספק בקרב הילדים באמינות ההצהרות שבשיר.

לא כן היום. קסטל-בלום מדגימה תמונה ערכית המשקפת חברה הדוגלת בקידום יחס שוויוני בין ילדים ומבוגרים. בוודאי שגם ילדי החווה יאמרו: "אותם נאהב"(את ההורים) אך יש מחלוקת לגבי ה"כבוד ויקר" ולגבי "להם נקשיב".

"תביאי לי מגבת. (הבן)
לא. (האם)
תביאי לי מגבת מהר, נכנסו לי מים מהשמפו לעיניים.
אבל אם אני אביא לך מגבת אתה תזרוק אותה לאמבטיה והיא תירטב...
תביאי לי מגבת.
קח מגבת, אבל אל תזרוק אותה לאמבטיה...
אבל אני רוצה לעשות כביסה, אני רוצה לעשות כביסה עם המגבת.
טוב, תעשה מה שאתה רוצה."

...

הקריאה, מאוד משעשעת, הן לילד והן למבוגר (בעיקר לאמהות). האיורים, פרי יצירתה של כרמית גלעדי-פולארד, מקסימים.

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BIBLICAL CHICKEN

6 boned chicken breasts, skinned
1/4 cup parve margarine
1 tblsp. olive oil
3/4 cup slivered almonds
2 tblsps. flour seasoned with
1 tsp. salt
10 grinds black pepper

Sauce:

1 1/4 cups dry white wine
2/3 cup orange juice
1 tblsp. honey
3" cinnamon stick
2 small oranges, peeled, pith removed, cut in sections
2/3 cup chicken stock
1 tblsp. grated lemon rind
3 tblsp. raisins
2 tsp. cornstarch, mixed with
1 tblsp. water or chicken stock

Flatten chicken breasts, coat with seasoned flour. Sauté almond slivers in margarine/oil until golden brown. Drain. Add chicken breasts to hot margarine/oil, cook on each side about 3 min. or until golden. Remove from pan and place breasts in single layer in roasting pan. Pour away excess fat from pan without discarding savory brown bits at bottom of pan. Add wine, stirring well and cook 3 min., then add stock, orange juice, lemon rind, honey, raisins, cinnamon stick. Bring sauce to boil. Add cornstarch mixture and stir well until thickened. Pour hot sauce over chicken and bake 20 minutes at 350°F. Serve decorated with orange sections and toasted almonds. Yield: 6 servings.

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About families

Dear Susan,

My daughter is a very bright 8-year-old, who is about to enter Grade 3. She has been precocious in every area of her academic development, particularly in math, science and language arts. She is presently enrolled in public school, and my husband and I are wondering whether she will be adequately challenged in the public school system. What do you think?

Dear Reader,

School placement is a very delicate and complex issue. In making the decision, your daughter's social, environmental, physical and intellectual needs as they pertain to school should all be factored in.

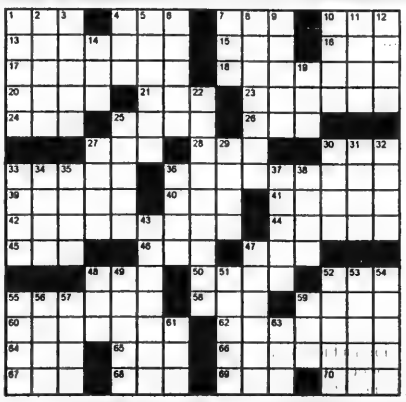
A good way to begin would be to determine how happy your daughter is with her present school in terms of all of the factors cited above. It may be helpful to have her rate her happiness on a scale of one to five.

You should next assess how happy you are with her present school placement. If you are not satisfied, you must clearly and objectively identify your area(s) of unhappiness. Be sure you are respectful to her needs and desires, and that any decision to change schools is not based on frivolous or arbitrary reasons on your part.

Grade 3 is a particularly important year in terms of the testing and assessment of children to determine if they have reached specific skill levels in the core subject areas. This program is called benchmarks. By the end of the year, your daughter will also be tested for the gifted program. You may want to await the results from both sets of tests before you determine your daughter's future. You may also consider consulting an educational consultant once you receive these test results. That person will assist in matching your daughter's needs with the school(s) that can best address those needs.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Publisher (Abbrv)
4. Title for Golda
7. Third Judah king
10. Satiated
13. Hebrew letter set
15. Edom people
16. __ Carte
17. "Secret" Jew
18. "The Fixer", author
20. Coveting
21. Tay-Sachs carrier
23. Maccabees
24. Prophesize
25. Israeli city, __ Sheba
26. Solomon's find
27. Amy Alcott's score
28. Auditor
30. Sound of laughter
33. Reznik's objective
36. Silent Screen starlet
39. Sukkah
40. El Al milieu
41. Regal
42. Moses follower
44. Arthur Murray lesson?
45. Tet (Eng)
46. Shikker's choice?
47. "Sea" to Chagall
48. Writer Rand
50. Robed
52. Generation (Heb)
55. Like Tsimmes carrots
58. It is, to Bialik
59. Mordecai
60. Lou Grant actor
62. Woody Allen Film
64. Isaac's stand in?
65. Three: combined form
66. "Red" person
67. Mems (Eng.)
68. Egyptian snake
69. Golden rule
70. Orthodox minyan

Down

1. Burrows or Caan
2. Craft for Arkia
3. Join Tsahal
4. Business degree
5. Cause to be
6. David's ammo
7. Supply with Uzis
8. Via Maris
9. JPSA founder, Cyrus
10. Reputation
11. Month
12. Adam and Abraham
14. Make the Latkes?
19. Fortas, casually
22. Moshe Safdie
25. Use a mikveh
27. Felafel holder
29. "Abba" to Marceau
30. Financier Salomon
31. Ishmael progeny
32. Michael's aura?
33. Levaye notice
34. Zionist Halprin
35. Drill
36. Tuches?
37. Packing heat
38. Chazzar (Eng)
43. Dear Abby's sister
47. Israeli mesa?
48. Sighs
49. Yiddish busybody
51. Blood __
52. Strauss' jeans
53. Emulate Abba Eban
54. Baseball's "Flip"
55. Slight bit
56. Sixth day creation
57. Levinson and Goldwyn
59. Brother to Japheth
61. Shiva clothes
63. Betty Friedan's org.

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 62.)

What's hot in Toronto's haute est neighbourhood

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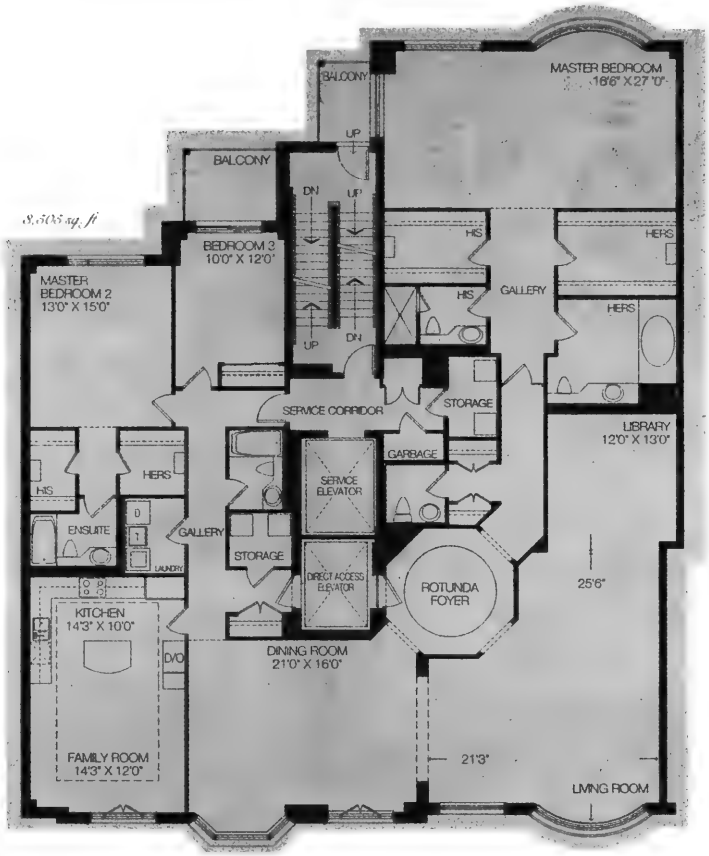

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17th ANNUAL HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

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HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK
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UJA FEDERATION
Phone: (416) 631-5689
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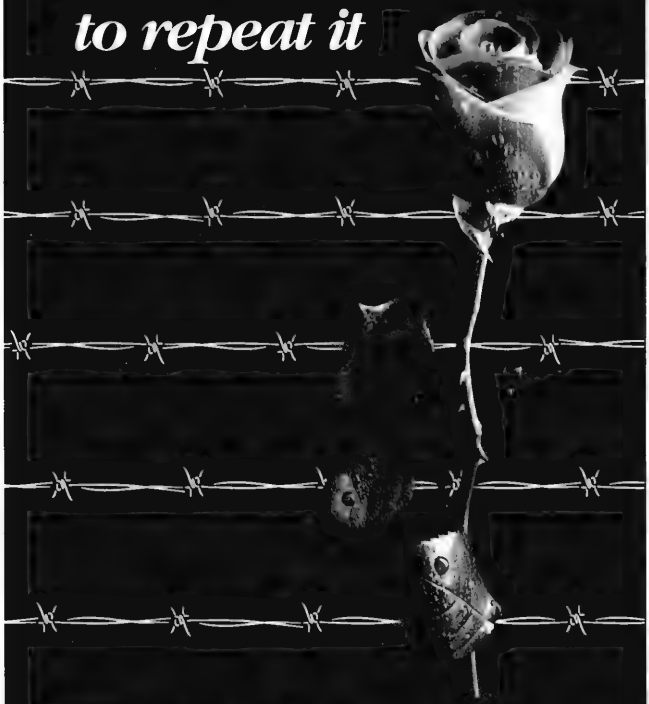
That none be condemned to repeat it



THE 17TH ANNUAL

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 9, 1997

Coordinated by the Holocaust Education Week Sub-Committee
Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UIA Federation

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION AND MEMORIAL CENTRE OF TORONTO

For more than a decade, the Holocaust Centre has been dedicated to the memory of the six million Jews murdered during twelve years of Nazi tyranny. Committed to the advancement of public awareness of the Holocaust and its lessons, it offers visitors of all ages an opportunity to share in the memory of the past and the responsibility of the future.

Since its opening, more than half a million visitors from the United States, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Australia and South Africa, including 150,000 Jewish and non-Jewish students from across Canada have visited the Centre, learning the important lessons of tolerance, understanding and acceptance.

Visitors view audio-visual presentations that portray the experiences of European Jews before, during and after World War II; see showcases containing memorabilia that enable them to witness first-hand the horror of the Holocaust; and experience the quiet and reflective Hall of Memories, where families have chosen to pay tribute to their loved ones by dedicating a tile in their memory.

School groups also have the opportunity to hear the personal testimony of one of the many Holocaust survivor speakers whose shining example of courage and dignity serves as a role model for a new generation.

The Holocaust Resource Centre, with its extensive library and hi-tech multi-media equipment with access to the worldwide Internet, serves all segments of the community.

The Holocaust Centre is located in the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street, North York.

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Bathurst Jewish Centre
4588 Bathurst Street, North York
For information, call (416) 636-1880 ext. 281.

NOVEMBER 9

8:00 PM Leah Posluns Theatre
4588 Bathurst Street, North York

"WHERE SHE CAME FROM: A DAUGHTER'S SEARCH FOR HER MOTHER'S HISTORY." **HELEN EPSTEIN,** author and journalist, embarked on a multi-national search to discover her mother's roots after her death in 1989. She will describe her meetings with people who knew her ancestors. Sponsored by Jewish Book Fair.

NOVEMBER 23, 25, 29, 30

"THE EMPEROR OF ATLANTIS OR DEATH ABDICATES." This chamber opera was composed by Viktor Ullmann while a prisoner at Terezin, but performances were forbidden when the SS found its satire too real. A project of the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Studio.

The Joey and Toby Tanenbaum Opera Centre
227 Front Street East, Toronto
For tickets call the Canadian Opera Company at (416) 363-8231.

DECEMBER 10 - 21

"THE INTERRUPTED LIFE OF ETTY HILLESUM." This little known story is of a young Dutch woman who chose to help her people and risk certain death rather than be hidden by her non-Jewish friends. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts, it is directed by Miriam Laurence, and features Leslie Robbins.

Ford Centre for the Performing Arts-Studio Theatre
5040 Yonge Street, North York
For tickets call the box office at (416) 872-2222.

...In Support of HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

"It is important to honour the memory of the millions of men, women and children who perished during the Holocaust. To avoid a repetition of history, it is essential to raise public awareness and understanding. Only then can younger generations learn the lessons of the Holocaust and develop a deeper understanding of their responsibility for the future.

Toronto City Council is pleased to salute UJA Federation of Greater Toronto for their efforts to raise public awareness and curb racism and prejudice, by proclaiming October 30-November 9, 1997 HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK."

TORONTO CITY COUNCIL

"On behalf of the citizens of York, I wish to express my deep support for this very important event. While the Holocaust is of particular importance to the Jewish community, it is an event that requires the remembrance of ***all*** *Canadians. Only by sharing together the sorrows of the past, can we ensure that the future shall never see another Holocaust."*

MAYOR FRANCES NUNZIATA,
The Corporation of the City of York

"Remembering the tragedies of our past provides valuable lessons for present and future generations. The horror of the Holocaust, our memory of Jewish pain and suffering is channelled into education toward a useful end, teaching why hatred, bigotry and genocide must be eradicated worldwide. I commend UJA Federation of Greater Toronto for all their efforts during Holocaust Education Week and throughout the years."

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR,
City of North York

"It is important that we take this time to reflect on the past and learn from it. By remembering the atrocities that humankind has committed, we can work together to ensure that these actions are never repeated."

MAYOR HAZEL McCALLION,
City of Mississauga

"This week is a time to learn about the events of the past and reflect upon them. Feelings of sadness are natural and, for the people who remember loved ones, the sorrow never ends. It is also time to pass on the message to our children and grandchildren that the atrocities of the Holocaust can never be forgotten."

MAYOR FRANK FAUBERT,
City of Scarborough

THE CHRISTIAN-JEWISH DIALOGUE OF TORONTO

Dear Friends:

Our times have seen an upsurge in Holocaust denial and it is no accident that this has been accompanied by a growth in racism in our society. The two go hand-in-hand. Those who would foster prejudice and discrimination in our own day have the most to gain by downgrading and denying the events of the thirties and forties. Education is our best defence against a repetition of an evil like the Holocaust.

For this reason I commend to you the many informative events outlined in this brochure. Among them you will find programs in almost twenty churches throughout the city. We hold them during this time in solidarity with our Jewish sisters and brothers, recognizing that the Shoah, while undeniably a tragedy for the Jewish people, was also a human tragedy.

The Holocaust Remembrance Committee of Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto is honoured to be invited to take part in this week. I am deeply grateful to our colleagues in the Canadian Jewish Congress and the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto for their invaluable help and support.

Very sincerely yours,

Brian Prideaux

The Rev. Brian Prideaux
Chair, Holocaust Remembrance Committee of
Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto

Sponsors

Diocese of Toronto of the Anglican Church of Canada	Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto	Toronto Conference of the United Church of Canada	Eastern Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
Canadian Council of Christians and Jews	Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region	Relation & Encounter, Sisters of Our Lady of Zion	

SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 7

"WOMEN DOCTORS IN GERMANY: THE FIGHT FOR PROFESSIONALIZATION, 1875-1945." A historical exhibition presented by York University, in conjunction with the Hannah Institute for the History of Medicine, the Goethe Institut (Toronto) and the Berliner Gesellschaft fur Geschichte der Medizin.

York University – Founders College, Room 207
4700 Keele Street, North York

OCTOBER 16 - 18

"COURT-YARD." Choreographer **ALLEN KAEJA**'s new work explores the relationships and struggles of five individuals after months of forced confinement inside ghetto walls. Presented as part of the DANCEWORKS Mainstage series.

du Maurier Theatre Centre – Harbourfront
For information, call (416) 204-1082

OCTOBER 22 - NOVEMBER 2

"MY MOTHER'S COURAGE" by **GEORGE TABORI**
The true story of how the playwright's mother was arrested on her way to her sister's house in Budapest in 1944 and put on a train for deportation to Auschwitz; and of how, through great courage and luck, she escapes. Presented by Theatre Asylum and Olive Eye Productions.

Theatre Passe Muraille Mainspace
16 Ryerson Avenue, Toronto
For tickets call (416) 504-7529

OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 2

DR. DAVID G. ROSKIES, Professor of Jewish Literature at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, will lecture:

Thursday	October 30	Beth Tikvah Congregation	(416) 221-3433
Saturday	November 1	Beth Tikvah Congregation	(416) 221-3433
Saturday	November 1	Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am	(416) 633-5500
Sunday	November 2	Beth Tzedec Congregation	(416) 781-3511

OCTOBER 30 - DECEMBER 14

"THE GHOSTS THAT HAUNT US" by **JASON AARON SCHWARTZ**
An in-depth and moving survey of Jewish survivors of the Holocaust, featuring black and white portraits with handwritten testaments.

Koffler Centre of the Arts
Bathurst Jewish Centre – 4588 Bathurst Street, North York
For information call (416) 636-1880 ext. 268

POST-HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

7:00 PM Canadian Association for Israel Philately
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street, North York

"THE MAKING OF A COMMEMORATIVE STAMP." In November 1996, Canada Post issued a stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust. The stamp depicted a photo collage from the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto. The face of young **ROBERT ENGEL**, Holocaust survivor and past chair of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation, is among those that appear. Mr. Engel, along with **GLENDA RISS**, Graphic Design Consultant at Q30 Design Inc., will discuss the significance of the stamp. **PNINA ZILBERMAN**, Director, Holocaust Education & Memorial Centre of Toronto, moderates.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

12 NOON Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada
Sheraton Centre - Windsor Room
To RSVP call Flavia (416) 594-1812

"PROSECUTING NAZI WAR CRIMINALS - THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE."
ELI M. ROSENBAUM is Director, Office of Special Investigations Criminal Division, United States Department of Justice.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:30 PM Toronto Jewish Film Society,
Goethe Institut &
Holocaust Remembrance Committee
Art Gallery of Ontario
Hal Jackman Hall
317 Dundas Street West, Toronto

Film *"ABRAHAM'S GOLD."* Barbel Hunzinger has returned to Germany to force her father to deal with their tortuous emotional past. Seemingly to avoid her, he departs for Poland with a friend. Their secret destination is Auschwitz, where he has hidden gold stolen from Jews during the War. Hunzinger must finally confront his daughter. German with English subtitles. Tickets: $7.00.

UJA FEDERATION

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL • JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO

On behalf of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, I would like to thank and congratulate the members of the Holocaust Education Week Sub-Committee for their efforts in organizing the program described in this brochure.

Every day, the contents of our newspapers and newscasts remind us that the world has not yet learned the lessons of the Holocaust. Racial and religious hate are all too frequently manifested in events both at home and abroad. Holocaust Education Week serves both as a living memorial to those who perished at the hands of the Nazis and as a vehicle for teaching us how decent people must respond to hate and hatemongers.

It is all too easy to turn away from the painful events of our past and to ignore current developments which appear to be sufficiently far away as not to pose any immediate danger to ourselves. But we know better, and Holocaust Education Week reminds us that we know better. The struggle against bigotry is never-ending. This program can help equip us to meet our responsibilities in that struggle.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph M. Steiner
President

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the 17th Annual Holocaust Education Week. The wide array of excellent programs offered this year allows you to explore, examine and experience many aspects of and approaches to Holocaust studies.

The Holocaust Remembrance Committee is engaged in many activities, all in an effort to fulfill our mandate of remembrance and education. Holocaust Education Week is one of our prize projects, and has gathered a wide following as it has grown over the last several years.

It is only through remembrance and education that we can ensure the memory of those lost and learn the lessons of the Holocaust. Holocaust denial, today's virulent strain of anti-Semitism, has escalated. Racism, bigotry and prejudice have not and will not disappear on their own. All of these blights must be identified, understood and eradicated if we are to improve our society and protect our rights as individuals.

This year, we are delighted that many municipalities are recognizing the importance of our work by proclaiming this week as Holocaust Education Week. We salute the City of Toronto, as well as York, North York, Mississauga and Scarborough. These proclamations of official support are a welcome recognition of the importance of our work.

I would like to congratulate Howard Driman and his diligent committee, all volunteers, for their excellent work and for the outstanding event they have organized. They have done their part, and now it is up to us to attend, learn, reflect and act: let us all rise to the opportunity and the challenge!

With warm regards,

Michael Herman
Chairman,
Holocaust Remembrance Committee
UJA Federation

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

EREV Solel Congregation of Mississauga
SHABBAT 2399 Folkway Drive, Mississauga

DEDICATION OF CZECH TORAH SCROLL. This Torah scroll was one of the many scrolls and Jewish artifacts collected by Hitler during his invasion of Czechoslovakia. He later intended to display these as the sole remnants of an exterminated people. Dedication in honour of Solel's 25th Anniversary.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

8:00 PM Beth Tzedec Congregation
1700 Bathurst Street, Toronto

"HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND RESTITUTION: SWISS BANKS, GERMAN PROPERTY AND THE ROLE OF ISRAEL."
SERGIO R. KARAS is an immigration lawyer who specializes in helping Holocaust survivors prove their claims. He will discuss the latest situation with respect to problems facing claimants from Swiss banks and those seeking restitution of properties, and the role of Israel in these issues.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

12:00 NOON Jewish Students Union
University of Toronto, Medical Sciences Building
Room 3171

"ACADEMIC MEDICINE AND POLITICAL TERROR DURING THE THIRD REICH." **DR. WILLIAM E. SEIDELMAN,** Medical Director, HIV Ambulatory Program, the Wellesley Central Hospital, and Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of Toronto. Dr. Seidelman is one of the foremost experts on the history of medicine during the Nazi period and its continuing ethical challenges. He will discuss the role of academic institutions and research establishments in the medical crimes of the Third Reich and the Holocaust.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

7:30 PM St. Clare Roman Catholic Church
1118 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto

Film *"COURAGE TO CARE."* A powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to protect Jews. Panel discussion follows.

2:00 PM **RICHMOND HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY**
1 Atkinson Road, Richmond Hill

ELIZABETH DE JONG, Auschwitz survivor of Mengele medical experiments, shares her personal testimony.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

2:00 PM **DANFORTH COXWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY**
1675 Danforth Avenue, Toronto

MIRIAM FRANKEL, survivor of Auschwitz and member of the Holocaust Education Week sub-committee, shares her personal testimony.

7:00 PM **BARBARA FRUM LIBRARY**
20 Covington Avenue, North York

Author **ELAINE KALMAN NAVES** discusses her book *"The Journey Vaja."*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

1:30 PM **DUFFERIN CLARK LIBRARY**
1441 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill

FREDA ROSENBLATT shares her personal testimony.

2:00 PM **WYCHWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY**
1431 Bathurst Street, Toronto

Discussion with **DR. FELICIA CARMELLY,** psychologist, therapist and author of *"Shattered: 50 Years of Silence."* Founder and Past President of the Transnistria Survivors' Association, Toronto.

7:30 PM **RICHMOND HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY**
1 Atkinson Road, Richmond Hill

ELIZABETH DE JONG shares her personal testimony.

7:30 PM **THORNHILL COMMUNITY PUBLIC LIBRARY**
7755 Bayview Avenue, Thornhill

FREDA ROSENBLATT shares her personal testimony.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

7:30 PM **MILLIKEN MILLS COMMUNITY LIBRARY**
7600 Kennedy Road, Unionville
(at Milliken Mills High School)

MAX EISEN, survivor of Auschwitz and active in Second Generation events, gives his personal testimony.

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

As we look around near and far, we witness incidents of racism, neo-Nazism, Holocaust denial (these will no doubt increase as the number of survivors among us decreases), and indifference to the apprehension and bringing to justice of the perpetrators living in our midst. The importance of, and need for, Holocaust remembrance and education could not be clearer. It is our obligation to honour the memory of those who perished and to educate as wide a cross-section of people as possible, all in an effort to ensure that such a tragedy never recurs.

I am filled with satisfaction and gratitude as I review the many and varied events that constitute Holocaust Education Week, the seventeenth annual program of its kind, unique today in the world of Holocaust education. We are delighted to welcome several organizations that are mounting programs for the first time. These include synagogues, churches and libraries. It is also most encouraging that many young people are coming forward to request involvement and that larger numbers of youth are attending our programs.

We are indebted to the Toronto City Council for once again recognizing our work by proclaiming October 30 to November 9 as Holocaust Education Week, and to the City Councils of York, North York, Mississauga and Scarborough for their support.

I would like to thank my committee members for their enthusiasm and dedication. The passion that we all bring to this endeavour is evidenced by the calibre of events set out in this brochure. I would also like to express my appreciation to all the organizations that enthusiastically commit their time and resources. A special debt of gratitude to Michael Herman and Pnina Zilberman, Chairman and Director, respectively, of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee for their advice and encouragement.

Howard Driman
Chairman,
17th Annual Holocaust Education Week

The Holocaust Remembrance Committee
of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto
gratefully acknowledges
the generosity and support of those listed below.

CANADA TRUST

CIBC WOOD GUNDY SECURITIES INC.

CREDIT SUISSE-FIRST BOSTON CANADA

THE EDPER GROUP FOUNDATION

SANDFORD BORINS

HARVEY NAGLIE

A voluntary donation of ***$2 per person***
will be appreciated at each program.

Your generous support will enable
high calibre Holocaust education programs
to be perpetuated in future years.

Donation boxes will be available at all events.

Visit *Jewish Toronto*, our community's Web Site at

www.feduja.org

for the latest information and program changes.

Message from the North York Public Library Chief Executive Officer, *Josephine Bryant*

"The community of users of the North York Public Library contains many people for whom the Holocaust was a personal or family reality. Out of respect for their sacrifice, and with hope for the future of mankind, we are honoured to participate in the programs and events during Holocaust Education Week. Together, through shared knowledge and wisdom, our efforts will preserve the lessons of yesterday and renew our belief in the future."

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

2:30 PM NORTHERN DISTRICT BRANCH
40 Orchard View Blvd., Toronto

"ALA'S LETTERS." SHULA ROBIN, Polish-born poet, offers dramatic readings from her book of poems. Musical interlude by GLADYS AARON.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

1:30 PM CENTRAL PUBLIC LIBRARY
5120 Yonge Street, North York

"A PAGE FROM THE HOLOCAUST." Based on the life of Miep Gies, who protected the Frank family during their years in hiding. With MARY MARGARET BUSS, an accomplished actress who specializes in one-woman productions.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

1:00 PM DEER PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
40 St. Clair Avenue East, Toronto

FREDA ROSENBLATT, who was deported to Transnistria at the age of 9, shares her personal testimony.

1:30 PM BATHURST CLARK RESOURCE LIBRARY
900 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill

LILIAN SCHACTER, hidden child in France and past Chairperson of Holocaust Education Week, shares her personal testimony.

PUBLIC LIBRARY PROGRAMS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

8:00 PM Beth Habonim Congregation
5 Glen Park Avenue, North York

"JEWISH KISHINEV: THE PAST, THROUGH THE HOLOCAUST, TO THE PRESENT." **SAMUEL ARONI** is Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at UCLA. He will describe the pre-World War II Jewish community in Kishinev and Bessarabia. He is one of the few survivors of the Kishinev ghetto.

8:00 PM Jewish Campus Services
Bloor JCC
750 Spadina Avenue, Toronto

"NEO-NAZISM AND YOUTH: THE INDOCTRINATION OF TOMORROW." **BERNIE FARBER,** National Director of Community Relations, Canadian Jewish Congress and **ELIZABETH MOORE,** former member of the Heritage Front, will discuss issues relating to Neo-Nazism and the youth of today, including the factors which motivate individuals to support Neo-Nazi movements.

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Please join us
for the
18TH ANNUAL
HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK
and the
60th Anniversary of *Kristallnacht*

November 5-15, 1998

OPENING NIGHT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

8:00 PM Leah Posluns Theatre
4588 Bathurst Street, North York

Nat Nadler

"EXODUS 1947: A LOOK BACK"

"Exodus 1947" was the most famous of the Aliyah Bet ships that came from the U.S. to help bring Holocaust survivors to Palestine.

This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the voyage of this ship, which has been described as the "ship that launched a nation." The intense media coverage surrounding the ship's unsuccessful efforts to land in Palestine with its over 4,500 survivors, and the manner in which the British dealt with the survivors thereafter, are widely believed to have contributed in no small measure to the creation of the State of Israel.

Featured will be a screening of *"Exodus 1947,"* an excellent new documentary, directed by Elizabeth Rodgers and Robby Henson, and narrated by Morley Safer, Canadian-born co-host of CBS-TV's *"60 Minutes."*

Guest speakers include **NAT NADLER,** one of the original crew of "Exodus 1947" and **PROFESSOR MEIR SCHWARTZ,** an Israeli Haganah commander who accompanied the survivors to Palestine. In addition, several passengers of "Exodus 1947" now living in Canada will be present.

(This program has been generously sponsored by the Abraham and Ida Moncik Memorial Fund for Holocaust Education.)

Refugees aboard the Exodus proudly hold flag of Palestine.

OCTOBER 30

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

8:00 PM Beaches Hebrew Institute
109 Kenilworth Avenue, Toronto

"THE BOYS." Sir Martin Gilbert's book depicts the lives of 732 teenage concentration camp survivors who were transported to Britain after liberation. **HOWARD CHANDLER, IZZIE LIGHT** and **JOSHUA SEGAL**, whose stories are described in the book, discuss their experiences. Program follows Shabbat service.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

7:30 PM Israel Educational and Cultural Institute
Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street, North York

Film *"THE TRIAL OF ADOLF EICHMANN."* Actual trial footage, emotional recollections of trial witnesses and other key participants provide insight and contrasting perspectives of Eichmann's unsettling legacy. Hosted by renowned journalist David Brinkley. Discussion follows moderated by **FRANCESCA DAVID.**

SAT., NOVEMBER 1 - SUN., NOVEMBER 2

BEGINS Bloor JCC
8:00 PM 750 Spadina Avenue, Toronto

"THE HOLOCAUST: A CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE ." Presented by the Cultural Arts Group of the Bloor JCC, this two-day program examines Jewish life in Europe leading up to the Holocaust, and its survival entering the second half of the 20th century.

Sir Martin Gilbert

Highlights of the SATURDAY NIGHT program include **SIR MARTIN GILBERT,** the celebrated British historian, talking about his new book *"Holocaust Journey: Travelling in Search of the Past,"* which describes his trip with a group of university Holocaust students to many of the sites associated with Jewish history before and during World War II; **JOSEPH SKIBELL,** the American playwright, reading from his debut novel *"A Blessing on the Moon;"* playwright **JASON SHERMAN** reading excerpts from his new play *"None is Too Many,"* based on the Irving Abella/Harold Troper book of the same name; and the music of singer and educator **FAYE KELLERSTEIN.**

The SUNDAY program includes storyteller **ALEC GELCER; JOSEPH SKIBELL** discussing the literary challenges of creating an artistic work that allows him to come to terms with his own family history; and **ISABEL VINCENT** talking about her new book *"Hitler's Silent Partners : Swiss Banks, Nazi Gold and the Crusade for Justice."*

Joseph Skibell

Call (416) 924-6211 for schedule and times.

2:00 PM Jewish Storytelling Arts
Beth Sholom Synagogue
1445 Eglinton Avenue West, Toronto

"FOUR WOMEN: RESISTING THE HOLOCAUST."
RACHEL FELDHAY BRENNER is Associate Professor, Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her latest book is *"Writing as Resistance: Four Women Confronting the Holocaust - Edith Stein, Simone Weil, Anne Frank and Etty Hillesum."*

(This program has been generously co-sponsored anonymously in memory of the six million innocent victims)

7:30 PM Morris Winchevsky School
585 Cranbrooke Avenue, Toronto

"AUSCHWITZ: PAST AND FUTURE."
ROBERT VAN PELT is Professor of Architecture at the University of Waterloo, and co-author of *"Auschwitz, 1270 to the Present."* He is project director for the North American participants of the international group preparing for the preservation of the State Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau and the development of the neighbouring communities.

7:30 PM The Church of St. Andrew
2333 Victoria Park Avenue, Scarborough

Film *"COURAGE TO CARE."* A powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to protect Jews. Panel discussion follows.

~

7:30 PM St. Ansgar Lutheran Church
1495 Avenue Road, Toronto

"A THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE AFTER THE HOLOCAUST."
REV. GLEN NELSON, spiritual leader of St. Ansgar Lutheran Church, and **RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT**, Rabbi Emeritus of Holy Blossom Temple.

NOVEMBER 9

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

10:00 AM Temple Emanu-El
120 Old Colony Road, Toronto

"DEATH, MEMORY AND CHILDHOOD: CHRISTIAN BOLTANSKI'S PHOTOGRAPHIC TESTIMONIES OF THE HOLOCAUST." **CARLA SHAPIRO,** Doctoral Candidate, University of Sussex, discusses three Holocaust compositions by one of France's most noted and influential contemporary artists. Lecture illustrated with slides.

~

10:00 AM & 2:00 PM Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street, North York

"BRUNDIBAR," a children's opera composed by Czech Hans Krasa, was performed by the children of Terezin over 50 times between 1943 and 1944. Almost all of the children who performed, as well as the composer, were gassed in Auschwitz before the War ended. *"Brundibar"* has become an inspirational message and an enduring artistic expression about the most vulnerable victims, the children, who displayed courage, hope and strength under the most horrific circumstances. For tickets call (416) 631-5689

11:00 AM Kehillat Shaarei Torah
2640 Bayview Avenue, Toronto

"REMEMBERING WHO WE ARE: VICTIMS, SURVIVORS, VICTORS." **ESTHER HAUTZIG** is a prize-winning author. She will stress the importance of sharing stories of individuals we loved so that we can remember them not only as victims, but as people who led cultured and vibrant lives.

(This program has been generously co-sponsored by Magda Hilf in loving memory of Nick Hilf and family and the Schon family.)

2:00 PM Lodzer Centre Holocaust Congregation
12 Heaton Street, North York

"IMAGES OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE HOLOCAUST - OR CAN POSTERS KILL?" **JERRY FAIVISH** is a Toronto lawyer and accomplished speaker, who over the last ten years has assembled a unique collection of Jewish posters, including anti-Semitic posters from the Holocaust period. He will highlight visual images of anti-Semitism, as well as examine the effect such images played in creating an atmosphere that fostered the horrors of the Holocaust.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

10:00 AM Har Tikvah Congregation of Brampton
9893 Torbram Road, Brampton

"NEVER TO FORGET: COULD IT HAPPEN AGAIN?" **IRVING EISNER,** lecturer and author, describes his experiences in labour and death camps. He will also show slides of, and discuss his return to, Poland as a chaperone on the 1994 March of the Living. Family program.

~

10:00 AM Oraynu Community for Secular Humanistic Judaism
St. Andrews Junior High School
131 Fenn Avenue, North York

"MODELS OF RESISTANCE." When people find meaning and purpose in their own existence, they are able to face tragedy and death with more dignity. A presentation and discussion on the life and work of the late Victor Frankl, noted psychologist, author and Holocaust survivor. For information, call Sara Miller at (416) 385-3910.

~

10:00 AM Temple Sinai
210 Wilson Avenue, North York

Film *"WEAPONS OF THE SPIRIT."* During World War II, the entire French village of Le Chambon sheltered and saved 5,000 Jews. Filmmaker Pierre Sauvage returns to the village that saved his life to honour this "conspiracy of goodness." Discussion follows with **LILIAN SCHACTER,** child survivor and past Chairperson of Holocaust Education Week.

~

10:30 AM Asbury & West United Church
3180 Bathurst Street, Toronto

"RACISM - IT'S ALIVE TODAY." Discussion with **BERNIE FARBER,** National Director of Community Relations, Canadian Jewish Congress.

~

12:30 PM Agricola Finnish Lutheran Church
25 Old York Mills Road, North York

Film *"WHO IS PETER ISLOWSKY ?"* This film, about a student who takes a stand against racism, demonstrates how one person can make a difference. Discussion follows. Youth program.

1:00 PM St. Andrew United Church
117 Bloor Street East, Toronto

"FAITH AFTER THE HOLOCAUST." Discussion with **RABBI BARUCH FRYDMAN-KOHL**, Senior Rabbi, Beth Tzedec Congregation.

2:00 PM **Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation**
Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street, North York

"THE DUTY OF MEMORY: RECORDING THE SHOAH." **PROFESSOR ALAIN GOLDSCHLAGER,** Director of the Holocaust Literature Research Institute at the University of Western Ontario, will talk about the importance of survivors writing their memoirs. He will be joined for a discussion by five survivors, **MANNY DRUKIER, WANDA LEREK, RUTH NERAY, JOSEPH PERETZ** and **VERA SCHIFF,** who recently published their accounts.

7:00 PM St. Mary's Anglican Church
10030 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

Film ***"WHO IS PETER ISLOWSKY?"*** This film, about a student who takes a stand against racism, demonstrates how one person can make a difference. Discussion follows. Youth program.

~

7:30 PM Jewish Storytelling Arts
Beth Habonim Congregation
5 Glen Park Avenue, North York

"KINGDOM OF NIGHT: AN EVENING OF HOLOCAUST STORIES."
Program features the reading of Holocaust stories as well as stories shared by the audience. Led by **LESLIE ROBBINS,** Artistic Director, Jewish Storytelling Arts.

~

7:30 PM Leaside United Church
822 Millwood Road, Toronto

Film ***"WHO IS PETER ISLOWSKY?"*** This film, about a student who takes a stand against racism, demonstrates how one person can make a difference. Discussion follows. Youth program.

~

7:30 PM St. James-Bond United Church
1066 Avenue Road, Toronto

Film ***"COURAGE TO CARE."*** A powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to protect Jews. Youth program.

7:30 PM St. Gabriel Roman Catholic Church
650 Sheppard Avenue East, North York

"RACISM TODAY IN THE ARMED FORCES." Discussion with **KEITH LANDY,** Honourary Legal Counsel for the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region. He represented the CJC in the recent Somalia enquiry.

~

8:00 PM Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation
55 Yeomans Road, North York

"THE LIGHT AFTER THE DARK." **ALVIN ABRAM** discusses his new book relating six survivors' stories of chance and circumstance. **MICHAEL ROSENBERG**, whose story is featured, will recount his experiences, as well as his response, 48 years later, to testifying on behalf of two Poles claiming to be Righteous Among the Nations.

8:00 PM Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue
470 Glencairn Avenue, Toronto

"CONSCIENCE AND COURAGE: RESCUERS OF JEWS DURING THE HOLOCAUST." **DR. EVA FOGELMAN** is a psychotherapist, social psychologist, and Senior Research Fellow at the Graduate Center of City University, New York. Dr. Fogelman will discuss what it is about family background, personalities, and circumstances that led some to act differently from the majority of citizens in Nazi-occupied Europe.

(This program has been generously co-sponsored in loving memory of Dora and Samuel Kohm by their family.)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

7:30 PM Jewish Genealogical Society
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street, North York

"RECONNECTING SHATTERED LIVES: SURVIVORS LIVING IN POLAND." This program highlights the issue of Polish individuals who are discovering their Jewish roots. **JULIAN BUSSGANG** will discuss a recent book describing sixty Jewish Poles who have discovered their Jewish identity. **FAY VOGEL-BUSSGANG** will address issues in helping people explore their Jewish heritage and in finding relatives in North America.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

1:30 PM Bernard Betel Centre
1003 Steeles Avenue, North York

Film *"THE NASTY GIRL."* A school project inspires Sonja to investigate her town's past - a subject which seems to upset her neighbours. She soon discovers that her small town has some big secrets that it wants left hidden. Despite being victimized by hooded locals and bomb threats, she continues her quest for the truth. Discussion follows facilitated by **BERNIE FARBER,** National Director of Community Relations, Canadian Jewish Congress.

~

7:00 PM The Joseph E. & Minnie Wagman Centre
(Assembly Room)
55 Ameer Avenue, Toronto

"CANADIAN SURVIVORS' STORIES - A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE."
An evening for Holocaust survivors and Canadian war veterans to share their stories.

~

7:30 PM Generation to Generation Sub-Committee
of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee
Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street, North York

"SINS OF THEIR FATHERS: DIALOGUE BETWEEN A CHILD OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS AND A CHILD OF A NAZI."
EVA MOZES KOR, a "Mengele twin" and survivor of medical experiments in Auschwitz, and **"RULI,"** a child of a Nazi doctor who conducted these experiments, tell their stories.

~

7:30 PM Polish-Jewish Heritage Foundation
Bloor JCC
750 Spadina Avenue, Toronto

"CANADIAN JEWS TO THE RESCUE? THE CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS MISSION TO POLAND IN 1945." **DR. FRANK BIALYSTOK** is a writer and lecturer in the Division of Humanities, York University. The first official delegation from the Diaspora to visit the remnants of the Polish Jewish population after the War came from Canada. Dr. Bialystock will explain the goals of the mission and why it failed to meet its objectives.

7:30 PM St. John's Norway Anglican Church
470 Woodbine Avenue, Toronto

Film *"COURAGE TO CARE."* A powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to protect Jews. Discussion follows.

8:00 PM Canadian Friends of Givat Haviva
and Congregation Darchei Noam
15 Hove Street, North York

"SWITZERLAND - A WARTIME ISLAND."
HEINI BORNSTEIN is a Swiss-born lecturer and author now living in Israel. In a powerful commentary on Switzerland's wartime "neutrality," he describes his rescue activities which saved the lives of hundreds of refugees.

8:00 PM Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation
and B'nai Brith Canada
613 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill

"WHAT HAPPENED TO RAOUL WALLENBERG?"
DAVID MATAS is a renowned civil rights and refugee lawyer. Commissioned by the Government of Canada to report to them on Raoul Wallenberg, he will discuss his efforts to determine the fate and whereabouts of Raoul, the Righteous.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

6:30 PM Temple Har Zion
7360 Bayview Avenue, Thornhill

Film *"ANNE FRANK REMEMBERED."* 1996 Oscar-winning documentary by Jon Blair. Discussion following with Dutch hidden child **ADA WYNSTON**, daughter of Dutch rescuers **MARIA JACOBS**, and Holocaust survivor **ROBERT ENGEL**. Youth program.

~

7:00 PM Calvin Presbyterian Church
26 Delisle Avenue, Toronto

Film *"COURAGE TO CARE."* A powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to protect Jews. Panel discussion follows.

NOVEMBER 2 & 3

7:30 PM Medina Theatre Ensemble
15 Hove Street, North York

"THE ACHING HEART OF SAMUEL KLEINERMAN." A Berlin family faces choices that no family should face – hard, cruel choices requiring the ultimate in courage or self-denial. By Polish born playwright **MARION ANDRE**, founder of Theatre Plus.

~

7:30 PM The Workmen's Circle
471 Lawrence Avenue West, North York

"SURVIVOR CREATIVITY." Lecture by **AYELET KUPER**, who recently completed a Ph.D. in Yiddish Literature at Magdalen College, Oxford University. A Rhodes Scholar who graduated from Harvard in 1994, she will discuss Yiddish literary publications published by displaced persons between 1946 and 1948.

~

7:30 PM St. John Chrysostom Catholic Church
432 Ontario St., Newmarket *(Corner of Ontario and Main Streets)*

Film *"WEAPONS OF THE SPIRIT."* During World War II, the entire French village of Le Chambon sheltered and saved 5,000 Jews. Filmmaker Pierre Sauvage returns to the village that saved his life to honour the "conspiracy of goodness." Panel discussion follows.

~

7:30 PM Our Lady of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church
2565 Bathurst Street, Toronto

"A PAGE FROM THE HOLOCAUST." Based on the life of Miep Gies, who protected the Frank family during their years in hiding. With **MARY MARGARET BUSS**, an accomplished actress who specializes in one-woman productions. She received her dramatic training at Texas Christian University and Houston's Theatre Inc.

8:00 PM Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue
100 Elder Street, North York

"KEEP THE MEMORY ALIVE." **SAM BLOCH**, Vice President of the American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors, will speak on his saga of survival. **JENNY EISENSTEIN**, well-known singer and a survivor of Auschwitz, will perform Yiddish songs composed during the Holocaust. **DR. SHARON GREEN**, lecturer in Yiddish literature at the University of Toronto will discuss the background and importance of the composers of these songs. *Program in memory of Jacob Eisenstein.*

7:30 PM Goethe Institut & Holocaust Remembrance Committee
163 King Street West, Toronto

"THE CHALLENGE OF THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL IN BERLIN: A TORMENTED NATIONAL MEMORY." Ten years after it was conceived, a monument to the Jews killed by Nazi Germany remains little more than a concept. One reason: lack of consensus on whether it should be for today's Jews or descendants of the killers. **DR. EKKEHARD KLAUSA,** Director for the Museum of German Resistance in Berlin.

7:30 PM Royal York Road United Church
851 Royal York Road, Etobicoke

"FAITH AFTER THE HOLOCAUST." **RABBI MARTIN J. BERMAN,** spiritual leader, Shaar Shalom Congregation.

~

7:30 PM St. Brigid Roman Catholic Church
300 Wolverleigh Blvd., Toronto

Film ***"COURAGE TO CARE."*** A powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to protect Jews. Panel discussion follows.

~

7:30 PM Sts. Martha & Mary Roman Catholic Church
1870 Burnhamthorpe Road East, Mississauga

Film ***"HEARTS OF HATE."*** A frightening documentary filmed inside Canada's growing racist movement. Discussion follows.

8:00 PM Pride of Israel Synagogue
59 Lissom Crescent, North York

"FORGIVE YOUR WORST ENEMY: IT WILL HEAL YOUR SOUL AND SET YOU FREE." **EVA MOZES KOR,** a "Mengele twin," is founder of CANDLES (Children of Auschwitz Nazi Deadly Laboratory Experiments Survivors). Mrs. Kor discusses why she has forgiven the Nazis as a means of achieving her own personal liberation.

(This program has been generously co-sponsored by Rita and Mike Englishman, and Katy and Danny Brass.)

NOVEMBER 4 & 5

8:00 PM Beth Sholom Synagogue
1445 Eglinton Avenue West, Toronto

Canadian premiere screening of *"IT WAS NOTHING... IT WAS EVERYTHING: REFLECTIONS ON THE RESCUE OF GREEK JEWS DURING THE HOLOCAUST."* Filmmaker **SY ROTTER,** President and Founder of Documentaries International Film & Video Foundation, discusses the stories of courage depicted in his film, a tribute to extraordinary Greek rescuers. (The picture above is of 3 Greek rescuers.)

8:00 PM Holy Blossom Temple
1950 Bathurst Street, Toronto

"THE HOLOCAUST IN THE COURTROOM: AN ASSESSMENT." **PROFESSOR MICHAEL MARRUS,** Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto, and Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, discusses how the Holocaust has been dealt with internationally in trials from the post-War period to the present.

8:00 PM New Fraternal Jewish Association
12 Heaton Street, North York

"THE ACHING HEART OF SAMUEL KLEINERMAN." A Berlin family faces hard and cruel choices requiring the ultimate in courage or self-denial. By Polish born playwright **MARION ANDRE,** founder of Theatre Plus.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

3:30 PM The Joseph E. and Minnie Wagman Centre
(Fireside Lounge)
55 Ameer Terrace, Toronto

"SONGS MY ZAIDA SANG." **IRV MUDRICK,** spiritual leader of the Terrace Reform Congregation, performs songs sung by zaidas in the shtetl.

~

7:30 PM Child Survivors/Hidden Children Group
Lipa Green Building
4600 Bathurst Street, North York

"CHILD SURVIVORS: FACING THE ISSUES OF TODAY." **DR. ALAN BARDIKOFF** is a psychologist specializing in the treatment of trauma, particularly relating to Holocaust survivors and their families. He will address the feelings of, and issues facing, child survivors as their children and grandchildren enter adulthood, and survivors themselves as they age and retire.

8:00 PM Holy Blossom Temple
1950 Bathurst Street, Toronto

"BENN: AN ARTIST'S RESPONSE TO THE HOLOCAUST."
DR. ROBERTA MARKUS, former Professor of Political Science, University of Toronto, discusses the Holocaust-inspired work of Ben-Zion "Benn" Rabinovich, whose works are displayed in museums around the world.

8:00 PM Canadian Young Judaea
and Shaar Shalom Synagogue
2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill

"SURVIVAL UNDER THE ENEMY'S SKIN."
SHLOMO PEREL, a Tel Aviv businessman, is the inspiration behind the award-winning film *"Europa Europa."* At the age of 14, he defied staggering odds by pretending to be an ethnic German and finding refuge in an elite Hitler Youth School. Shaar Shalom Brotherhood will unveil and dedicate a permanent Holocaust memorial *"Out Of The Darkness,"* by Toronto artist Irene Frolic, a.o.c.a.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

7:30 PM St. Leonard Anglican Church
25 Wanless Avenue, Toronto

"FROM COLOGNE TO DACHAU." **RABBI IRWIN SCHILD,** Rabbi Emeritus of Adath Israel Congregation, discusses his teen years in Germany under the Nazis as well as his experiences in Dachau.

~

7:30 PM St. Mary Immaculate Catholic Church
10295 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

Film *"COURAGE TO CARE."* A powerful documentary about rescuers from various European countries who risked their lives to protect Jews. Panel discussion follows.

8:00 PM Adath Israel Congregation
37 Southbourne Avenue, North York

"A PAGE FROM THE HOLOCAUST." Based on the life of Miep Gies, who protected the Frank family during their years in hiding. With **MARY MARGARET BUSS,** an accomplished actress who specializes in one-woman productions. She received her dramatic training at Texas Christian University and Houston's Theatre Inc.

NOVEMBER 3 & 4

PROGRAMS - AT - A - GLANCE

OPENING NIGHT
Thursday, Oct. 30

"Exodus 1947: A Look Back"
Film screening & lecture

Friday, Oct. 31

"The Boys"
Discussion

Sat., Nov. 1

"The Trial of Adolf Eichmann"
Film & discussion

Saturday, Nov. 1 – Sunday, Nov. 2

"The Holocaust: A Cultural Perspective"
Two-day program of readings, lectures, music & discussion
See Bloor JCC

Sunday, Nov. 2

"Never to Forget: Could It Happen Again?"
Lecture & slide presentation

"Models of Resistance"
Discussion

"Weapons of the Spirit"
Film & discussion

"Racism - It's Alive Today"
Discussion

"Who is Peter Islowsky?"
Film & youth program

"Faith After the Holocaust"
Discussion

"The Duty of Memory: Recording the Shoah"
Discussion

"Kingdom of Night: An Evening of Holocaust Stories"
Storytelling & discussion

"Courage to Care"
Film & youth program

"Switzerland – A Wartime Island"
Lecture

"What Happened to Raoul Wallenberg?"
Lecture

Monday, Nov. 3

"A Page From the Holocaust"
Dramatic presentation (Library program)

"Anne Frank Remembered"
Film & discussion

"Courage to Care"
Film & discussion

"The Aching Heart of Samuel Kleinerman"
Dramatic presentation

"Survivor Creativity"
Lecture

"Weapons of the Spirit"
Film & discussion

"A Page from the Holocaust"
Dramatic presentation

"Keep the Memory Alive"
Discussion & musical performance

"Benn: An Artist's Response to the Holocaust"
Lecture

"Survival Under the Enemy's Skin"
Lecture & dedication of Holocaust memorial

Tuesday, Nov. 4

"Personal Testimony of a Holocaust Survivor"
(Library program)

"Personal Testimony of a Hidden Child"
(Library program)

"Personal Testimony of a Survivor of Mengele Medical Experiments."
(Library program)

"From Cologne to Dachau"
Lecture

"Courage to Care"
Film & discussion

"A Page From the Holocaust"
Dramatic presentation

"It Was Nothing... It Was Everything: Reflections on the Rescue of Greek Jews During the Holocaust"
Canadian premiere screening & discussion

"The Holocaust in the Courtroom: An Assessment"
Lecture

Wednesday, Nov. 5

"The Aching Heart of Samuel Kleinerman"
Dramatic presentation

"Personal Testimony of a Survivor of Auschwitz"
(Library program)

"Songs My Zaida Sang"
Musical performance

"The Journey Vaja"
Discussion (Library program)

"Child Survivors: Facing the Issues of Today"
Lecture

"The Challenge of the Holocaust Memorial in Berlin: A Tormented National Memory"
Lecture

"Faith After the Holocaust"
Lecture

"Courage to Care"
Film & discussion

"Hearts of Hate"
Film & discussion

"Forgive Your Worst Enemy: It Will Heal Your Soul and Set You Free"
Lecture

Thursday, Nov. 6

"The Nasty Girl"
Film & discussion

"Personal Testimony of a Holocaust Survivor"
(Library program)

"Canadian Survivors' Stories-A Different Perspective"
Discussion

"Sins of Their Fathers: Dialogue Between a Victim and a Child of a Nazi"
Discussion

"Canadian Jews to the Rescue? The Canadian Jewish Congress Mission to Poland in 1945"
Lecture

"Racism Today in the Armed Forces"
Discussion

"The Light After the Dark"
Discussion

"Conscience and Courage: Rescuers of Jews During the Holocaust"
Lecture

Saturday, Nov. 8

"Reconnecting Shattered Lives: Survivors Living in Poland"
Lecture

Sunday, Nov. 9

"Death, Memory and Childhood: Christian Boltanski's Photographic Testimonies of the Holocaust"
Lecture illustrated with slides

"Brundibar"
Musical performance

"Remembering Who We Are: Victims, Survivors, Victors"
Lecture

"Images of Anti-Semitism in the Holocaust-or Can Posters Kill?"
Lecture

"Four Women: Resisting the Holocaust"
Lecture

"Auschwitz: Past and Future"
Lecture

"Courage to Care"
Film & discussion

"A Theological Perspective After the Holocaust"
Discussion

"Jewish Kishinev: the Past, through the Holocaust, to the Present"
Lecture

"Neo-Nazism and Youth: The Indoctrination of Tomorrow"
Discussion

PRE-PROGRAMS

Friday, Sept. 26

Dedication of Czech Torah Scroll
Public dedication

Tuesday, Oct. 28

"Holocaust Survivors and Restitution: Swiss Banks, German Property and the Role of Israel"
Lecture

Thursday, Oct. 30

"Academic Medicine and Political Terror During the Third Reich"
Lecture

"Ala's Letters"
Dramatic readings & musical presentation (Library program)

"Courage to Care"
Film & discussion

POST-PROGRAMS

Wednesday, Nov. 12

"The Making of a Commemorative Stamp"
Discussion

"Personal Testimony of a Survivor of Auschwitz"
(Library program)

Thursday, Nov. 13

"Prosecuting Nazi War Criminals - the American Experience"
Lecture

Sunday, Nov. 16

"Abraham's Gold"
Film

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS, CONSULT THE PROGRAM LISTING UNDER THE APPROPRIATE DATE IN THIS BROCHURE.

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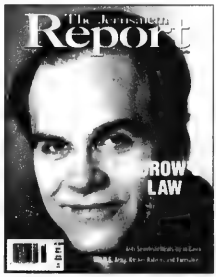


Give Yourself an Insider's Edge on Israeli Politics!

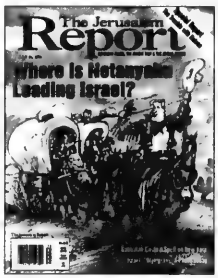
"The morning after the election I decided to give Netanyahu the benefit of the doubt. Since then, unfortunately, it has been all doubt and no benefit."

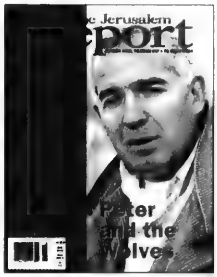
—*Bulldosed*
(opinion column)
by Hirsh Goodman

Get a New Perspective on the Palestinian Problem!

"More scary for the Palestinian Authority than scrutiny and hostile attention is the prospect of no attention at all—of being consigned to the back burner of the peace process."

—*Palestine Postponed*
by Isabel Kershner





Meet the Top Writers and Politicians in the Jewish World!

"Sichrovsky's evident delight in breaking the rules is also part of his Holocaust inheritance. His father was saved by a Gestapo agent who allowed him to escape across the border, and his mother by a priest who gave her a false baptismal certificate. As he writes in 'Strangers in Their Own Land,' his parents managed to survive 'through the treason of a Gestapo man … and the treason of a priest … I was born into this world because two people did not obey the rules. That is the basis of my life."

—*Peter and the Wolves*
by Yossi Klein Halevi
and Vince Beiser

Keep Your Fingers on the Pulse of Israeli Pop Culture!

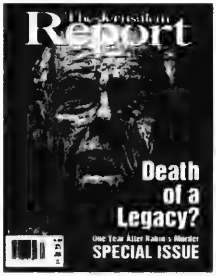
"Some critics have begun calling Sderot 'Israel's Seattle,' after the home of Nirvana, Soundgarden, Pearl Jam and other American bands that replaced the heavy metal of the 80s with more soulful music. Sderot, it should be clear by now, is no Seattle, but musically, the comparison is not so far off the mark.

—*Rockin' Moroccans*
by Janine Zacharia

Gain a New Understanding of Orthodox Culture!

"Mainstream leaders regularly declare intermarriage a mortal threat to American Jewry. Ultra-Orthodox rabbis have labeled it 'a spiritual Holocaust.' Innumerable task forces have been dispatched, studies launched, and conferences convened to find ways to overcome the specter of intermarriage. But at the grass roots, obscured by the official Sturm and Drang, most Jews are simply accepting intermarried Jews and their 1.3 million gentile spouse into their midst."

—*Intermarried with Children*
by Vince Beiser



Get Behind the Scene in the Israeli Media!

"Bizarrely, the writers and producers have used the context of two of the most vicious bombings in recent years to fashion a mediocre soap opera, complete with sex, scandal and syrupy soundtrack … 'The Mossad' blithely reduces the bombings to a backdrop for pap so clichéd you'd think the actors would have walked off the set in embarrassment."

—*Mission Improbable*
by David Horovitz

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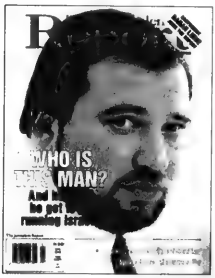
Discover the Powers behind the Powerful!

"The incident at the cemetery is the kind of occurrence that has gained Lieberman, the prime minister's most trusted staffer and probably the second-most powerful person in the country, a reputation as a mysterious, shadowy figure. His status as Benjamin Netanyahu's right-hand man is unquestionable. But his methods are sometimes seen as murky. 'Whatever happens in this country, for better or for worse, is due to Yvette Lieberman,' Knesset coalition chairman Michael Eitan observed recently—and he didn't mean it strictly as a compliment."

—Bibi's Boss
by Netty C. Gross



Explore and Expose Anti-Semitism around the World!

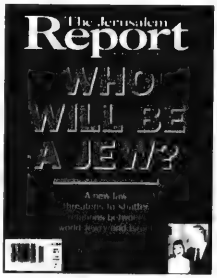
"Jews did have 'a rough time' under the Nazis, acknowledges Zundel. But, he says, 'anti-Semitism only happens when there is lots of Semitism first.' Jews were undermining German culture, exploiting German workers and the German economy, he explains. The Nazis rounded them up in self-defense."

—Radiant Hatred
by Vince Beiser

Enjoy a Land of Unique Resources!

"After six long years the Egypt Exploration Society, along with Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, can sit back and have a beer—if there's any left. Despite a price of £50 ($80) a bottle, Tutankhamen Ale, reconstructed by the Society from a 3,250-year-old recipe, is nearly sold out at London's famed department store Harrods."

—Tutankhamen Beer Hits the Spot
by Leah Eichler



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The Canadian Jewish news
136 Pages | Wednesday, October 1, 1997 | Elul 29, 5757 | 75c

L'SHANA TOVA
ELTVALTN

This Week

Coast to Coast

Supreme Court clears the way for Nazi war crimes trials to resume. *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish school system set to examine education changes. *Page 5*

Rosh Hashanah Greetings

Zionism after 100 years is the theme of this year's supplement. *B Section*

Business

Minto Developments developing $100-million condominium. *Profile.* *Page 56*

Sports

Soccer pro looks forward to promoting the sport in Canada. *Page 66*

Index

Coast to Coast 3
GTA 4
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
On Campus 26
Rosh Hashanah 5758 28
Just Between Us 31
What's New 32
International 39
The Year in Review....50
Travel, Arts & Business 52
Health 57
CJKids 58
Classified 61
Sports 66
Ask Lisa 67
Crossword....67

Shabbat Shuvah: Ha'azinu
Shabbat candles: 6:40
Tishrei 2, 5758
Havdalah: 7:45

Moments of the present

GENERATION TO GENERATION *[Paul Pascal photo]*

Like the tides that surge and recede by dint of beckoning forces, our lives too are shaped by energies and currents that we mostly feel, but can neither see nor understand.

However, during the first 10 days of Tishrei, the days of introspection and of self-assessment, the passage of our years becomes somehow clearer to us. For religious and irreligious alike, Rosh Hashanah reminds us of time's constant melancholy tug upon the forward momentum of our lives.

Time – and the awareness of it – are ever present factors that shape human life. And how we relate to time is an ever present factor that shapes individual lives.

The late Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik wrote that consciousness of time, along with consciousness of place, were the two fundamental dimensions of kedushah, of holiness. But he pointed out there were two categories of time-consciousness: qualitative and quantitative. Only the former, qualitative time-consciousness, he emphasized, was the means to a life of higher meaning and purpose, of commitment and creativity.

Editorial

Qualitative time-consciousness, he wrote, was "the appreciation of the enormous implications inherent in the fleeting moments of the present. No fraction of time, however infinite, should slip through the fingers, left unexploited; for eternity may depend upon the brief moment."

The above photo by Paul Pascal, one of the winners of *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah photo contest, conveys a sense of qualitative time-consciousness in a poignant and almost poetic way.

The contrast between the timeless, innocent, endearing little boy and the timeless, ancient craggy stones of the Wall enables us to see and helps us to understand what we usually can only feel, what Rabbi Soloveitchik referred to as the "enormous implications in the fleeting moments of the present."

The page of the calendar turns to 5758 and we will pray that no longer will infinite fractions of time slip through our fingers.

Bibi speaks to *The CJN*

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gave a Rosh Hashanah interview in his Jerusalem office to Edgar Asher, The CJN*'s Israel correspondent. The conversation covered many of the present political, social and economic issues that affect the Jewish people in Israel and in the Diaspora.*

CJN: *Mr Netanyahu, would you give your views concerning the crisis over the occupation of the house in Ras Al Amud, following the Sept. 18 agreement with U.S. millionaire Irving Moskowitz, which resulted in the three families leaving his east Jerusalem property.*

NETANYAHU: Israelis have the right to live anywhere within the sovereign territory of Israel. But in the case of Jerusalem we tend to build neighborhoods in particular places. There will be a new neighborhood in Har Choma, thousands of houses for both Jews and Arabs. Har Choma is empty and very large. It is government policy to permit private contractors to build at Har Choma — we haven't decided to build in Ras Al Amud.

The question of the law of eviction and protection of property is clear, but the law is not so clear about national security risks and this we have to consider also. We want to defuse the tension and preserve the unity and rights of the people. It is a complicated equation, but I think it is achievable.

Continued on page 48

INSIDE

Photo Contest Winners. Congratulations to ***Mimi Fliess, Jonathan Myers*** and ***Paul Pascal***. Their entries were declared to be the "winners" of our Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest. Their photographs can be seen in this issue. We thank all those who submitted photos.

Shanah Tovah to all from the directors and staff of The CJN

Rosh Hashanah 5758

Message from the prime minister of the State of Israel Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu, on the occasion of Rosh Hashanah 5758-1997

The coming year is special for us. It marks the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel.

A hundred years ago the founder of modern Zionism, Theodor Herzl, dreamt an impossible dream. He predicted the establishment of a thriving Jewish state in the Land of Israel.

His sense of history was extraordinary and his vision uncanny. But I think even he would have been pleasantly surprised by the achievements of this state.

Benjamin Netanyahu

Today almost half the Jews in the world live in Israel. We are a regional power with a strong economy and a proved ability to defend ourselves.

Our standard of living and level of productivity are comparable to those of leading European states. In the sciences and the arts we are among the leading nations of the world.

We have made significant strides towards deregulating, demonopolizing, liberalizing and privatizing the Israeli economy.

We are the world's capital in Jewish studies, and we are putting special stress on education programs which aim to preserve our values and the feeling of Jewish oneness both in Israel and the Diaspora.

We have signed peace treaties with two of our neighboring states, and we are in the midst of a peace process with the Palestinians.

I have no doubt that in the near future we will achieve peace with security for our country. And I hope that with the help of the democracies we will also be able to remove the dangers to world peace posed by the predatory regimes in the region.

But there is more to our security than the physical safety we must have. Security also means the preservation of Jewish unity, the nurturing of the bond which ties Jews everywhere. Israel's power is not limited to what we have here. It is the power of a people who may live in all the corners of the globe, but whose heart is with us in Israel.

We have good reason to be proud of our achievements. But we must not forget that the realization of the Zionist dream — the ingathering of the Jewish people in the land of Israel — is not yet complete. Our goal for the next decade must be to have a majority of the Jewish people living in Israel.

Rosh Hashanah message from the president of the State of Israel, Ezer Weizman.

Dear Friends,

Rosh Hashanah this year coincides with Israel's 50th anniversary. Much has been achieved during these 50 years. Millions of immigrants from the four corners of the earth have been successfully integrated into Israeli society. Israel stands at the forefront in science, technology and agriculture. Israel is recognized by most countries in the world, and their leaders are anxious to visit and learn from our experience.

Ezer Weizman

All this must be borne in mind considering the 50 years of ongoing struggle for our very existence and for achieving peace with our neighbors. This past year has had its full share of great tragedies. No matter how severe and painful the losses incurred, we must not become victims to helplessness and despondency. We are in the midst of a very difficult and protracted process, with many painful contentions. However, just as peace treaties were concluded with Egypt and Jordan, I am convinced that, eventually, these, too, will be achieved with the Palestinians and our other neighbors.

You were always proud when Israel fought and won her battles. Now Israel is strong and she warrants no less your continued pride and support. The stronger we are and the greater in number, the easier it will be to achieve our aims. I, once again, call on you, our brothers and sisters in the Diaspora, to join us in creating a nation, a light unto the nations.

On Rosh Hashanah, we pray for a better year to come, for peace and well-being and for the values we wish to see come true. Let us learn from the past and look ahead to a better future.

Shanah tovah u'gemar chatimah tovah.

Greetings from Israel's Ambassador to Canada, David Sultan, and Canadian Jewish Congress president, Goldie Hershon, on page 28.

A NEW YEAR
A NEW
BEGINNING.

Rosh Hashanah is traditionally a time to look back at the year just past. It is also a time of looking forward to a New Year... a new beginning.

May this New Year be one of peace. Peace of mind; peace of spirit. And may it bring peace to our homeland, and a new beginning for its people.

L'Shanna Tova,

Benjamin Netanyahu

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Nazi cases to resume

No further delays to be tolerated

By STEPHEN BINDMAN
Special to The CJN

OTTAWA — The Supreme Court of Canada has finally cleared the way for three contentious Nazi war crimes cases to resume, but not without a sharp attack on the two top judges of the Federal Court.

The country's top court last week also gave a strong endorsement to Canada's efforts to deport suspected Nazi collaborators and made it clear that no further delays will be tolerated.

In a 9-0 judgment written in the name of the entire court, the Supreme Court said there is a strong public interest in quickly bringing alleged war criminals to justice and having "allegations of the most wicked kinds of criminal activity" dealt with in court.

"The crimes involved rank among the most heinous in history and the civilized world's resolve to apply the appropriate sanctions should not be interfered with lightly," the court judgment said.

"What is at stake here, in however small a measure, is Canada's reputation as a responsible member of the community of nations."

Jewish leaders were elated that the three denaturalization cases that have been bogged down in the courts for almost three years can finally get under way and they were heartened by the Supreme Court's strong remarks about war crimes.

It was, after all, the same Supreme Court that crippled federal efforts to prosecute suspect Nazis with its 1994 ruling upholding the acquittal of retired Toronto restaurateur Imre Finta.

"I'm thrilled that the Supreme Court has said that people who have allegedly committed horrendous crimes ought not to walk free in this country without at least facing the courts," said Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress's war crimes committee.

David Matas of B'nai Brith Canada said he hopes everyone involved in war crimes cases – from judges to prosecutors – "learns a lesson" from the ruling.

"That means getting all these cases scheduled as quickly as possible. I don't think we should see in the future the kind of scheduling we saw in the past where there's a day here, there's a day there.

"We've got a biological clock ticking that's on the verge of exploding. We just can't afford to let these cases take the 10 years they looked like they were going to take."

The Supreme Court ruled that a private meeting between a senior federal lawyer and Chief Justice Julius Isaac of the Federal Court of Appeal to try to speed up the war crimes cases was a "serious affront" to the appearance of judicial independence.

But the court said the "imprudent actions" were not serious enough to warrant halting entirely

[Cont'd. on page 21]

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Greater Toronto Area

From the editor's desk

Memories of a Rosh Hashanah past

As he sat, usually but not always alone, in the cocoon-like comfort of his study, looking at old photographs, memories were his constant companions.

* * *

He recalled a time long ago when he entered a new grade and a new school.

A relative newcomer to the neighborhood and awkward in appearance, he was self-conscious and felt very nervous as he settled into a seat near no one he knew among the more than 30 other students in the band class, the majority of whom would be his classmates for the next seven years.

The first thing the nervous young boy noticed about his music teacher was the man's hair. He styled it in a severe brush-cut, virtually no hair along the sides but a paint-brush-square, thicket of short hair on top. He wore black horn-rimmed glasses that rested on rather than wrapped around his ears.

From the way he looked and the way he dressed and the way he spoke, the teacher was probably a marine on temporary leave at this junior high school. To the new student, the teacher seemed to be very old, likely nearly 30.

By the end of the first week of school, all the students in the class had received their instrument designations.

He had hoped for the drums but the marine assigned him to play the french horn. Only the tuba would have been more of an embarrassment to him.

The horn looked funny. He had to put his right hand in its large bell-shaped end to hold the instrument properly at rest on his lap or in the air while playing. And he had to sit between the tubas and the baritones. For a long time, the only sound he could extract from that instrument reminded him of the painful sob from a young moose. It certainly didn't sound like music. It came in a large heavy case which weighed him down walking to and from school.

The french horn actually descended from an animal's horn which had been used originally and primitively hundreds of years earlier to call men to the hunt. Thus, while the first horn had no valves; and undoubtedly no carrying case, the french horn he used had three valves and, as already mentioned, a large and bulky carrying case.

The marine expected him to clean the horn once a week. A cleaning simply meant applying lubricant to the tubing of the valves to enable them to be removed smoothly without any scraping or scratching or other damage to the brass. The recommended lubricant was petroleum jelly.

One day, he cleaned the horn with Vicks Vapor Rub. He could not find any petroleum jelly and inasmuch as the texture of the two gooey creams was the same, he saw no harm in applying the vapor rub all over the sliding tubes.

Flowing harmony

He knew he had made a mistake as soon as he smelled the result. It smelled real bad .

And the marine confirmed it the next day. He called the young boy, still awkward, self-conscious and nervous, into the principal's office to ask why he had attempted to sabotage the horn. Did he not know how expensive and delicate a brass instrument it was?

However, something the marine noticed in the boy's eyes – fear and trembling – convinced him quickly that the boy was not a saboteur. He let him go back to the class but only after he had wiped away all the Vicks Vapor Rub.

The hardest aspect of learning how to play the horn was mastering the required embouchure. Embouchure means the position and the application of the lips to the mouthpiece.

Mouthpieces could not be shared among french horn players. Thus he had to buy his own. In fact he had to buy two mouthpieces so that he would always have a spare in the event that he lost one.

The french horn mouthpiece is the smallest of brass instrument mouthpieces. As result, exact positioning of the lips against the small circular opening and tightly squeezing them against each other, not against the hard metal of the mouthpiece,were essential for the proper playing of the instrument. For more than a month, his lips were sore. Every now and then he developed a cold sore that would make his mouth and lips hurt even more.

Eventually, his lips grew accustomed to the idiosyncrasies of the small horn mouthpiece. He no longer developed cold sores. He didn't mind sitting between the tubas and the baritones, and he developed a love for music, for the exhilaration of joining disparate brass, wind, string and percussive sounds into recognizable melodic patterns, and especially for anchoring the deep, flowing harmonies, which was the horn's first responsibility from the back row of the orchestra.

Those seven years meant a great deal to him. But when he went to university, he never played the french horn again. But he never forgot his proper embouchure.

* * *

Sixteen years later, the young boy had become a young lawyer. He was now married, with three young children and a fourth on the way. He had an ear for music and he still loved the sound of deep, flowing harmony, but he hadn't thought of, let alone practised, his embouchure for more than a dozen years.

On a clear, blue-sky day of August during the heat of a hot summertime, his father suffered a major heart attack. That's how the doctor's described it to him, "a major heart attack."

For weeks his father lay in the hospital, connected by tubes and wires and cords to a number of display panels and other serious medical equipment.

The sight of seeing his father so immobilized was irreconcilable to the young lawyer. He tried always, when visiting him in the hospital, to mask his sadness but it was very difficult and he undoubtedly failed to do so on occasion.

Nevertheless, his father was eventually released from hospital. Weak, even frail, his father now lived in emotional and psychological shadows, no longer in the shine of the full sunlight where he had lived and encouraged others to live for 68 years.

When finally he brought his father home, it was to an altered world, a diminished world.

Rosh Hashanah arrived that year one week after his father left the hospital. But the doctors forbade him from attending synagogue.

The grief in his heart was now double. He was a tailor who always sang, who always needed to sing. And singing in synagogue was where he loved to sing most

But that year he would not be in synagogue; he would not sing; nor would he hear the shofar.

On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, after the Musaf services were finished, the young lawyer and his family walked to his father's house

They entered the home to see the father sitting in the easy chair that dominated the small living room,

[Cont'd. on page 29]

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish school system set to examine education changes

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Educators in the Jewish day school system here are adopting a wait-and-see attitude to Education Minister John Snobelin's recent sweeping changes to the school year.

And unlike the public schools, there's no talk of a teachers' strike in the Jewish day school system.

Although Snobelin reversed a policy to begin the public schools' academic year a week before Labor Day, he apparently plans to proceed with adding an extra two weeks of class time for elementary grades and three weeks for high schools.

Snobelin backed down on beginning the academic year in late August, following complaints from rural MPPs who said the move would affect farm labor, and from urban residents who also opposed the idea.

Rabbi Jeremiah Unterman, the new director of the Board of Jewish Education (BJE), said Jewish day schools are not obliged to follow provincial directives.

However, the Jewish school system plans to look at each of Snobelin's proposals, Rabbi Unterman said.

"Each school will look at the reforms to see to what extent they can accommodate them, as needed," he told *The CJN*.

Individual day schools can implement some reforms and not others, Rabbi Unterman said.

Rabbi Abraham Soffer, educational director at Associated Hebrew Day Schools, also said his school "will take each recommendation and examine it on its merit. We can decide to reject it or adopt it."

In the meantime, Associated will wait to see how the reforms play in the public system.

Snobelin said he'll press ahead for more school days, possibly by reducing the number of teachers' professional development days, going to full days instead of half days at the start of the year and cutting exam time by a week. He did not rule out shortening the Christmas and Easter breaks.

In Ontario, students are required to be in school for 194 to 197 days, below the 200-day day standard in other provinces. Rabbi Soffer said students at Associated and other Jewish day schools attend for an average of 183 days a year, a figure that can vary depending on when Jewish and statutory holidays occur.

Public teachers' unions are threatening a province-wide illegal strike within weeks unless Queen's park backs down from its reforms.

Bill 160 would not only extend the time teachers and students spend in the classroom, it would allow Queen's park to set class size, take over the setting of property tax rates and cut preparation time for teachers.

Rabbi Soffer said there's no talk of a strike among teachers in the Jewish system, who "have no luxury" to ask for more.

He said teachers at Associated get just two professional development days.

Snobelin said he wants preparation time for teachers reduced to 40 minutes a day, the same, Rabbi Soffer noted, as teachers in the Jewish system now get.

Jewish day school teachers' contracts will expire this academic year, he said, and negotiations will commence right away. But Jewish schools "can't afford more."

Rabbi Marvin Pachino, headmaster at Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), said he couldn't comment on the reforms because he hadn't seem them in detail.

But he said his school could be affected by the changes, especially if they alter graduation requirements, such as the number of class hours needed per credit. At CHAT, that number is currently 110.

He said CHAT is committed to upholding provincial guidelines if they directly affect students.

[From left] CHAT president Norman Grill, Bernie Ghert, Anne Tanenbaum, Larry Tanenbaum and Sandra Brown, past president, UJA Federation, kick off the $12-million campaign to raise funds for a new home for CHAT. [photo courtesy UJA/Federation]

CHAT gets major donations

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — CHAT, the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, has moved one step closer to realizing its dream of a new home.

A $3-million donation from Anne Tanenbaum was officially announced at a recent ceremony at CHAT's current facility on Wilmington Avenue in North York, as was a major gift from the Ghert family.

CHAT president Norman Grill told *The CJN* that these gifts, about one-third of the total necessary to build the new school, kicked off a major fundraising campaign. He said that the school hopes to start building next May or June, and to open in 1999.

The school, which will be called the Anne and Max Tanenbaum Education Centre Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, will be built near the Bathurst Jewish Centre, on the grounds of UJA Federation.

Grill said that the school now has an enrolment of 760 students, more than three times the number of 25 years ago.

Funds are being raised in conjunction with UJA Federation's Vision 2000 program.

ואהבת לרעך כמוך..

Vayikra/Leviticus/19;13

'Rabbi Avraham Yehoshua Heschel of Kopitchinitz used to say that the commandment to love your fellows does not mean to love saintly and righteous people - it is impossible *not* to love such people. G-d commands us to love even people whom it is *hard* to love.'

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Greater Toronto Area

Congress postpones decision on restructuring

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A decision on the restructuring of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) was postponed until the national plenary in Winnipeg May 24 to 26, 1998, at the recent CJC national executive meeting.

It was described by national co-chair Robbie Diamond of Toronto as the most critical issue facing Congress.

A restructuring package presented to the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) was returned with a request for more specifics and a list of key priorities of CJC and an explanation of how they would be implemented, said Zena Simces of Vancouver, Pacific region vice-president.

A representative of the CJF has been added to the small CJC committee planning the changes, said Prof. Jonathan Calof of Ottawa, and drafts of the new plan are being shared with the CJF.

"This is an open process, it is not secret. We'll talk to anyone, anywhere," said Calof.

A plea to "discount the bean counters," in ongoing negotiations over the CJC's future, was made by David Attis of Moncton, recipient of the Samuel Bronfman medal for his work on behalf of Jewish causes.

"The CJC was the heart and soul of Canadian Jewry," he said. "The Jewish family has hit on hard times. The CJC now serves the agenda, instead of setting it. It has become insular and withdrawn. Who will care for the small communities and reclaim the soul of Jewry?"

Shifts in the Jewish population of Canada have resulted in a major increase in the number of Toronto delegates among the 1,500 eligible for the plenary to be held in Winnipeg. It has also resulted in a small boost in the number of Pacific region and Manitoba delegates, a large decrease for the Atlantic region and smaller decreases for the Quebec, Alberta and Saskatchewan regions.

Housekeeping changes to make the work of the credentials committee more efficient were presented by honorary national counsel Keith Landy and approved. One modification will essentially eliminate on-site registration of delegates, a contentious item at the last plenary, he said. Non-voting observers will be able to register.

On the issue of a proposed bill that would legalize only Orthodox conversions in Israel, Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Ottawa reported that all groups in Israel are meeting together and the beginnings of a working proposal are apparent, according to sources close to the discussion.

"It is encouraging to hear that," Rabbi Bulka said. "This is a watershed that augers well. The best thing is to wait."

Of the 381 Russian immigrants from Israel who asked for refugee status in Canada in the second quarter of this year, only seven have been approved, reported Les Scheininger, immigration chair.

"We are gratified with these figures because such refugee applications have been a thorn in our side," he said.

At one time Israel was at the top of the list of countries from which most applications in Canada originated, but now Israel is in 18th place.

Not enough Jewish groups are visiting Israel, Jack Silverstone, CJC executive director, said, reporting on his year's leave of absence in that country. "I never felt insecure at any time," he said.

But ordinary Israelis consider peace a dead issue because "there is too much blood in the streets."

Based on the latest census, the executive increased the number of delegates from Toronto and its outlying area from 370 to 500 (an increase of 35 percent); and approved 116 for Vancouver and Victoria, a boost of 23; 100 for Winnipeg, up seven; and a reduction to 66 from 85 for the Atlantic region. There were decreases of 25 delegates for the Quebec region to 405, seven for Alberta to 93, and a total of 20 each for Regina and Saskatoon, down from 30 for each city.

Though Toronto and its environs, had a dramatic increase in population and delegates, Hamilton, Windsor, London and outlying communities in Ontario were all decreased by five delegates each.

Montreal lost 10 delegates and will send a total of 390, while Quebec City lost 10 and outlying Quebec communities lost five.

Ottawa (National Capital District) stayed even at 61 Halifax lost 10, Nova Scotia communities 20, New Brunswick 20, Newfoundland 16, and Prince Edward Island stayed even at one. Calgary and Edmonton lost about 18 each.

Though Scheininger proposed an amendment to have Toronto listed as Greater Toronto, he withdrew it when it was pointed out by David Rotenberg that this would include Thornhill, which is in York Region and not included in the new mega-Toronto. Instead, the executive passed an amendment adding outlying areas to major cities.

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Har Choma, settlements, to continue: Bar-Ilan

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The present Israeli government intends to press ahead with the Har Choma project in eastern Jerusalem despite Palestinian objections, a key advisor to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared last week.

And neither will Israel stop expanding existing settlements in the territories, added David Bar-Ilan, Netanyahu's director of policy planning and communications.

"We intend to continue construction at Har Choma so as to meet a housing shortage for Jews and Arabs," he said in an interview prior to delivering a speech on Israel's 50th anniversary at Congregation Shaarei Shomayim under the auspices of the Mizrachi Organization of Canada.

Bar-Ilan, former editor of the *Jerusalem Post*, maintained that Israel was not violating the Oslo accords, as the Palestine Authority (PA) claims, by building in Har Choma and in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Pointing out that the previous Labor party government expanded settlements at a faster rate, Bar-Ilan suggested that settlement expansion was a necessity.

"We're not expanding settlements territorially, but increasing the number of apartments to keep pace with population growth. Living communities must expand. If that's provocative, life is provocative."

Denying that Israeli unilateral actions provoke Palestinian terrorism, Bar-Ilan said that most of the fatalities caused by suicide bombings took place under Israel's "most conciliatory" government, led by Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres.

"Does anyone really believe that if we stopped all settlements that the Palestinians would crack down on terrorism with all their might and with all the forces at their disposal? Anyone who says that would be insulting my intelligence."

Turning to the faltering peace process, Bar-Ilan said it can be saved if the PA cracks down on the terrorist infrastructure in the autonomous areas.

Bar-Ilan contends that Arafat understands "the gravity of the problem" since U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's visit to the region last month.

According to Bar-Ilan, the PA has presented what looks like a practical plan to combat terrorism on a systematic basis.

"But we haven't really seen any action yet. If Arafat wants to join the nations that can be called peace seekers, he must fight terrorism." All other considerations, such as the unity of the Palestinians, are excuses, he charged.

"We obviously can't rely on (Palestinian) declarations anymore, but only on actions. It's very difficult to believe Arafat will do what he says, but we can hope."

In the meantime, he said, Israel has presented the PA with a list of 36 terrorists it wants extradited.

Bar-Ilan suggested that Israel is militarily prepared to carry out "surgical operations" against terrorist bases in the Palestinian autonomous areas if "the PA will not do it." But he cautioned that Israel will not do anything drastic. "We're not thinking of an invasion," he said.

Bar-Ilan urged the Palestinians to lower their expectations of what they can realistically achieve in final status negotiations with Israel, which have yet to begin.

"The Likud said all along it would not give up an inch of territory. Oslo presented the Likud with facts on the ground. Likud has adjusted its expectations to accept these facts.

"We expect the Palestinians to adjust their expectations if they want peace. We have adjusted to the reality of Oslo. The Palestinians must adjust to the reality of Israel's security needs."

Bar-Ilan said that Israel can live with an independent "self-governing Palestinian entity" with limited powers, but not with a fully sovereign Palestinian state capable of forming a large army, entering into military alliances with hostile neighbors, controlling access to Israeli air space and depriving Israel of a substantial part of its water resources.

"Israel cannot permit that."

Bar-Ilan claimed that a sovereign, unarmed Palestinian state would also be unacceptable. "It is almost a contradiction in terms. It could not be trusted to keep itself demilitarized."

Bar-Ilan declined to be drawn into a discussion of Netanyahu's Allon Plus plan, which he reportedly presented to his cabinet several months ago. Under the plan, Israel would retain at least half of the West Bank after a final settlement with the Palestinians.

"I don't think we can draw maps with the media. But the Allon Plus plan, in general, has the support of a very broad consensus in Israel, and we hope the Palestinians will not again miss an opportunity to accept something along these lines."

Bar-Ilan described as "baseless" a recent report in the Tel Aviv daily *Yediot Aharanot* concerning Israel's strategy with respect to bilateral talks with Syria. The newspaper reported that Netanyahu had informed Damascus that he was ready to adopt Yitzhak Rabin's formula of equating the depth of an Israeli withdrawal on the Golan Heights with the depth of peace with Syria.

Describing Netanyahu's policy, he noted, "We've said over and over again that we want to negotiate with Syria in good faith and with no pre-conditions." Bar-Ilan also said that Israel was well within its rights to keep the Golan.

Claiming that an Israeli withdrawal from the Golan would not necessarily yield real peace, Bar-Ilan said: "Syria really doesn't want peace the way we understand it."

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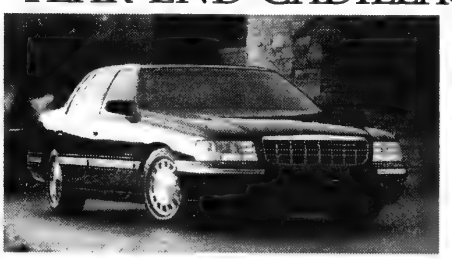

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Singular eloquence

The Supreme Court of Canada had the last word. *"The crimes involved rank among the most heinous in history, and the civilized world's resolve to apply the appropriate sanctions should not be interfered with lightly."*

This was the principle the court enunciated last week in rendering its judgment on the request by Erichs Tobiass, Johann Dueck and Helmut Oberlander to permanently suspend the effort by the government of Canada to "denaturalize" and then deport them from this country. The court then applied the facts of the case to that principle.

The crimes of which they wrote were the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Nazis and their collaborators during World War II, among whose members Tobiass, Dueck and Oberlander stand accused of being. The appropriate sanction, in this case, is Canada's attempt to expel these men from within its borders.

Most importantly, the court determined that the secret meeting between Julius Isaac, the chief justice of the Federal Court, and Ted Thompson, the former assistant deputy minister of the Department of Justice, did not warrant stopping the government's attempt to expel the three applicants.

The court criticized Isaac and Thompson. "The appearance of independence suffered a serious affront." But the court concluded the meeting had not impaired nor will it impair "the ability of the judges of the Federal Court to function independently and in accordance with their oaths." Indeed, the court expressed a measure of understanding for the reason underlying the misguided behavior by Isaac and Thompson. "We believe Thompson's motives were proper. It was his judgment that is questionable. What Thompson did was not wicked or done in bad faith. It is enough to say that what he did was inappropriate."

Thompson's motive was the desire to have Associate Chief Justice James Jerome proceed with the denaturalization case on which he was sitting, with even a bare modicum of reasonable dispatch. "In our view, [Jerome's] dilatoriness defies explanation," the court wrote.

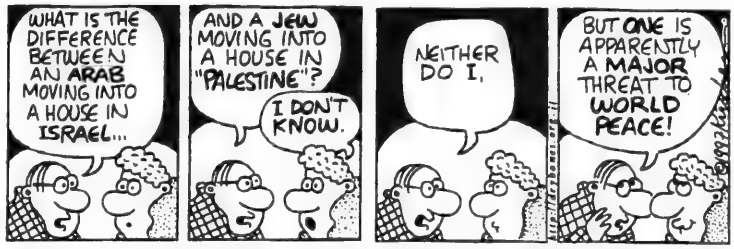
The judgment unlocks the wheels of justice to spin once again in the deportation cases of Erichs Tobiass, Johann Dueck and Helmut Oberlander. This is a very important result.

But it also affirms with unchallengable authority and with singular eloquence one of the justifications long pleaded by the many Canadians who have clamored for the prosecution of the Nazis among us. "What is at stake here, in however small a measure, is Canada's reputation as a responsible member of the community of nations. In our view, this concern is of the highest importance."

It is now up to the federal government to demonstrate that, as a member of the community of nations, of the civilized world, it will indeed have the resolve to apply the appropriate sanctions to the war criminals clinging to their Canadian refuge.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"The soul is not a structure; the soul is a process."
Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook

Dry Bones


WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN ARAB MOVING INTO A HOUSE IN ISRAEL...
AND A JEW MOVING INTO A HOUSE IN "PALESTINE"?
I DON'T KNOW.
NEITHER DO I.
BUT ONE IS APPARENTLY A MAJOR THREAT TO WORLD PEACE!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Born October 1, 1910, Judge Louis Dubinsky of Glace Bay was the first Jew to be appointed to the Superior Court of Nova Scotia. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Elie Wiesel's true message

One of the themes that Elie Wiesel "meandered extemporaneously through," as mentioned by David Lazarus (*CJN*, Sept. 18, Montreal edition only), happened to be his introduction and the basis for his talk. This theme was to return to true Torah learning, revisiting the Chumash and Talmud, as a way of brushing up on Judaism, rather than taking a Holocaust class at a university. Wiesel said, when it comes to Yiddishkeit, we should not try to learn from morbidity, but instead look to the "living" source, our Torah.

The very title, Ethics of Memory, the necessity to transmit to future generations what took place before their time, includes the nightmares of World War II, as well as Jewish heritage.

It was these words that resonated and set the stage for a message we so need to hear.

Mindy Sarna
Concordia University
Montreal

Election of CZF delegates unresolved

Re: "CZF won't hold elections for delegates to WZO" (*CJN*, Sept. 18).

The Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF) has not made any decision regarding elections and your statement, "[CZF] has decided not to hold nation-wide elections," is incorrect.

While the constituent organizations are attempting to reach an agreement regarding the distribution of delegates, the rules are quite clear that if there is not agreement a member can call for elections. The CZF executive and the area elections committee have not made any decisions respecting elections.

ARZA Canada, like all other constituent members, retains the right to call for elections. While I agree with Kurt Rothschild that elections would be expensive, I do not agree that they would necessarily be "divisive and...produce skewed results." The opinions expressed in your article by Rothschild are his personal opinions and do not reflect an official position of the CZF.

As president of CZF, Rothschild is making a genuine effort to resolve the matter in the best interests of the organization and he continues to have ARZA Canada's full support in these efforts.

Mark S. Anshan, President
ARZA Canada
Toronto

No excuse for delay on hate charges

There is absolutely no excuse for the Toronto police street crime unit or hate crimes unit to not lay charges of promoting hate against the Nazi skinheads who publicly shouted hate messages against the Roma refugees (Gypsies) while marching in front of their Scarborough motel. ("Police urged to lay hate charges in skinhead march," *CJN*, Sept. 4).

On Sept. 5, I called Det.-Sgt. Dino Doria, head of the hate crimes unit, to find out if any charges had been laid or will be laid against these skinheads. He replied there were none, and that the unit must first get "authorization from the attorney general," Charles Harnick. What's Harnick waiting for? Another Nazi march or attack?

It's important to point out the social political context for this recent racist outbreak. About three weeks ago, the Toronto press were blaming the newly arrived Roma refugees for taking up too many beds in Metro shelters.

I urge people to pressure Harnick to lay charges against these Nazi skinheads. Remember, the Nazis mass-murdered approximately 500,000 Gypsies during the Holocaust. They are our brothers and sisters.

Don Weitz
Toronto

The courage to take a risk

Rabbi Mordechai Zeitz's "Take time to reflect on life's changes" (*CJN*, Sept. 11), raises this significant question: What inhibits our ability to make real, profound changes in our lives proactively, of our own choosing, in our own time? He answers this by suggesting that we must give up something, discard the old, before adding the new. But he doesn't suggest *how*, and that's the rub! For many, letting go is hard. And beginning anew feels daunting.

Abraham unknowingly gave us a paradigm, a framework, for making significant meaningful change. He took on the mammoth task of leaving his home, culture, land, family and roots, and put his trust in G-d. (Genesis 12:1) He was willing to risk and to do; he was willing to *begin* and to take that first step.

Once that first step is taken, we must confront what unfolds and deal with all the implications. May we find the courage to search our hearts, determine what changes we want or need to make in our lives, and then, make that hard first move, as Abraham did thousands of years ago.

Susan Steinberg
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Kobe synagogue lifts spirits of transients far from home

By SHANA HABERMAN
Special to The CJN

"In all their long history, the Jewish people have done scarcely anything more wonderful than to create the synagogue. No human institution has a longer continuous history, and none has done more for the uplifting of the human race."
Robert T. Herford, Christian scholar

I boarded the train for Kobe early that morning, the first day of Rosh Hashanah, with some trepidation. My curiosity about what awaited me in Kobe was mingled with a tinge of sadness and melancholy. For the first time in my life, I would be separated from my family for the High Holy Days, a special time that over the years, I had come to associate with the wonderful smells of my mother's freshly baked challah, the warm sounds of Shanah Tovah greetings extended by relatives as they entered our home for lunch following services, and the sweet taste of apples dipped in honey.

Naturally, these were anxieties I had struggled with prior to my departure to teach English in Japan for a year. I knew that celebrating Jewish holidays in the absence of family and loved ones would be especially difficult, but these concerns seemed almost petty in light of the cultural experience I knew awaited me in Japan.

After some investigation, I learned there were two active synagogues in Japan, one in Tokyo and the other in Kobe. Eager to get a firsthand taste of what has traditionally been considered a cultural centre of Japan, and attracted to its smaller-sized congregation, I decided to spend the High Holy Days at Ohel Shelomo Synagogue in Kobe.

As soon as I entered the synagogue (admittedly only after stumbling into a Buddhist temple that I mistook for the shul), I knew that I had made the right choice. The shul appealed to me immediately with its small size, its warm decor and its overall heimishe feel. Entering its doors was for me like entering a whole other world, far removed from the foreign and sometimes bewildering world of Japan.

Seated in the women's section, I couldn't help but notice the highly eclectic mixture of people around me. Although the service was conducted in the Orthodox Sephardi tradition (a foreign combination for a Conservative Ashkenazi like myself), the congregants themselves appeared to be neither Orthodox nor Sephardi. This observation, coupled with my curiosity about the names on the synagogue's memorial tablet, prompted me to inquire about the origins of the shul and ultimately to learn about the rich history of Ohel Shelomo.

Beginning in the early 1930s and continuing into the early 1940s, Kobe was a processing centre for Jewish refugees arriving from China, Russia and the Middle East. Although it was merely a transit point for most as they were en route to North America, many chose to make Kobe their permanent home. They viewed Japan as a safe haven where they could enjoy freedom of religion – a welcome change from the religious intolerance and persecution they had encountered in their home countries.

In 1931, a congregation and Jewish community was started at Kitaoka House in the Yamamoto Dori district of Kobe, to meet the needs of the growing Jewish community. By 1939, the congregation was predominantly Sephardi and the synagogue moved to a new location. Yet another space was rented by early 1941 to accommodate the onslaught of new Ashkenazi refugees arriving from Eastern Europe. Thus, a Sephardi and an Ashkenazi congregation coexisted in Kobe for some time.

Just before the outbreak of World War II, Rahmo Sassoon, a Syrian Jew, emigrated to Japan. Shortly after his arrival, he purchased a plot of land for his business. The warehouse built on this land soon came to be used for social activities such as card clubs, and then as a place of worship. The Jews of Kobe gradually began to make donations, but as Victor Kelly, who came to Kobe from Burma in 1935 and still resides in the Japanese city, recalls, "There was no real purpose for these donations."

In 1960, Rahmo Sassoon sold this plot of land to his brother Edmund. Recognizing that the time had come to build a proper edifice to house a synagogue, the leaders of Kobe's Jewish community decided that Sassoon's plot of land would be the ideal location. They raised 10 million yen, but were still short of the 23 million yen sought by its owner. In addition, the community was divided in its opinions about the building of a new synagogue. Many lamented that there simply were not enough funds within the community to sustain such an ambitious project.

Undeterred by the doubters and determined to see his vision of a self-contained synagogue in Kobe realized, Kelly instructed Edmund Sassoon to draw up a contract for the sale of his land. He remembers saying to a then highly skeptical founding president, Jack Gotlieb: "Sign the document, we'll find the money." When asked where the money could be found, Kelly raised his hands to heaven and responded: "With G-d." And so began a campaign spearheaded by founding chair Kelly to build Ohel Shelomo Synagogue.

Once the land was paid off, a fundraising campaign began for the building of the synagogue. Private donations and promissory notes were the main sources of funds raised in the campaign, with social events like Purim parties supplementing that revenue. As an added incentive, Kelly promised seats in the synagogue to the major donors, encouraging people to give for the community and "in the name of G-d." By 1970, the fundraising campaign had achieved its goal, raising an impressive 30 million yen.

The opening ceremony for Ohel Shelomo Synagogue took place on March 10, 1970, and Kelly proudly recalls that Japanese priests, government officials and dignitaries participated to mark the occasion. At that time, the building housed not only a synagogue, but also a Hebrew school. Rather than pay the salary for a full-time rabbi and/or cantor, the congregants took it upon themselves to oversee the daily running and organization of the shul. In 1971, the shul was registered with the local Japanese government and the Jewish community of Kobe gained "official" status.

At that time, the Jewish community of Kobe had approximately 150 families. Sadly, this number has now been reduced to five or six families. Most of the older generation of Kobe Jews have died. Some members of the community, who had no surviving family members in Japan, have scattered to other areas of the world. Hence, Ohel Shelomo's congregation is now predominantly comprised of transients – people like myself who come for the High Holy Days or the occasional Shabbat service from surrounding areas like Kyoto and Osaka.

Shana Haberman with new friends at Kobe synagogue.

This leaves the future of Ohel Shelomo Synagogue in a rather precarious state. Transients do not play an active role in the daily running and management of the shul and funding through private donations is limited.

Moreover, the synagogue must now raise 18 million yen ($210,000) to repair the damage wrought by the Great Hanshin eathquake of 1995. Despite what may appear to be an insurmountable challenge, Kelly expressed confidence in the continued support of Kobe's Jewish community.

"There will always be some people who have a vested interest in the continued existence of this shul," Kelly said, "whether it be a wealthy businessman in Tokyo whose grandfather was a founding member or a traveller like yourself just passing through."

After the conclusion of the service on that first day of Rosh Hashanah, my fears of returning home with an empty stomach and a heavy heart were quickly allayed by the tantalizing sight of a lunch buffet to be served at the shul. The meal offered the perfect opportunity to satisfy my curiosity regarding the eclectic crowd I had surveyed during the service. And "transients" they certainly were – exchange students at a Japanese university for the semester, English teachers working in Japan for the year, a visiting rabbi and his wife from Brooklyn and young Israeli jewelry vendors taking advantage of the financial benefits of temporarily working in Japan, among others.

I, for one, enjoyed this festive meal in a truly unique way. There is something about being so many thousands of miles from home and all that is familiar, and yet still feeling a sense of belonging and community that simply cannot be adequately expressed in words – not to mention the taste of lokshen kugel, carrot tzimmes, challah, apples and honey and other traditional Rosh Hashanah fare. Indeed, I was so deeply moved by the experience that I found myself at a loss for words when I tried to express my heartfelt gratitude to the chef, an Israeli expatriot living in Kobe, who had prepared the meal with his wife.

The sound of the shofar, blown by Rahmo Sassoon's nephew, sent a shiver up my spine, and many emotions ran through me. It seemed as though the sounds of that shofar echoed the history of the Jewish community of Kobe and Ohel Shelomo Synagogue, and indeed, symbolized the unity of Jews all over the world. I couldn't help but think of how proudly Sassoon must be looking down on his nephew who travelled from Tokyo with his family to spend the holidays at Ohel Shelomo.

And this in turn triggered thoughts of my own grandfather who had been a cantor in various shuls throughout Hungary and would surely have appreciated seeing his granddaughter in a shul with such a rich history in such a far away land. With the sound of that shofar, I finally understood why many have suggested that the synagogue has been and still is the most potent institution for Jewish continuity throughout our history.

I left Kobe with the comforting knowledge that the following week, when I boarded the train to Sannomiya Station in Kobe for Yom Kippur, I would not do so half-heartedly. I would miss my family back home in Canada as much as ever, but could now look forward to returning to the welcoming doors of Ohel Shelomo Synagogue, a unique place of worship for Jews in Japan.

Opinions

Lebanon: Israel's Vietnam?

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

Earlier this month, Hassan Nasrallah, leader of Hezbollah, described Lebanon as "Israel's Vietnam," where it would ultimately be defeated. The recent debate in Israel over its presence in southern Lebanon has indeed sounded at times like the debate over the U.S. involvement in Vietnam some 30 years ago. For those voices that are now calling for consideration of a unilateral withdrawal, remaining in Lebanon is viewed as simply asking for more casualties without achieving any significant military or political gains.

But there are significant differences with the American experience. Vietnam was far from home, and the point of being there was lost on more and more Americans as the years dragged on and the toll in human lives grew. Lebanon is on Israel's borders, and the stated purpose of being there is to guarantee the safety of Israel's northern settlements. Some argue, in turn, that the north can be protected from within Israel's borders.

The story of Israel in Lebanon is replete with ironies. In 1982, Operation Peace for Galilee was undertaken ostensibly to assure the security of the northern settlements, but it quickly became apparent that Ariel Sharon's grand design was to push northward in Lebanon to destroy the PLO infrastructure. This strategy failed, and the first serious, Israeli public outcry against a war finally led to the withdrawal of Israeli troops in 1985. The IDF remained in southern Lebanon, in a security strip policed by the pro-Israel, largely Christian, Southern Lebanese Army. While this created a buffer zone free of the PLO for Israel's north, it provided the conditions for the growth of Hezbollah, financed by Iran and encouraged by Syria, Lebanon's patron. Hezbollah was virtually inconsequential until the IDF established the security zone.

In this war of attrition, the gruesome measure of success is the balance of casualties. Israeli military experts take comfort in a clinical balance of 3:1 in Israel's favor — three Hezbollah killed for every Israeli death. But the bitter truth in fighting against guerrilla forces of this nature is a different one. The victor is not the side that can kill more, but rather the side that can tolerate more casualties...And Israel's threshold of tolerance is much lower than that of the Hezbollah.

The Israeli psyche does not cope well with protracted wars of attrition. Israelis are capable of harnessing powerful psychological resources against adversity — for concentrated periods of time. Indeed, the Israeli attack on the Egyptian and Syrian air forces, which launched the 1967 Six Day War, was undertaken precisely because the month-long Arab siege of Israel through the troop concentrations on its borders had become psychologically and emotionally unbearable. The 1971-73 War of Attrition, four short years later, saw the emergence of unprecedented, vitriolic, political and social satire in response to the unrelenting reports of casualties. Today, the front-page photos of young casualties every few days are painfully reminiscent of the bloody toll during those difficult three years preceding the Yom Kippur War. Later, in 1989, the constant pressure of the Palestinian intifadah, which had broken out three years earlier, brought the Israeli government to the negotiating table with the Palestinians.

Today, the public challenge to the IDF presence in Lebanon is led by mothers of soldiers. They are joined by a small, but influential group of politicians and ex-military officers, who are exploring a range of creative options that might further Israel's security goals while withdrawing troops to the Israeli side of the international border. While the majority of Israelis remain supportive of the IDF presence there, even within the government there is an acknowledgment that alternatives must be explored. Overshadowing this grim reality is the Syrian question.

Last month, the horror and grief over the terrorist attack on Jerusalem's Ben-Yehuda Street mingled with the pain and shock of the failed commando raid by Israel's Navy Seals in Lebanon. For a few days, the country was numb with the shock of failure, anger and frustration, and the distinction between the two challenges was temporarily blurred. As the routine resumed, the two issues became separate again. The difference is clear. In Lebanon, Israel has no territorial claim. The issue is strictly the security of its northern border, and any Israeli leader will be prepared to consider withdrawal once this is assured. It is simple compared to the complexity of the relationship with the Palestinian Authority and the questions surrounding negotiations on the future of the West Bank.

A New Year's resolution

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Significant occasions and events may cause us to contemplate our lifestyle and sometimes move us to make significant changes. This article is meant to encourage you to do just that, in celebrating the arrival of the year 5758.

From time to time, I have called attention to a little literary magazine entitled *Ariel*, which calls itself *Israel Review of Arts and Literature* and is published four times a year in Jerusalem. Here is something from the current issue that I would like to share with you.

Most of this issue is given to Hebrew as a language and as a means of broadening one's insight into being Jewish. I know that many readers of this column have long wondered what Hebrew can do for them and have played with the idea of taking a course. I hope to firm up that potential resolve by providing you with some excerpts from two articles in the issue.

"The stereotypical image of Hebrew as a language of ritual, prayer and Sunday School is totally wrong. It deprives us of an appreciation of the immense debt western civilization owes to the Hebrew language, which is on a par with Greek and Latin. During the Renaissance, Christian scholars took a profound interest in the Old Testament and produced new translations directly from the original Hebrew, rather than using the Vulgate Latin texts. This interest can be seen, for example, in the poetry of William Blake and John Milton (who read and wrote Hebrew fluently) and in Rembrandt's famous painting *Writing on the Wall*. The Round Tower in Copenhagen is engraved with the Latin word *Doctrinament*, and a sword, heart, and God's name (the four Hebrew letters of the Tetragrammaton) indicating that the doctrine of the Protestant monarch was to let his heart be ruled by God's word."

"Knowledge of Hebrew provides direct access to the Bible, over 3,000 years of cultural creativity, a better understanding of the development of English and even a possible key to comparative linguistics, an appreciation of the biblical in modern literature, cinema, song, art, oratory and politics, and an insight into the moral, ethical, religious and judicial foundations of what we know today as Western Civilization.

"Last, but by no means least, Hebrew is the language of modern Israel and an indispensable key to understanding and appreciating Israel and its culture. Although in the Israeli linguistic marketplace, English will undoubtedly continue to enjoy immense prestige, the day is not far off – sometime in the 21st century – when a majority of the Jewish people in the world will be Hebrew-speaking Israelis. For Jews in the Diaspora, Hebrew remains important as part of their religious heritage, but increasingly it will also function as a window to Israel, and a key to their own cultural heritage."

Another article I found most fascinating in this issue of *Ariel* dealt with Eliezer Ben Yehuda, who single-handedly created modern Hebrew — which is a tale that everyone should know.

Shanah Tovah and happy learning!

Religious stock-taking for 5758

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are one of the few times a year when Jews of all persuasions can feel united. About 70 to 80 percent of Canadian Jews are likely to be in a synagogue or temple. In Canada, 77 percent of Jews claim they fast on Yom Kippur (in the United States the figure is only 64 percent.

Even secularists recognize the centrality of the High Holidays. The Workmen's Circle in New York is running ads for a "Cultural Rosh Hashanah Celebration" to be held Sunday morning, Sept. 28. It will feature "stories, activities, Yiddish folk songs and traditional holiday foods.

Judaism in North America continues to show signs of life despite gloomy demographic projections. A recent issue of *The Forward* reported on the emergence of Jewish life in Woodstock, in rural Vermont. Fifty years ago, only one Jewish family lived in the then "anti-Semitic" hamlet. In late September, the now 40 Jewish families were to parade through the streets with a new Torah for the congregation. At nearby Dartmouth College, not a single Jew was on faculty 50 years ago. Today, not only are 20 percent of the faculty and 10 percent of the student body Jews, but a new $2.6 million Roth Centre for Jewish life has been built.

Meanwhile in New York, a new program of the 92nd Street Y, Derech Torah, provides stimulating, text-based, adult Jewish education classes to many Jews who are either intermarried or far removed from synagogue life. *The Forward* reports that 1,500 people have already finished the 30-week course, and that it will be replicated in other American cities.

This process of reintroducing non-observant Jews to the joys of Jewish text and Jewish learning is also taking place in Israel. In a recent Montreal lecture, Rabbi David Hartman, charismatic Orthodox philosopher and educator, described efforts of the pluralistic Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. One program has enrolled 30 principals of non-religious schools in Israel for four years of text-based study, with even more registered for the coming year. The aim of the program is to foster a greater appreciation of Judaic religious thought in the Israeli general school system. Apparently dozens of study groups have sprung up in Israel, involving secular Jews in the study of classical Judaic sources.

Alas, there is a big difference in the Israeli and North American environments. There is no opposition to the North American programs, from any element on the Jewish spectrum. There is no downside. But the gulf between the religious and the non-religious is much deeper and more bitter in Israel.

In his Montreal address, Rabbi Hartman also outlined clearly his vision for the future status of religion in Israel. He advocated that Israel become a secular state, that the positions of chief rabbis be abolished, and that all Judaic denominations be recognized and allowed to compete. In short, he called for a complete rupture between church and state! This is anathema, obviously, to almost all of the segments of *dati* opinion in Israel.

Efforts by Rabbi Hartman and others to build bridges between the Orthodox and the non-Orthodox are likely seen as tainted or suspect by extreme elements in Israeli Orthodoxy. The growing haredi community has little use for such efforts, if they are seen as an opening wedge of religious pluralism. In theory, Rabbi Hartman is on the right track. In practice, there would be some difficulties in implementing his vision, notably in the area of immigration. The Law of Return would clearly violate the principles of a truly liberal democratic and secular state. But he may be right that Judaism could flourish in Israel by removing the state-Orthodox monopoly, and encouraging pluralism.

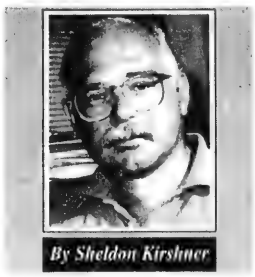
I remember an experience as a graduate student in a Hebrew University dorm. At Passover, my Israeli non-Orthodox roommates had as their major concern, planning trips to the Old City to guarantee a fresh supply of bread. Another time, I recited the Kiddush on Friday night in the presence of some young secular Israelis. They looked at me as if I had come from Mars. Since I did not conform to their image of an Orthodox Jew, they could not understand how I knew the Kiddush and why I would bother reciting it. The politicization of religion just keeps that gulf wide.

To all readers, best wishes for a Shanah Tovah U'metukah.

The Kirshner File

Edgar Bronfman: the making of a Jew

Edgar Miles Bronfman, the third child of Sam and Saidye, was born in Montreal into a world of wealth and



By Sheldon Kirshner

privilege. But, as he acknowledges in *The Making of a Jew* (G.P. Putnam's Sons, $32.50), his candid memoir of the evolution of a Jewishly-conscious man, he had less than an idyllic boyhood and he struggled with his Jewish identity.

"I had a confusing and mostly unhappy childhood," concedes Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress and chair of the Seagram Company.

Bronfman, you see, was intimidated by his father's "awesome and frightening presence." Samuel Bronfman, founder of a distillery empire which employs 30,000 workers today, was driven, very insecure and had an explosive temper which, his son always feared, could be turned on him.

Samuel's personality, he tells us, was forged on the anvil of anti-Semitism and his unrealized ambition of becoming a Canadian senator.

As a result of their tense relationship, Bronfman built up defences against Samuel's rages, rejecting not only him but Judaism. "As a young man growing up, Judaism...meant little to me."

As he explains in this unpretentious book, Bronfman, who was basically brought up by a nurse, was raised in a secular home which neither welcomed the Sabbath nor observed the Jewish holidays. Yet Bronfman's youthful alienation from Judaism was not only a question of indifference. "I was simply still in rebellion against my father, and I actually went so far as to eat ham at our house in Westmount on Yom Kippur."

Even later, when he was a junior executive at Seagram, Bronfman followed "the path of least resistance," not bothering to join a synagogue or trying to teach his children the rudiments of Jewish traditions.

But not long after his arrival in New York City, Bronfman got involved with the local Jewish federation and in Israeli affairs. His Jewish awareness grew during the 1950s and 1960s, though his religious awakening developed much more slowly.

After his father's death in July 1971, Bronfman embraced a leadership role at the World Jewish Congress (WJC), doing so at the urging of Nahum Goldmann, the WJC's co-founder and one of the most influential figures in his life. A decade later, Bronfman was named president of the WJC.

In this capacity, Bronfman immersed himself in Jewish issues, travelled widely and met a plethora of world leaders.

Due in part to the fact that his parents' respective families hailed from what is now Moldova and Ukraine, he began to focus on Soviet Jewry. The goals of his campaign were three-fold: the release of all Prisoners of Zion, the free emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union and the freedom of Jews to live as Jews, including the right to learn Hebrew.

In attempting to achieve these objectives, Bronfman and his aide, Israel Singer, hewed to a two-track strategy. They created "plenty of noise" and they entered into talks with Moscow.

Bronfman does not claim that the WJC alone changed the status quo in the Soviet Union. "But we were there at the right time, and we were able to show the Soviets what they had to do to be accepted as a civilized nation among civilized nations."

Bronfman's success in Moscow stemmed from two factors. "I was seen not only as a Jewish leader, but as an important business figure: one must remember that the Soviets (and former Soviets) still think that the Jews have undue influence, and that the real rulers in the West are those who run businesses."

Turning to another topic, Bronfman contends that Germany, despite its payment of reparations to Holocaust survivors, still "owes" Jews and Israel.

On the eve of Germany's reunification in 1990, Bronfman delivered a speech in Berlin in which he set out several points: Jews will never forget the Holocaust, nor should Germans; the German government must protect all minorities; Germany must have a special relationship with Israel; Germany must never become a nuclear power.

The speech, he writes, was well received but did not make Chancellor Helmut Kohl "deliriously happy."

Bronfman devotes a chapter to the Kurt Waldheim affair, which, he reveals, the WJC initiated so as to revive the fading memory of the Holocaust. He describes Waldheim, who tried to conceal his Nazi past, as "a despicable liar." And, perhaps unjustly, he claims that Austria "is still the head office for anti-Semitism..."

In reading the rest of *The Making of a Jew*, which Bronfman composed in longhand over a 10-year period, I was struck by a number of his observations.

He implicitly takes credit for having convinced Poland to re-establish diplomatic relations with Israel in the early 1980s. The Poles were convinced that better ties with the United States went through Israel.

He had an "up-and-down" relationship with Menachem Begin, and he strongly disagreed with Yitzhak Shamir's settlement policy. He financially supported Yitzhak Rabin in the 1992 election, being convinced that his plans for peace "were strategically perfect." He calls George Bush one of "the best foreign friends Israel ever had."

Bronfman wants peace for Israel, but not at any price. He notes that there is still a disagreement about what constitutes "defensible borders" for Israel, and pledges that he will never use "gift dollars" as leverage to affect its security.

Taking issue with Benjamin Netanyahu's views, Bronfman believes that "one of the best things that could happen to Israel is to have a democratic Palestinian state on its border."

Israel, he adds, can neither return to the intifadah nor annex the West Bank and convert itself into a binational state.

As for the status of the Golan Heights, he believes it should not be returned to Syria without ironclad security assurances.

In concluding, Bronfman maintains that the battle against anti-Semitism must be fought on two levels. First, it must be exposed, and second, Jews must take pride in their Jewishness. "This means, essentially, that Jews must have a better Jewish education."

Without it, he feels, the Jewish community faces a process of attrition, or, as he puts it, is liable to "slip down the slippery slope to a silent and painless Holocaust."

Bronfman, given the path two of his seven children have chosen, has more than a passing acquaintance with assimilation.

Sam, his oldest son, married an Episcopalian who was devoted to her faith. Sam adopted her religion, and before she died of cancer in 1991, she made him promise to bring up their kids as Christians. "He will honor that vow," Bronfman reports.

Edgar Jr., in his second marriage, wed a Venezuelan Catholic in a ceremony presided over by a rabbi and a priest.

In light of these developments, it is not surprising that Bronfman has called upon Jews to rededicate themselves to their Jewishness. "Let us go to work," he writes," for there is much to be done."

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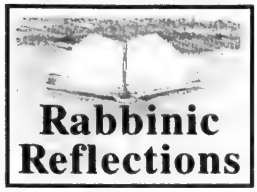
Moses' eternal message



By RABBI JOSEPH KELMAN

In the period preceding the High Holy Days, we read the Book of Devarim in which Moshe Rabenu gave his last discourses to the People of Israel. His words have a ringing message even today.

Every year before the High Holy Days, we read the portion Nitzavim and many years, like this one, Vayelach. As we read Chapter 13, Verses 7-14, it seems as if Moshe could foresee the attitude of many Jewish people in the early 20th century who tried to rationalize not being as observant as they were in eastern Europe. One excuse was *"es is schver tzu zein a Yid"* — "It is hard to be a Jew."

Moshe's message answers this rationalization by saying that the mitzvot in the Torah are not too hard nor were they intended to be practised only in some far distant land. It was as if Moshe understood that some North American Jews would suggest that Judaism was more relevant across the sea in Europe or in Israel.

Moshe suggests in Chapter 13, Verse 14, that keeping the Torah is very possible for all and must be done in three stages "with your mouth, with your heart and then put it into practice." The message to us is very clear. We must use our lips for prayers, for blessings and the study of Torah.

This can be strengthened when our hearts are attuned and inspire us emotionally and intellectually to fulfil the third suggestion, "la-asoto," to do the mitzvot.

Hopefully, on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, our hearts will inspire us to greater observance. Jewish adults in the 20th century have acquired a great deal of secular education. Regrettably, they do not have a similar knowledge or background when it comes to the law, customs and rituals of Judaism. Many such educated Jews have not realized that the rituals and laws which are Divine commandments also have ethical and moral values to them. Our observance of them helps bring us closer to G-d. With proper understanding they also make us more sensitive human beings.

Rabbi Kelman is rabbi emeritus of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Recommended sites for Rosh Hashanah surfing

Today, I complete my month-long look at some of the best sites on the Jewish Highway. And just in time for the High Holy Days, here are some recommendations of the best sites set up by the major Jewish religious movements.

The best starting point for the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism is at **[http://uscj.org/uscj01.html]**. There, you'll find links to the Jewish Theological Seminary **[http://www.jtsa. edu/]**, the Masorti movement in Israel **[http://www.masorti.org/]** and the ECRUSY Canada youth movement **[http://uscj.org/usy/ index0.html]**.

The Home Page for the Union of American Hebrew Congregations can be found at **[http://www.shamash.org/reform/uahc/]**. For more on Reform Judaism, don't miss Kolel On-line: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning **[http://www.cherniak.on.ca/kolel/]**. And for a place to go and exchange points of view, visit the Liberal Judaism Mailing List Index **[http://www.compclass.com/mlj/]**.

The Jewish Reconstructionist Federation has its home page at **[http://shamash.org/jrf/]**. Congregation Agudas Achim of Attleboro, Mass., has a very good Web site that illustrates Reconstructionist Judaism in practice at **[http://shamash.org/jrf/agudasma/]**.

The Orthodox Union's (OU) Cyber Home of Torah **[http://www.ou.org/]** has links to its audio visual Beit Hamidrash in addition to information about the OU's kashrut service. Project Genesis: Torah on the Information Superhighway **[http://www.torah.org/]** operates numerous classes and Jewish e-mail lists at a variety of levels.

Also well worth a look is Chabad-Lubavitch in Cyberspace **[http:// www.chabad.org]**. In addition to sections on Torah and the festivals, you'll also find background on Chassidism and on the Mashiach.

Here are a couple of recommended sites for Rosh Hashanah surfing. For a comprehensive summary of the traditions of the Days of Awe, check out Virtual Jerusalem **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/rosh/index.htm]**. You'll find everything there, from essays on prayer and holiday recipes to games for kids. For a page with many more New Years' links, go to Maven **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx122.htm]**.

Most of the "best of" sites that I have looked at are the product of non-profit organizations or for profit companies. But some of the best work on the Jewish Highway is done by individuals with a message to share. I highly recommend the work of Calgary's Eliezer Segal **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/Art_Index.html]** (with his Rosh Hashanah essays at **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/Calendar_Index.html#RH]**.) This is a wonderful site with over 150 articles on a wide variety of subjects, each with a bit of heritage, Halachah or humor that will both surprise and educate. Not the kind of stuff I learned in day school.

If I have skipped your favorite Jewish or Israeli site, I want to know about it. E-mail me the Web site's name and address, and a short explanation of why you like to surf there. I have no prizes to offer except for a bit of fame. If I use your selection in a future column, I'll credit you for your suggestion.

Well that's it for the Jewish Highway for 5757. But before I go, I would like to wish you and your family a Shanah tovah u'metuka, a good and sweet New Year.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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On Rosh Hashanah we're judged for our deeds

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

Rosh Hashanah has arrived and we once again believe that humanity is judged and our fate is soon to be sealed on Yom Kippur.

The very first Rosh Hashanah occurred on the sixth day of creation when the first man and woman came into being. Humanity began on that day, sinned on that day, was judged and punished on that day, and death entered the world on that day. It became our destiny as a species that we should be evaluated on that same day every year.

This is recorded in the first chapter of the book of Genesis, but on the Sabbath following Rosh Hashanah, we are still finishing the book of Deuteronomy. We read Moses' last words when he knows that his fate for the coming year has been sealed: he knows he will soon die.

Moses calls upon heaven and earth to listen to his last words and the midrash explains that he is commissioning them as witnesses. The juxtaposition of the beginning and the end of the Torah standing side by side is very telling.

In Genesis, the man and the woman are in direct contact with G-d. They sin by disobeying the one commandment given them and neither one willingly accepts responsibility. The man blames the woman and the woman blames the snake. In their attempt to be godlike or to ascend to heaven, they have eaten the forbidden fruit that was grown in the earth. When they hear G-d in the garden, they try to hide, unable to admit even to themselves that they have sinned.

Their crime is complex because they have involved both heaven and earth as unwitting accomplices and they refuse to atone for their actions. Although they are individually punished, the world as a whole suffers the consequences, for death enters the world at that point.

The lesson to be learned is more than one of obedience – it is one of responsibility. The man and the woman did not see themselves as connected to the world around them. They did not perceive that their actions could have universal repercussions.

The last part of Deuteronomy addresses that lesson. Moses evokes heaven and earth as eternal witnesses for humanity. They are now responsible for observing our treatment of them and we must be aware that they will hold us accountable; they are not passive, they will react.

From that time on, we cannot presume to think that our actions will stand in isolation. Every deed has echoes and ripples that affect the world we live in and the world we live on. No one can back away from his or her responsibilities, for even if one is estranged from G-d, the heaven and earth are always present, always watching.

On every Rosh Hashanah we stand to be judged for our deeds, as did the very first man and woman and all those who have come after. As we approach our fate on Yom Kippur, only our actions and our intentions will decide what heaven and earth will say.

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A time for reflection

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

Rosh Hashanah, Day of Judgment, Book of Life and Death, flocks of sheep passing before the Creator. But the kids are saying, "Do we really have to go to synagogue? To sit for hours and be bored? To watch the parade of new fashions? To mumble prayers that we don't understand? What for?"

The parent responds, "You have to go to shul. That's what all Jews do on Rosh Hashanah. It's our tradition."

On the surface there seems to be some logic to this response, the attempt to convey Jewish pride. But there's also a definite backlash factor in responding to children in a blatantly ethnocentric way, the locker room aura of putting on our uniforms and ascending to the Jewish playing fields one more time.

What happens when our children reject this tautological view of the world that says you do Jewish things because that's what Jews do? After all, we didn't tell the children why it was beneficial and essential for them to go to synagogue. We told them this is what we do in our family and in our community, and we relied on this alchemical mixture of group attachment and historical loyalty to produce gold.

Let's try a second option. The parent says, "I'm your parent and if I say you've got to shul today, you go." Admittedly the tactic of coercion causes blushing in many a post-modern Jewish household, but versions of it still resound for at least three days a year.

This approach also conveys an ostensible logic, which is that parents must establish themselves as authority figures who don't necessarily have to enter into detailed discussions with their children, especially the younger ones, about the reasons behind every obligation thrust upon them.

But if this is the exclusive rationale of the day – "We're going to shul and that's that" – then what the children learn is that power wins out. As they grow older, they often resent prayer precisely because it is a symbol of the old family power struggles. Even if the child does listen, his or her attitude will be to associate shul with a guilt feeling rather than any desire to worship.

Over the long term, that is spiritual suicide. And so Rosh Hashanah has become the Jewish family's odd little poker game, parents dutifully betting on the hand of tradition and children calling the bluff of relevance. Or if one prefers a less ennobled version of children as truth seekers, we might paraphrase the quintessential term of current teenage detachment: "Rosh Hashanah? Whatever."

The culture of "whatever" seeks to blur all distinctions by rewriting reality as a kind of fool's quest, hardly worthy of too much emotion, let alone intense existential striving. If a child grows up believing that everything's the same, then Chanukah becomes Christmas, Purim becomes Halloween.

But Judaism *is* different. While the first of January annually inspires a giant, fairly mindless party, Rosh Hashanah is a period of intense self-reflection in which we are commanded in Jewish law to reflect on our behavior and seek out ways to mend our relations with other people.

But most of all it is a time to consider our relationship with God. My experience with many teenagers is that, beneath their well-rehearsed disengagement, they have some very strong feelings about God, either the God they believe in or the God they claim is an illusion.

This Rosh Hashanah, pay attention to what your family talks about when it talks about God. According to our tradition, God will do likewise.

Greater Toronto Area

Terrorism's impact on Israeli policy increasing: prof.

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Terrorism has become more difficult for Israel to control and it is having greater impact on Israeli national policy, an expert on Middle East strategical policy told an audience at Tel Aviv University's (TAU) recent North American conference.

According to Shai Feldman, who in November will head up the Jaffe Centre of Strategic Studies which is run by TAU, terrorism has gained increasing influence on political policy since Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's death in 1995.

"The assassination of Rabin and the wave of suicide bombings in February and March of 1996 affected the result of the political election [in May 1996] and changed the course of politics in a strategic dimension."

Feldman noted that when terrorism was limited to the political arena, Israel could utilize tactical deterrents to control the terrorists and as a consequence political policy was not affected.

However, he stressed that the tactics to combat politically motivated terrorism cannot be applied to the religious terrorism prevalent today. There are few deterrents for religious fanatics willing to sacrifice their lives in the firm belief that they will have a better life in the hereafter.

He said this problem is further exacerbated by the fact that Israel has relinquished control over the major Palestinian population centres in the West bank and Gaza.

Religiously motivated terrorism also affected Israeli policy in Lebanon, which Feldman described as "the last remaining battle ground in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

He said that while the strategic policy in Lebanon has to be evaluated because of the heavy toll on soldiers' lives, it is not easy to find a viable alternative. If Israel withdraws from South Lebanon, the northern Israeli settlements may be more vulnerable to the Hezbolla attacks. He explained that such a scenario would lead Israel to launch more offensive attacks which could ultimately cause more military casualties.

Feldman also addressed the issue of mega-terrorism, which he said could conceivably threaten western societies. "There is a need to think the unthinkable" if terrorists decide "to use weapons of mass destruction as the preferred choice of combat." The west is also vulnerable to cyber-destructive attacks on its computer networks, he added.

Feldman spoke of other issues of strategic concern: the peace treaty with Egypt does not enjoy popular support in Egypt and security on Israel's northern border is threatened by the fully mobilized Syrian army.

He also said there was growing concern about the proliferation of ballistic weapons in Iran and Iraq and, in the wake of the fall of the Soviet Union — the availability of these weapons from Russia, North Korea, and China, countries starved for foreign currency.

Despite these challenges Feldman said that Israel is enjoying more stability than any time in its history.

He attributed the improvement in security to Israel's peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan and its strategic alliances with Turkey and the United States, as well as to the decline in the once powerful alliance between Russia and radical Arab countries such as Syria and Libya.

Israeli police are seen last month in Jerusalem on high alert against the possibility of yet another terrorist incident. *[RNS/Reuters]*

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Romanian born Irina and Raz Rapaport have brought a fresh and whimsical presence to the simple concept of jigsaw puzzles. Woodenzoo, the Rapaport's successful company, designs and creates freestanding 3D sculptures. Their dream of owning a business would never have gotten off the ground if they hadn't received their first loan from the Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency.

WHO 'WOOD' HAVE THOUGHT

The couple's unique concept came to them in 1992 on a trip to the mall. "We were looking for a gift for a child, and we bought something similar to the puzzle," says Irina. "I said to myself, I could make this and do it more creatively."

With their degrees in architecture and fertile imaginations, Irina and Raz began experimenting. Once they had their initial blueprint, the Rapaports headed to the Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa with a business plan in one arm and samples of their creative talents in the other. "As it happened, we were already guaranteeing a loan for friends through the Cassa. So we had to wait until they had finished their payments before we could get ours," says Irina.

"The agency provides a place for people who, in many cases would not be able to receive a conventional loan," says Loan Cassa office manager Helen Futerman. "If someone has a valid business proposal that we feel deserves acknowledgment, we will provide them with the funds to get them started."

LENDING A HAND

Once the Rapaports were approved, there was no turning back. "We got our loan at a very critical time," says Raz. "The Loan Cassa was there when we needed them. The money enabled us to accelerate the process of creating and selling. Because the work is so intensive, and each detail so intricate, it is a slow process to produce even one puzzle. It's a true labour of love."

In any given year, the agency will grant 120-150 business loans approved by a committee of volunteers, many of whom have received loans themselves. The Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa - it's just another example of UJA Federation Funding in Action.

Yediday Shabbat expands with High Holiday services

By CINDY WAXER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In keeping with the Jewish community's increasingly diverse needs, Yediday Shabbat has recently grown to include services which combine religious traditions with modern beliefs for this year's High Holy Days.

Founded in 1994 by Allan Shiff and his wife Helaine, Yediday Shabbat has 12 members, who meet once a month on Friday evenings to participate in traditional Shabbat services. They discuss the week's Torah portion, sing Shabbat melodies, light the candles, recite the Kiddush over the wine and say the Hamotzi over the challah. The evening is generally led by Eli Rubenstein, spiritual leader of the Habonim Congregation.

But unlike most Shabbat services, Yediday Shabbat's program takes a modern and humanistic approach. Although the evening's activities are based upon the readings of the Torah, members are encouraged to examine the material in the context of contemporary life.

"I don't see how you can separate humanism from Judaism, because I think to be Jewish is to be humanist," says Gerry Malis, a longtime member of Yediday Shabbat.

A diverse group comprised of theists, agnostics and atheists with varying religious backgrounds, Yediday Shabbat's unique combination inevitably leads to stimulating debates on how the laws and ideals expressed in the Torah can be applied to the moral dilemmas presented by the 20th century.

Yediday Shabbat recently received a grant from the Action Committee for Jewish Continuity on behalf of UJA Federation and is planning to hold its first-ever High Holy Day services.

"We decided that the best use of the funds would be to put together a High Holiday program in line with our Shabbat activities," says Shiff.

The services to be held at Lifestyles – Forest Hill Place will be led by Justin Lewis, a rabbinic student currently enrolled at the University of Toronto. His wife, Jane Enkin, will be the cantor. All services will feature Hebrew readings from the Torah, the singing of traditional prayers and non-gendered English translations.

In addition, Yediday Shabbat has designed its own machzor to accommodate the diverse needs of the 70 people expected to attend services. The group borrowed from various texts, with the result that the machzor is a collection of hand-picked excerpts from Reconstructionist, Reform and Conservative reading materials, as well as from the B'nai Brith prayer book entitled, On The Wings of Awe.

"We hope [our machzor] will be revised and added to over the years, but perhaps this is the creation of another document that fulfils a need in the community," says Shiff.

It's a contemporary approach to the High Holy Days. Although the group enables congregants to participate in traditional religious practices, such as reading the Jewish texts, members are permitted to regard the Torah as an examination of interpersonal relationships. And the recitation of Jewish prayers is viewed as a means to connect with one's Jewish roots rather than as a verbal proclamation of a belief in G-d.

"We generally use prayers as a symbol, as a connection with Jewish people around the world today and as a connection with the past," says Shiff.

Yet despite its unique combination of Judaic rituals and contemporary thought, Shiff says Yediday Shabbat is committed to fostering an approach to religion and culture that values its members' individual spiritual needs and diverse intellectual viewpoints. And Yediday Shabbat hopes this outlook will rekindle its participants' interest in Judaic practices, both traditional and contemporary.

For more information, call Allan or Helaine Shiff at 416-488-0688.

Lecture series set

TORONTO — Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto invites the public to attend the series Four Nights That Could Change Your Life! on four consecutive evenings between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Scholar/lecturers Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz, dean of Ohr Somayach Toronto, and Rabbi Mordechai Becher, senior lecturer at Ohr Somayach Jerusalem, will discuss Personal Relationships on Oct. 6, Shabbat on Oct. 7, Prayer on Oct. 8 and Tzedakah on Oct. 9.

All sessions begin at 8:30 p.m. at Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. W. Admission $5 per evening.

Israeli journalist in Toronto hospital

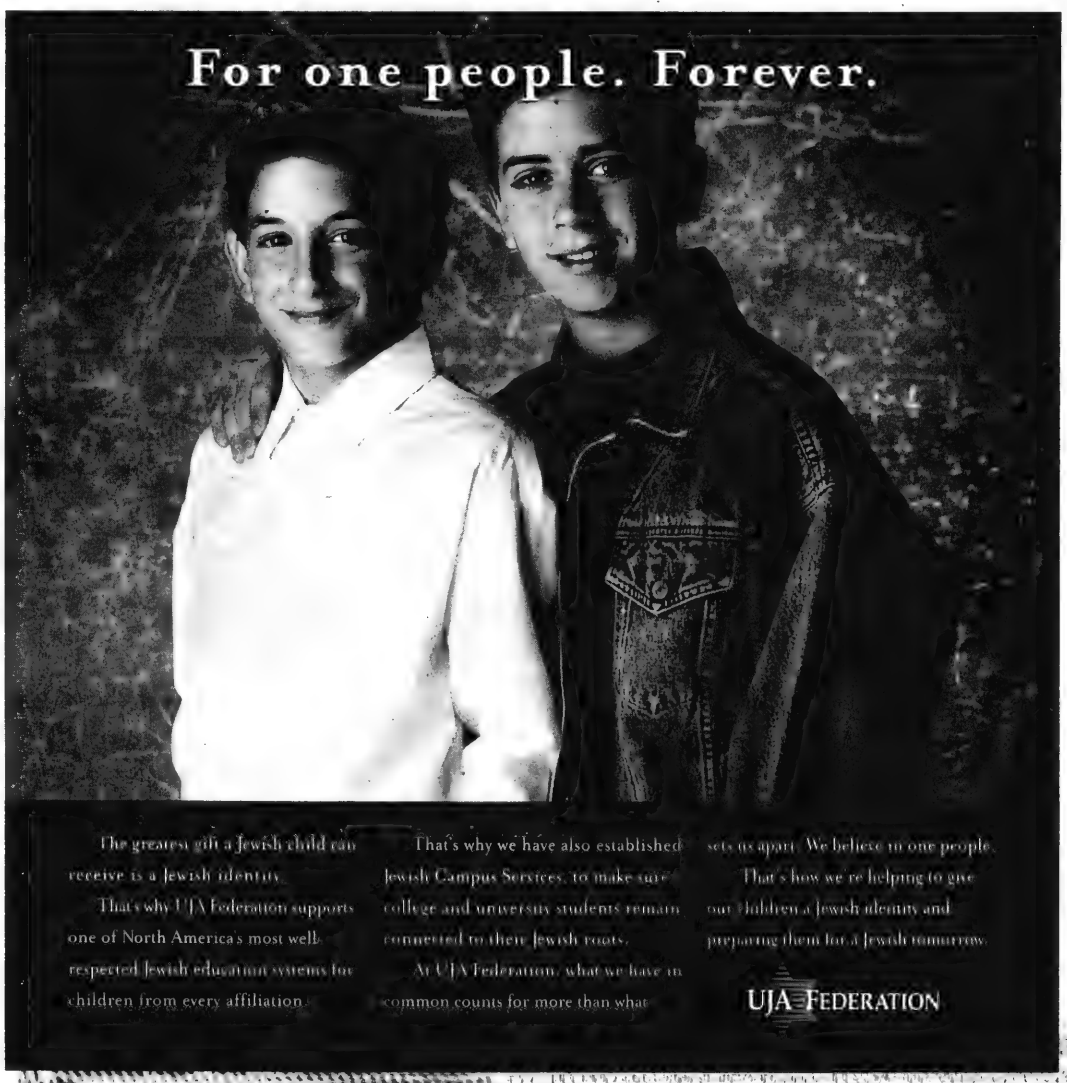
TORONTO — One of Israel's leading television journalists was listed in good condition in a Toronto hospital following heart surgery last week.

Aharon Barnea, 53, a reporter and one-time anchorman for Israel's Channel 2, underwent a triple angioplasty at Sunnybrook Hospital. He was in Toronto on a speaking tour for United Jewish Appeal.

Barnea will spend a few weeks in Toronto recuperating before returning to Israel.

Barnea is a former chief advisor to Israeli President Ezer Weizman and tallies a long career in journalism, including stints at Israel Radio News, the Israel Broadcasting Authority and *Hadashot*, a newspaper.

He's now head of the Middle East Affairs desk and is a correspondent for Channel 2.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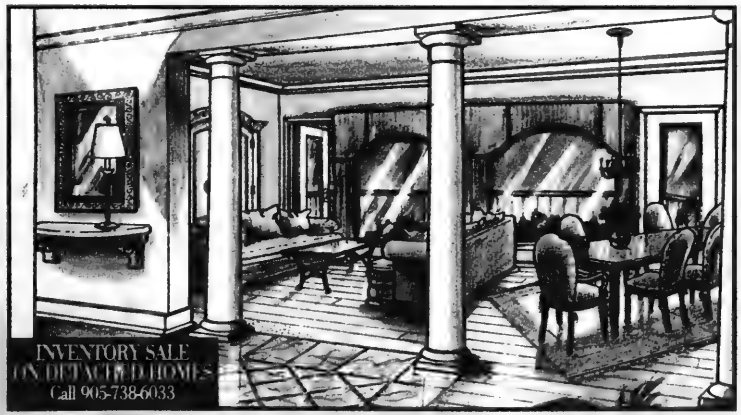

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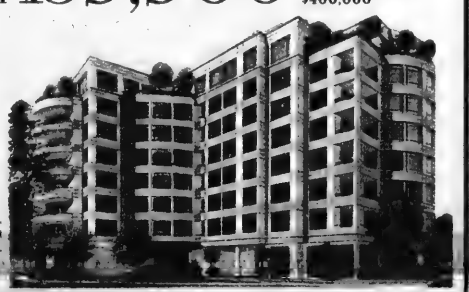

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Community Matters

HEROINES TELL HARROWING TALES

In fictional novels, a hero is the central character who has displayed in one way or another, remarkable courage, strength or bravery. But real life is often more dramatic than fiction, as Yardena Fanta and Sarah Pachanec recently explained to participants at the UJA Federation Women's Campaign Lion of Judah/Atarah luncheon in the home of Yetta and Zoltan Freeman.

Yardena, now 26, was 12 years old when the Fanta family left their Ethiopian village of Gondar and walked for 30 days across the desert to Sudan on their way to a better life in Israel. "The journey was very difficult," recalled Yardena. "We traveled only at night because we had to hide during the day. In one hand I had water, in the other was food, and I carried my little sister on my back."

Yardena's grandmother, who died last month at the age of 112, made her way on horseback.

When they finally reached Sudan, Yardena and her family lived in a refugee camp for nearly one month.

After what seemed like an eternity, the family was finally able to board a plane for Israel. There, Yardena was sent to a youth aliyah village, funded by the UJA Federation sponsored Jewish Agency. "My father kissed the ground when we landed. It was very moving for all of us."

Today, Yardena is studying for her Masters Degree in Educational Counseling at Tel Aviv University. She is also working as a counselor and workshop moderator on behalf of new Ethiopian immigrants.

February 1994 was when Sarah Pachanec arrived in Israel, but her incredible story began long before she was born. Some 50 years ago, during the Second World War, Sarah's family saved the lives of many Jews living in Yugoslavia.

(left to right) Yetta Freeman, Shira Ozery, Yardena Fanta, Sarah Pachanec, Agi Mandel, Chair of UJA Federation's Women's Campaign. Photo by Stephen Epstein

In 1994, when war broke out in Sarajevo, Sarah, her husband Branmir, and daughter Stella had a decision to make. "The country was under siege. We wanted to leave, but we needed help," remembered Sarah.

For months, the Pachanecs went into hiding, but Sarah always knew that her mother's kindness would save the family. "I knew that somehow my mother would be able to get our family out of the country. She implored the Jewish Agency for help."

Just as Sarah thought, her mother's incredible deed from 50 years ago had not been forgotten. The people whom she helped so many years before rescued them from the rubble of Sarajevo. "It didn't matter that we weren't Jewish," explained Sarah. "We were told there's a place for everyone in Israel."

Once the Pachanecs arrived in Israel the only thing left to do "was to become part of the Jewish people," said Sarah. "We converted to Judaism, had a traditional Jewish wedding, and now we live as Jews."

"Today we heard remarkable stories from courageous women who embody the true definition of strength," Women's Campaign Chair Agi Mandel told Lion of Judah and Atarah members.

This year's Lion of Judah Chairs are Fran Sonshine, Carole Grafstein and Janice Langer. The Campaign '98 Atarah Chairs are Marilyn Gold, Jill Reitman and Maryka Weisz.

Conversion Creates Commitment

Although Elaine Kehoe formally adopted the Jewish faith more than 17 years ago, her growing involvement with the Jewish community through UJA Federation and her synagogue, have made her Jewishness more complete.

Kehoe, who has worked as a law clerk for 21 years, moved from Nova Scotia to Toronto 22 years ago, led by the promise of greater opportunity. Once she became employed, Kehoe, who had given up her Roman Catholic religion long before, began to search for something to fill a growing spiritual void. "Something was missing from my life."

"I immediately sought out Judaism because of its emphasis on community and family values," explains Kehoe, who, following much soul searching, eventually converted to Judaism.

"It's never easy changing religion, but for some reason I always felt comfortable," she recalls.

Elaine Kehoe and Lewis Baker in Jerusalem on UJA Federation's Prime Ministers Mission.

Five years later, Elaine married Lewis Baker and continued to become more involved with Holy Blossom through its many volunteer programs. But Kehoe admits at times she felt like "an outsider looking in," an emotion which was further deepened by controversial conversion legislation introduced last spring in Israel.

"It wasn't until I went to Israel on a UJA Federation mission and saw with my own eyes all the work being done that I began to feel a part of something special," explains Kehoe. "Seeing how Israel takes such good care of its own people made me feel less of an outsider and more in touch with what it really means to be Jewish."

"What I saw touched me so deeply," adds Kehoe, "that when I came home I increased my UJA Federation gift without even being asked."

"Supporting UJA Federation is important if you really want to share what community is all about."

Campaign Barometer '98

- Over $24 million raised to date
- More than 18,000 donors have given a gift for the 1998 campaign
- Just over 9,000 contributors remain to be contacted
- UJA Federation raised $35.5 million last year

DIPLOMAT HASN'T GIVEN UP ON ASSAD

Syrian president Hafez Assad still wants to negotiate the fate of the Golan Heights with Israel, according to a top Israeli diplomat, recently in Toronto on a UJA Federation speaking tour.

Uri Lubrani

"Assad is interested in getting something started," said Uri Lubrani, Israel's chief negotiator with Lebanon. However, Lubrani questions Assad's strategy of using Hizbulla attacks against Israel in Lebanon as a negotiating tool for the Golan. "The Syrians believe that by pressing us on the Lebanese front, they will get advantages on the Syrian-Israeli track," observed Lubrani. "They are mistaken."

Lubrani also thinks Syria's leader has a lot to learn about the consensus required for major political or diplomatic decisions in Israel and the United States. "Assad has his own way of assessing Israeli susceptibilities," said Lubrani. "He doesn't understand our political system or the American system."

Despite terrorist attacks in Israel and the resulting diplomatic setbacks, Lubrani sees the peace process as "irreversible, because there is no other solution," and he doesn't want peace tied to an artificial timetable.

"If we cannot do it this year, we will have to do it next year," he stressed. "We will have to have enough patience, perseverance and wisdom to negotiate something that is viable."

But, for Lubrani, there's also a prerequisite. "There is no possibility of any progress," he said, "without being convinced that Arafat can deal with terror."

Lubrani has served every prime minister since Israel became a state in 1948. His career achievements include arranging for and supervising the massive rescue of Ethiopian Jews.

Feeling Rosh Hashana

Shimon Malka, who has been deaf since birth, will not hear the Shofar this Rosh Hashana. But thanks to a unique Judaic studies program funded by the UJA Federation supported Jewish Agency, he will feel the vibrations of the Shofar for the first time this year.

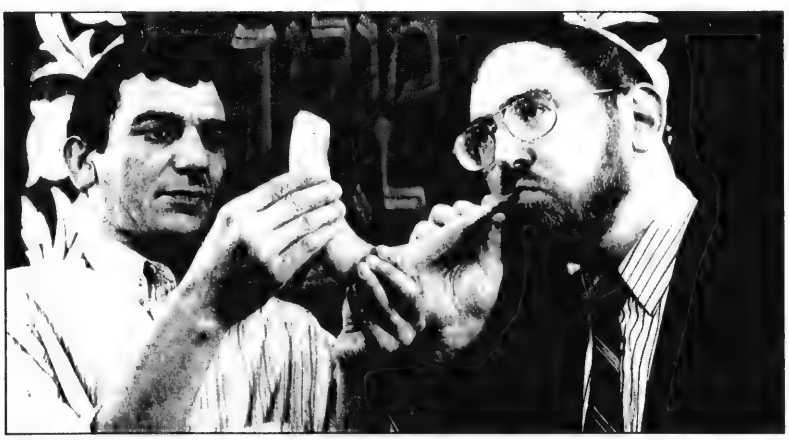
The program, run by the Yeshiva University Alumni Association in Jerusalem and Rehovot, is designed to teach the deaf about their Jewish heritage, putting them in touch with their Jewish identity.

"We found there was no real vocabulary when it came to Judaism for the deaf and we wanted to make a significant contribution of caring," organizers explain.

For Malka's family, the High Holiday season this year will be a time for reflection. Residents of Bet Shemesh, Malka, and his wife, who is also blind, lost a daughter in the tragic incident at Naharayim earlier this year, when seven teenage girls were shot and killed by a Jordanian soldier.

"She was her father and mother's link to the world," says Rabbi Chanoch Yeres, the program's group leader in Jerusalem.

Another significant aspect of the program is the training of rabbis and teachers to conduct religious services for the hard of hearing. "We employ sign language to enable the handicapped to pray and to recite kiddush," says Michael Strik, director of Yeshiva University in Jerusalem. Now the vibrations of the Shofar have been added to this repertoire.



Shimon Malka (left) with Rabbi Chanoch Yeres. Photo: David Haas.

PERSON TO PERSON

Volunteer Remembers His Roots

Person to Person is a regular column in Community Matters *profiling members of the community who, in addition to succeeding personally and professionally, have enhanced their Jewish identity and commitment to community through their involvement with UJA Federation.*

Andrew Jacob

When Andrew Jacob and his family arrived in Canada more than forty years ago, they were immigrants in a strange land. Today, through his involvement with UJA Federation and its beneficiary agencies, Jacob is extending a helpful hand to newcomers who have also chosen Toronto as their home.

Jacob, who was born in Budapest in 1944, still recalls his family's hasty winter departure by ship following the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. "There was a short window of opportunity for us to leave," he explains, "so with only the clothes on our back, we traveled to safety."

"It was bitterly cold," remembers Jacob, when he, along with his parents and sister, docked in Saint John, New Brunswick. Although their final destination was Toronto, where an aunt lived, Jacob recalls fondly the first assistance they received from the UJA Federation funded Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS). "It was nice to see a friendly face."

As they settled in Toronto, the Jacobs were concerned about the degree of anti-Semitism that might be present. "At first we were ambivalent about our Jewish identity because of what we had suffered back in Budapest," explains Jacob. Not long after they moved into Bathurst Manor they realized they could live as proud Jews.

"We started celebrating the holidays and observing Jewish traditions just like any other Jewish family."

Today, Jacob's volunteer work keeps him in touch with his immigrant past and Jewish values. In addition to being an active UJA Federation campaigner for more than ten years, Jacob has served on the case committee at the Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa, which provides interest free business and personal loans to new immigrants, among others, and currently sits on the JIAS board.

"I identify strongly with the concerns of immigrants," says Jacob. "I was one myself."

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

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Music teacher Yehuda Gilden conducts the Associated Day School Choir. [Cynthia Gasner photo]

UJA Federation Wonderfun Day draws over 2,000 people

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The sound of singing, laughter and animated conversations filled the air recently as more than 2,000 people attended the second annual UJA Federation Jewish Community Wonderfun Day at Paramount Canada's Wonderland.

This event brings together all segments of the community in a fun-filled setting, says Howard English, director of communications. "Our purpose for holding this event at Wonderland is to celebrate with our community and to enhance community unity."

Numerous volunteers and staff members were on hand to direct people to the ongoing events, which were presented by members of the community and professional performers.

Along with Wonderland's 160 attractions and 50 rides, there was entertainment throughout the day. At King's Courtyard, Mandell Entertainment disc jockeys Saul Sacks and Paul Coles played Jewish and Hebrew songs, and top 40 hits as youngsters danced and frolicked with Yogi Bear.

Devorah Stark's Grade 6 class choir of the Associated Hebrew Day Schools, conducted by music teacher Yehuda Gilden, sang Hebrew songs. They were followed by the Stars Band. A special UJA Federation interactive Island Celebration was held at the International Show Place.

There was a kosher barbecue. Treats, including popcorn, cotton candy and slushies, were provided by Richard Winkler of Happy Days.

Ted Sokolsky, the federation's campaign director said, "It is a very exciting day. It is great to see families coming out together. This is our way of thanking the community for their support."

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Correction

TORONTO — Volunteers at Bernard Betel Centre do not need to be over 55, but those eligible for respite care under the volunteer program do need to be over 55. Incorrect information appeared in a story in the Community Focus supplement of Sept. 11.

From coast to coast

Court allows Nazi cases to proceed

[Cont'd. from page 3]

the hearings before the Federal Court to strip three Ontario men of their Canadian citizenship for failing to disclose their involvement in atrocities during World War II.

The High Court said the cases should resume before another Federal Court judge who has not been "tainted" by the judicial interference.

"Canada's interest in not giving shelter to those who concealed their wartime participation in acts of atrocities outweighs any foreseeable harm that might be done to the appellants or to the integrity of the system by proceeding with the cases."

In January 1995, the federal government moved to strip Helmut Oberlander of Waterloo, Erichs Tobiass of Toronto and Johann Dueck of St. Catharines of their citizenship for lying about their wartime activities when they entered Canada.

In March 1996, Ted Thompson, then assistant deputy attorney general, met privately with Isaac to complain about the slow pace of the cases before Associate Chief Justice James Jerome.

Thompson warned the government was considering bypassing the Federal Court and referring the preliminary legal issues in the cases directly to the Supreme Court because Jerome was "unable or unwilling to proceed...expeditiously."

After conferring with Jerome, Isaac reported both were anxious to avoid a Supreme Court reference and would move quickly to ensure the cases were given "the highest priority."

Opposing lawyers were informed only a week later that the meeting had taken place in their absence.

Jerome later withdrew from the cases and another Federal Court judge, Justice Bud Cullen, granted a stay of proceedings when he called the Isaac-Thompson meeting a "serious breach of judicial independence" that prevented the men from getting a fair hearing.

Ottawa appealed and the Federal Court of Appeal overturned Cullen's ruling and ordered the cases to resume.

In its final verdict, the Supreme Court agreed the meeting was "clearly wrong," but said the "taint" was limited to Jerome and Isaac and not the entire Federal Court.

"As matters stand, society's interest in seeing the cases through to their conclusion is of a most pressing nature and outweighs the affront to the appearance of judicial independence."

The Supreme Court was most critical of Jerome, a former Liberal MP and Commons speaker, for his "inordinate and arguably inexcusable" delays, noting that in one year he held only one day of argument on a preliminary motion.

"In our view, [his] dilatoriness defies explanation," the top court said in an unusually harsh condemnation of a senior judge.

The court also said Isaac should not have met with the Justice Department lawyer, a longtime friend, without defence lawyers and should not have spoken afterwards to Jerome about the pace of the cases.

"A reasonable observer... would perceive that [Isaac and Jerome] were improperly and unduly influenced by a senior officer of the Department of Justice. However, there is no persuasive evidence of bad faith on the part of any of the actors in this drama."

The court, however, was much gentler in its treatment of Thompson, who has since been shuffled from his job in charge of all civil cases involving the federal government.

Thompson had a "legitimate grievance" because of the unacceptable delays, but chose an impermissible means of dealing with it, the justices said.

"We believe that Mr. Thompson's motives were proper. It was his judgment that is questionable. What Mr. Thompson did was not wicked or done in bad faith."

The Canadian Judicial Council has already publicly reprimanded Jerome for his "lack of initiative" in letting the cases languish but cleared Isaac of serious wrongdoing because he held the meeting "in good faith."

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Nine women in Sault Ste. Marie were called to the bimah.

Rosh Hashanah special for nine women in Sault

SAULT STE. MARIE — This Rosh Hashanah will be a special one for nine women of Congregation Beth Jacob here, marking six months since they were called to the Torah as b'not mitzvah.

Sault Ste. Marie's Jewish community, with roots that go back over 100 years, has only 35 families. The synagogue, which celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, is dependent upon volunteer leadership and a supportive membership that includes families from Michigan.

The congregation became egalitarian about five years ago and as the scope of its services broadened, a group of women began discussions that culminated with a decision that they would study Torah and Haftorah.

On March 24, the nine women, ranging in age from 46 to 86, were called to the bimah. They each recited the blessings and the section of the parshah, and one woman (recently retired principal of the Hebrew school) enjoyed the honor of the Haftorah. Two of the members gave a dvar Torah.

Personal fulfilment, a desire to participate fully in shul services and striving to be positive role models for the children of the community were some of the reasons the women gave for having the b'not mitzvah.

One way the community benefits is that it is easier to get a minyan, now that nine more may be counted. The women are organizing an adult study group, and two are learning trope.

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From coast to coast

Neo-Nazi Burdi charged with promoting hatred

WINDSOR — A leading Canadian neo-Nazi has been charged with promoting hatred through his Detroit-based music business.

George Burdi, 27, of Woodbridge, Ont., is charged with wilfully promoting hatred and conspiracy to promote hatred. Two other men, Joseph Talic, also of Woodbridge, and Jason Snow of Toronto, face the same charges.

They are to appear in a Windsor court on Oct. 10.

The Ontario Provincial Police laid the charges following a nine-month investigation that involved police in Windsor and Detroit.

The OPP said the three men operate a company called Resistance Records, which publishes and distributes rock music and a magazine.

In addition to founding Resistance Records, Burdi is a lead singer in a skinhead band called Rawoha, a white supremacist term meaning racial holy war. His songs include *Third Reich, White Revolution* and *Race Riot*.

Resistance Records also represents about 12 other skinhead bands and distributes their music through a telephone hot- line and the Internet. According to Canadian Jewish Congress, Resistance Records says it has sold some 50,000 CDs in its first 18 months of operations.

In 1995, Burdi was sentenced to a year in jail for kicking a woman in the face during a 1993 clash in Ottawa between neo-Nazis and anti-racists, who were demonstrating against a concert by Rahowa.

That conviction was upheld last February by the Ontario Court of Appeal.

Burdi was also a target of a group that calls itself the Anti-Fascist Militia, which threatened to mail parcel bombs to several neo-Nazis, including publisher Ernst Zundel.

Action taken against alleged Nazis

OTTAWA — The federal government last week informed two more suspected Nazi war criminals that it intends to strip them of their citizenship so they can be deported.

The men will not be identified until their cases go to Federal Court. They have 30 days to decide whether to fight the action.

The suspects are accused of crimes against humanity. Ottawa says they lied about their wartime activities when they entered Canada following World War II.

The latest charges mark the 13th and 14th cases Ottawa has initiated against alleged Nazi war criminals since 1995. Of those, five trials are expected to begin within the next six months.

Last month, Ottawa revoked the citizenship of Ladislaus Csizik-Csatary, 82, formerly of Montreal. He became the first war crimes suspect to lose his citizenship without a court fight.

He declined to challenge the action, which accused him of taking an active role in the deportation of thousands of Jews from Hungary to concentration camps.

The two new cases come on the heels of last week's ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada that charges against three other war crimes suspects can move ahead. (See story, page 3).

A delegation from Canadian Jewish Congress met this past Monday with Justice Minister Anne McLelland and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard to discuss the progress of war crimes cases.

Butcher shop personnel win lottery

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — For Marla Catton, it was a tremendous wedding present. On Sept. 14, she and her co-workers at Omnitsky Kosher Foods learned that they had won the $1.7 million LOTTO 6/49 jackpot.

Omnitsky owner Alan Rappaport, nine of his employees and one former employee each collected $151,515 tax free.

Omnitsky Kosher Foods is the only kosher butcher in north Winnipeg and the only manufacturer of kosher deli products in western Canada.

Over the past six years, the employees have been contributing $2 a week toward the purchase of 11 tickets for each draw.

None of the employees are planning on quitting their jobs, Rappaport notes. They are using the winnings to pay off mortgages and other bills, and save some for their children. Catton and her new husband are planning to go on a cruise.

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The Honourable
Michael Harris, Premier of Ontario

The title Righteous Among The Nations was created in an effort to honour the men and women who risked certain death to save Jewish lives during World War II. To date, more than 10,000 individual names have been inscribed on the "Righteous Wall of Honour" at the Yad Vashem Museum in Jerusalem.

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On Campus

Paikin strives to maintain balance in his life

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Television journalist Steve Paikin's moment of truth came in 1990, when he was asked to cover a political leadership convention on a Saturday.

"You either tell them, 'No, I'm sorry, I'm going to shul,' and kiss your career good-bye, or you do it," he told a group of Jewish students at Ryerson Polytechnic University.

Paikin, now co-host of TVOntario's *Studio 2*, was one of three speakers last week at campus career programs sponsored by Aish HaTorah's Jerusalem Fellowships with Jewish Campus Services. The others were Dr. William Seidelman, professor of Medicine, who spoke at the University of Toronto, and Shoshana Lev, vice-president of Nesbitt Burns, who spoke at York University.

Paikin offered career tips and discussed the balance between his personal and professional lives.

Raised in a Reform Jewish home in Hamilton, he became shomer Shabbat in his early married years.

"We quite enjoyed it," he recalled. "I really enjoyed going to services Saturday morning. It's definitely a loss." But giving his career his best shot won out.

"Some days I regret it. Most days I don't," he said. His choice turned out to be "the thin edge of the wedge," paving the way for other lapses in Jewish observance.

For balance, Paikin and a group of friends now study Torah with a rabbi every few weeks.

"The news business is truly a 24-hour-a-day thing," he said. He advised potential journalists to "have extremely understanding spouses and children."

He also noted there are many more graduates than new jobs.

An increase in the hiring of freelancers may make things easier for today's students, he said.

"For the most part, it's wonderfully exciting, challenging, interesting, fun stuff, but it's definitely a kind of bargain with the devil. In exchange for getting to meet wonderful people, ask them intimate questions about their lives and tell other people about it, the price you have to pay is you have to make all sorts of compromises in your life."

To allow him more time with his family (he and his wife have three children), Paikin gave up a morning radio show he was doing last year.

In response to an audience question, Paikin discussed the fuss raised when his six-figure salary was made public three years ago. "In the TV business it's not shocking that a host makes [a couple of thousand dollars a year] more than the chairman of the company."

There is some pressure from members of the Jewish community, he told another student. While some people call just to pitch an idea, others see him as "Mr. TVOntario" if they have any problem with the station.

He has experienced anti-Semitism only rarely, he said, adding that newsrooms have become much more multicultural.

He has no conflict over covering Jewish or Israel-related issues. "It's just so obvious your job is...to report, not opine."

A youthful 37, Paikin has been in the business 15 years. As a graduate student at Boston University, he interned on radio and TV, and wrote for publications here.

Stay in school as long as possible, he advised, stressing the need for practical experience and life experience also.

"I would urge you, if you're going [away] and plan to come back: keep in touch with people."

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A Message from the Director

As we take stock of the past year and plan for the next, it is my pleasure to extend greetings from the York University Centre for Jewish Studies.

York has more Jewish students than any other university in Canada – over 4000. We offer more than 50 courses in Jewish Studies and two undergraduate programs – a Bachelor of Arts and a combined Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education. Areas of focus include: Hebrew language and literature, classical texts, education, Jewish thought and history, Jewish community studies (especially of Canada), Holocaust, Sephardi culture, women's studies, film, and sport and recreation.

Our alumni include rabbis, teachers in Jewish schools, and community professionals and volunteers. Most, however, are people in all walks of life whose knowledge and appreciation of Judaism were deepened during their years at York.

Over the past year the Centre sponsored a variety of challenging programmes for students and for the general public. Significant research projects came to fruition including major books by Centre faculty on the Bible, Israeli history, and Canadian-Jewish Studies.

Let me thank here all those who have helped to enhance the activities of the York Centre. I hope that we may continue to serve the community well and to enjoy its support. My colleagues and I invite you to join us at York during the coming year which promises to be one of the most exciting and stimulating ever. Shana tova.

Michael Brown

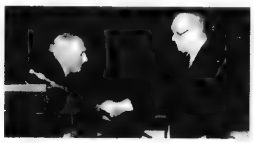
The Campaign

York is one of Canada's largest institutions of higher learning, and it is in the midst of a major fund-raising campaign. The Jewish Studies Campaign Committee is headed by Martin Goldfarb, chairman of the Goldfarb Corporation and a long-time member of York's Board of Governors. Among the accomplishments of the campaign to date are generous gifts from the Israel Koschitzky Family Foundation for a Professorship in Jewish Teacher Education and from J. Richard Shiff towards the establishment of a Chair for the Study of Canadian Jewry. Student exchanges to Israel, a traditional strength of the Centre, have been given a substantial boost by support from the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, the Leonard Wolinsky Foundation, and the family and friends of Percy Singer. Matching funds under the Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund bring these gifts to a total of more than $4M. Scholarships in Holocaust Studies have been established under this Trust Fund program by Allan Silber and by the family and friends of Berek and Regina Gertner. Scholarships for Sephardi Studies have been funded by Georges Benarroch. If you would like to become a supporter of York's Centre for Jewish Studies and its special programs, please contact Professor Michael Brown at (416) 736-5823.

Professor Michael Brown, Professor Irving Abella, Dr. Susan Mann, and Mr. J. Richard Shiff celebrating Shiff's gift to the Centre.

Professor Maynard Maidman lecturing in Russia.

Professor Alex Pomson with student Yuri Hronsky during a class in Jewish Teacher Education.



Professor Bernard Zelechow congratulating Professor Sydney Eisen at an event honouring Eisen for his service to York University.

Recent Centre Highlights

Creating the Jewish Future – an international conference sponsored by Bernie Ghert which explored dimensions of the Jewish future. The conference volume is in preparation.

New Courses – in Canadian-Jewish Studies, Holocaust Studies, and Jewish Women's Studies.

New Scholarships – over $4,000,000 pledged for Ontario Student Opportunity Scholarships in Sephardi Studies, Holocaust Studies, and for study in Israel.

Distance Education – New course in Jewish civilization offered jointly by York and Waterloo universities. Biblical Hebrew will be offered next year.

Jewish Mothers and Daughters Symposium – held jointly with the Centre for Feminist Research.

The Land and Its Interpreters – The Leonard Wolinsky Lectures in honour of the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel and the 100th anniversary of Zionism.

Israel Exchanges – York students and faculty in Israel and Israeli scholars, including a Hebrew University graduate student, at York.

Russian Exchange in Jewish Studies – faculty and student exchanges in both directions.

Scholarships and Prizes 1996-97

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Miriam Birnbaum
Metro Toronto Lodge B'nai Brith Prize in Canadian Jewish Studies
Frank Bialystok, Nancy Lewis
Samuel Rosen Book Prize
Christine Morgan, Barbra Price
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York students in Israel with Professor Martin Lockshin.

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Lectures on the new literature and art of Israel by Professor Bezalel Narkiss and noted author Natan Shaham.

A Heritage in Transition
June 7-8, 1998
A conference on the Study of Canadian Jewry supported by Heritage Canada and held jointly with Concordia University. A public symposium will feature Professors Irving Abella, Ramsay Cook, and Deborah Dash Moore.

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Rosh Hashanah 5758

A Letter From Israel

Dear Mom and Dad,

We are so proud that Israel Bonds has chosen to honour you, Mom. It is indeed, an enlightened choice and a thoroughly deserved tribute.

I remember, as a child, thinking that Israel Bonds were somehow part of the Yom Kippur liturgy, even though I could never find the right page in the prayer-book. Bonds have always been an integral part of our family's vocabulary, just as commitment to Israel has always been a foundation stone in our lives. For as long as I can remember, buying Israel Bonds has been as much a part of our family's life as Kol Nidre.

Of course, being "connected to Israel" means even more to us, now that we are living here. It's no longer just a dream or simply a part of our Jewish consciousness. In our family, Israel now means each and every waking moment: sending the kids off to school in the morning, going to work, and yes, taking the bus to shop on Ben Yehuda Street or the Machaneh Yehuda shuk.

I think of "Israel Bonds" not as a *noun,* but as a *verb:* Israel **BONDS.** And, as a transitive verb, the question of "whom does Israel bond?" is obvious. Israel bonds Jews! Israel bonds Jews - throughout the world. If we have learned anything from the difficult tragedies, that we have endured these last weeks, it is that we really are all in it together. When a family sits shiva over the loss of their 14 year old daughter in a terrorist attack, Jews, in Hamilton - and every other Jewish community in the world - grieve along with them. As we should! *Israel bonds!*

Mom, whether you knew it or not, we learned our commitment to the Jewish People and Israel by watching you. Your work for the Hamilton Jewish Community, whether at the Hamilton Jewish Federation or the Adas Israel, was always way more than a job. Anyone who watched you could see clearly that you considered it a "mitzva" as much as a profession. What makes you such a fitting honouree is that you have always worked so untiringly to ensure that other Jews built and maintained their bonds to Israel and the Jewish People, too.

Many people look to see what they can get out of affiliation with Israel and the Jewish community. If they would only watch you, they would realize that the REAL winners are the ones who give to Israel and to the Jewish community. When the bonds are strong, there is never a question of "Will my children and grandchildren be Jewish?" "Will the State of Israel continue be strong enough to stand tall against all the challenges and threats flung at her?"

Mom, you have always shown us that when one gives, with all one's strength and means, to support Israel and the Jewish community, there are no doubts about continuity. Although we can't join in this wonderful tribute to you in person, we are proud to live in the State of Israel and raise your grandchildren in the most vivid and vibrant Jewish community in the world. In this way, we hope to maintain and strengthen the bonds which you and Dad have always taught us.

As we say in Hebrew, KOL HA-KAVOD!

With all our love,

Beth, Steven, Aviad, Adira and Tamar

Beit Shemesh, Israel

This unsolicited letter was recently written to Helen "Dolly" Cohen and her husband Ralph by their son, Rabbi Steven Cohen, his wife Beth and their family. Helen was recently honoured by Israel Bonds in Hamilton for her commitment and many contributions to the community.

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Message from the Israeli ambassador to Canada, David Sultan, on the occasion of Rosh Hashanah 5758.

Dear Friends,

As we celebrate Rosh Hashanah and observe Yom Kippur, it is customary to reflect upon the year that has just past. At times the year has been painful and difficult, terrorism and violence in Israel have affected the lives of both Jews in Israel and abroad. While the path to peace will undoubtedly be strewn with hardships and problems, we must look towards the future with confidence knowing that peace will be achieved.

David Sultan

During the next year, we will have much to celebrate. One hundred years ago, Theodor Herzl gave modern expression to old sentiments by founding Zionism. Little could he have known then, as we celebrate this important milestone, that we would also be marking Israel's 50th anniversary. As Jews, we have much to be proud of concerning Israel. In a very short period, we have built a strong state, with institutions and achievements that rival those in countries that have been around for centuries.

Israel's 50th anniversary will undoubtedly serve to strengthen the relationship and bond between Israel and the Diaspora. Israel has been and must remain a focal point for both communities to rally together as brothers and sisters. I hope as we all do, that this year will bring peace to the State of Israel.

On a personal note, it has been one year since I came to Canada as ambassador. I have been encouraged by the warm welcome and support that has been accorded both my wife and me by the Canadian Jewish community. For this we are grateful.

On behalf of the government of Israel and its people, I wish you all a healthy, peaceful and prosperous Rosh Hashanah. Shanah Tovah.

Rosh Hashanah message from president of Canadian Jewish Congress Goldie Hershon

The New Year 5758 approaches and Jews around the world prepare themselves for the holiest time in the Jewish calendar. This unique period of reflection commands us to examine what we have accomplished and to seek new paths or directions.

The Canadian Jewish community is most fortunate. We live in freedom and are able to participate in the affairs of our nation and make meaningful contributions. We must continue to put as much energy as possible towards bringing suspected Nazi war criminals resident in Canada to justice. Acts of anti-Semitism and racism nationally and abroad cannot be ignored; our community must continue to be active and promote national unity; we must redouble our advocacy efforts on restitution issues and, of course, we look forward to celebrating the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel in an atmosphere of peace.

Goldie Hershon

Rosh Hashanah coincides with the 10th anniversary of the passage of federal legislation, which permitted trials in Canada for suspected Nazi war criminals. We are encouraged by recent developments on this dossier, both from the government perspective and the renewed interest shown by members of our grassroots community. During the past year communities across the country have held high profile rallies and vigils seeking a resolution to this issue. Ten cases are presently in the system.

Meanwhile, while anti-Semitism and racism continue to search for new media, the most popular of late being the Internet, Canadian Jewish Congress will continue to address the matter on a proactive basis.

As we gather in synagogue during the High Holy Days, let us all pray for a year of goodwill and coalition building between communities. May the New Year bring an end to hatred and bigotry, and may it be a year of peace, security and prosperity.

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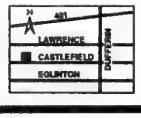

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Rosh Hashanah 5758

From the library of the Jewish Theological Seminary

Turkish Jews maintain customs

Unique recipes a holiday hallmark

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — While there are very few Sephardi Jews of Turkish descent in Toronto, those who are here try to maintain and pass on to the younger generation their unique customs and foods.

Jane Elvin was born and raised in Istanbul. Although she has lived in Israel, France and the United States, she has called Toronto home for some 20 years.

Even though she and her family live in a mainly Ashkenazi world, she told *The CJN* that she tries to maintain and pass on Turkish customs.

Turkish Jews, for instance, do not eat apples and honey on the High Holy Days. Instead, she said, they eat apple jam.

A typical Rosh Hashanah meal would consist of apple jam served in a crystal bowl; a whole fish, cooked in tomato sauce, parsley, lemon and oil, and served with the head – the head is put on the husband's dish, to symbolize his position as head of the family; meatballs made with boiled and processed leeks or potatoes, ground beef, eggs and bread crumbs; peas or green beans with rice and chicken; stuffed zucchini; and fresh fruit.

"There is a heavy emphasis on fall vegetables," she said.

Pomegranates are on the table, as is the traditional wine and challah.

A custom that Elvin remembers following in her mother's home takes place just before the erev Yom Kippur meal.

"Everyone would gather around the table and my mother would bring a soup dish with oil. You would look at yourself in the oil and say, 'G-d, if I have sinned, please forgive me as I start my fasting meal.'

"Then we would take the oil to the synagogue and they would use it to light the candles."

"The young generation doesn't do that anymore," she said with regret.

Elvin was happy to share her apple jam recipe with *CJN* readers.

APPLE JAM

1 kg. apples (She likes Spartan or Macintosh. The taste varies according to the kind of apples used.)
1 kg. sugar
3 glasses of water
juice of two lemons
1 tsp. vanilla (opt.)

Peel, wash and cut apples into two or four pieces. Clean cores well. Shred.

In a pot, melt sugar on a low temperature for about 10 minutes, stirring from time to time with a wooden spoon. Add the apples, then five minutes later add the lemon juice and water. Let cook for 35 to 40 minutes, continuing to stir from time to time.

To make sure the jam is ready, put a drop on a plate and see if it is sticky enough. Turn off the heat, and let jam cool for about two hours.

Reliving memories of a Rosh Hashanah past

[Cont'd. from page 4]

machzor in hand, quietly humming to himself the tunes of the prayers that he and his father had sung so many years ago in a part of the world that no longer existed.

All the grandchildren gathered around the humming grandfather. He looked smaller than he actually was, sitting in the large chair.

The young lawyer then brought out a shofar that he had borrowed from the rabbi.

The oldest grandchild brought out a machzor that she had borrowed from her uncle.

The living room was totally silent. There was no noise from the street, nor any commotion from the seven grandchildren encircling the wounded man sitting in front of them.

He understood what was happening and he started to cry.

Tekiah... the grandchild summoned.

And the young lawyer responded, forcing the air through his perfect embouchure to sustain a loud brassy blast from the ancient instrument.

Shevarim... he effortlessly brought forth the sobbing sounds from the horn.

Teruah... and he even remembered the staccato tapping of the tongue against the mouthpiece.

Tekiah gedolah... He held onto the last sound for an eternity.

* * *

Looking at old photographs, memories were his constant companions. *MBD*

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Rosh Hashanah 5758

Ten New Year's resolutions to consider

By RABBI BERNARD BASKIN

A bright and unsullied New Year lies before us; once again resolutions spring irresistibly to mind and heart. This year we are determined — we shall not succumb to temptation or to feckless backsliding. We cry with Macbeth: "The very firstlings of my heart shall be the firstlings of my hand."

How are we to order or govern our lives in the 12 months? Do you have a few extra moments? Consider the following:

Spend some time alone. We echo Wordsworth's lament: "The world is too much with us; getting and spending we lay waste our powers." Happy the person who can call a few hours a day his very own — away from the frenzied, insistent demands of family, business and community. Why should the din and tumult of society stifle the nobler promptings of the heart?

Maintain your individuality. No two persons are identical. Imitation may be the source of popularity, but not of greatness.

An ancient rabbi taught: "What a difference between an earthly being and the King of the Universe." A monarch mints coins upon which he stamps his image; they are all alike. But when the King of the Universe creates men and women in his image — untold millions of them — no two are exactly alike. God made us different, it is a divine right.

Read a good book periodically. A house without books is like a room without windows. Bereft of the inspiration, information and delight of books, human growth and progress is slowed. We may not agree with the philosopher who wrote: "If all the crowns of Europe were placed at my disposal on condition that I should abandon my books and studies, I should spurn the crowns and stand by the books." But we must surely agree that the person who does not read good books has no advantage over the person who can't read them.

From the library of the Jewish Theological Seminary

Accept your limitations. Our society is built on a division of labor. All who work contribute to the whole. Everyone who does his share honestly and with diligence adds to the sum total of human welfare. The heroes and champions, the chiefs and leaders of mankind — those who rise to the apex of the pyramid — depend on the building blocks of those who labor below.

Avoid a static mind. A university president said recently that five percent of people think, 10 percent think they think, and the rest would rather die than think. Life is all flux; immobility of thought or imagination means death. Properly considered, life is not a having and a getting, but a being and a becoming. There is no hope for the satisfied person — and self-complacency is the companion of ignorance.

Eliminate envy from your life. The motto of Lord Cadogan was: "He who envies admits his inferiority." It is an ignoble passion that wastes time and energy and consumes its victims with hatred. Envy blinds us to our own virtues and blessings, and magnifies those of our neighbor — his crops are always better and his cows always give more milk. The Talmud states that when the envious camel demanded horns, they cut off his ears.

Experience the joy of service. Happiness is like perfume, you can't bring it to others without something of its aroma clinging to you. The renowned Dr. Karl Menninger once advised a patient suffering from mental distress to "Turn the key in your door, find someone who needs your help and devote yourself to him." He who does not live in some degree for others hardly lives for himself.

Cultivate the art of tolerance. We are all passengers on the spaceship Earth together. Because we live within a stone's throw of each other is no reason why we must throw stones at each other. We must learn how to accept and tolerate the faults and foibles of others, if our own infirmities and terrors are to be accepted in turn. Why must we seek to make everyone over in our own image or to have them believe as we do? Most of us have committed the Golden Rule to memory; when are we going to commit it to life?

Make optimism rather then pessimism your daily philosophy. Benjamin Disreali cites as the national motto of England: "Something will turn up." Pollyannaism must be shunned, but optimism is the spur to all creativity. Ours may not be the best of all possible worlds, just the one we must make the best of. Two travellers, one a veteran and the other a novice, were climbing in the Pyrenees. One night they were forced to sleep on a rock where the winds howled and wailed. The frightened novice cried out, "I think this must be the end." "Oh, no," said the veteran, "this is how dawn arrives in the Pyrenees."

Adopt a religious attitude toward life. At its best a religious attitude means to say Yes to the universe. An open hand accomplishes more than a closed fist. It means that despite its manifold secrets and mysteries, the world displays order and makes sense. It means that what we do makes some difference in the very fabric of the cosmos. Every tomorrow has two handles. We can take hold of it by the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith. The world may be hard to explain with God, but impossible to understand without Him.

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Please see the Classified section of this issue for EARLY DEADLINES for October
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The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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***Co-ed Volleyball. MTS Presents...It's 5th Annual Co-ed Volleyball Season. Recreational & Competitive Divisions. Volleyball Registration, Sunday, Oct. 5th, 1-4pm, at Tickled Toad, 330 Steeles Ave. West. For info. call: 416-222-7111.

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שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

בשלושה שבועות נהרגו 21 חיילים ישראליים בדרום לבנון, זאת לעומת 26 חיילים שנהרגו בלבנון בכל שנת 96. אימו של החלל האחרון, קיבוצניקית מאשדות-יעקב מאוחד אומרת: "אני מתחרטת שלא פעלתי יותר למען יציאה מלבנון". ולעומתה, אמר מנהיג החמאס שבנו הלוחם נהרג השבוע בידי צה"ל שהוא מודה לאלוהים שלקח את בנו והפך אותו לקדוש. איזו מנטאליות! איזה נהינום! אין שום צורה אפילו להתחיל לדבר עם יצורים כאלה לדעתי חייבים להגיע להסדר מהר ככל האפשר עם המתונים ביותר, עראפת ודומיו, גם אם לא אוהבים אותם, לפני שהחיבאללה יחסל גם אותם. ללא שיתוף פעולה מלא עם עראפאת אין סיכוי להשתלט על התופעה הזו. רק תראו מה עושים המוסלמים הקיצוניים באלג'יריה ובמצרים כדי להבין שבלי גישה כוללת אין לעניין הזה סיכוי. והקיצוניים היהודים! הולכים ומתיישבים בלב שכונה ערבית בירושלים. את המבנים קנה באופן חוקי יהודי חרד ממיאמי, שבעוד כמה ימים יטוס לעסקי ההימורים שלו, ויישאיר חיילים ישראלים הרוגים במהומות שתהיינה בגדה. אם המרכז המתון, גם הישראלי וגם הפלשתינאי, לא ישתלט על סדר היום, הולכת להיות תקופה קשה ביותר. אין מה להגיד - השנה החדשה לא נראית טוב. אבל מה, לפחות יש על מה להתפלל.

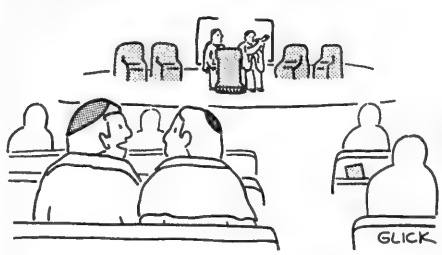
שתהיה שנה טובה.

כאשר העולם כולו רותק למסכי הטלביזיה כדי לעקוב אחרי מסעה האחרון של הנסיכה דיאנה, היה לי הכבוד לשהות כל אותו שבוע בלונדון "החמומה והמתאבלת" (לפי התיאורים בעיתונות הכתובה והמצולמת). להפתעתי חוץ מבודדים לא היה ברחובות הבירה הבריטית זכר להם, לאבל ולזעזוע עליו דיווחה התקשורת. וזה כולל את מניחי הפרחים, והאלפים שאחרי ההמתנה הממושכת בתורים האין סופיים זכו לחתום בספר האורחים, ועוד לפני שהדיו יבש על הדפים הספיקו לרוקן כוס בירה בפאבים. גם התיאטראות, המסעדות ומועדוני הריקודים חגגו עד שעות הבוקר. אז עם כל הכבוד לנסיכה שחוץ מסינדרלה, היתה אישה אצילה, אין ספק שאמצעי התקשורת ובעיקר תחנות הטלביזיה ברחבי תבל לא החמיצו הזדמנות נוספת להפוך טרגדיה למכרה זהב. וכך התחילה שטיפת מוח חסרת מעצורים שריתקה אל המסך הקטן המונים. וכמו בפרשת סימפסון, רצח רבין ואחרים, המשותף לכולם הוא רייטינג ותחרות על כיסי המפרסמים. תארו לעצמכם שדיאנה לא היתה גבוהה, לא דקיקה והעיקר דומה לחמותה, האם גם אז היתה זוכה להיות אגדה או כוכבת אופרת סבון על בית המלוכה? האם התקשורת היתה טורחת לנפח את דמותה כדי למכור לנו מוצרי צריכה? התשובה מגיעה מכלכותא הרחוקה שם נפטרה אשה צדיקה, שהקדישה את חייה לשכבות מצוקה. אך מה לעשות שמדובר בנזירה קטנה, שאופרות הסבון לא מתלבשות על דמותה המצומקת. אמנם אמא תרזה זכתה בלוויה גדולה ומכובדת, אך לעומת דיאנה קשה להתעלם מההבדל.

לא צריך להציג לאף אחד מיכם את דיויד ברוזה. מעבר ליופי המוסיקה והנגינה המושלמת בגיטרה, דיויד יצר לאלפי בני נוער יהודי וישראלי שנולדו או שוהים בצפון אמריקה גשר אל החוויה הישראלית. אין לי ספק שלו היה מתקיים משאל בנושא- היה ברוזה נבחר לזמר האהוב ביותר על בני הנוער היהודי שקשורים לישראל. מה יותר מתאים מתקופת החגים לחזק את הקשר עם הישראלי שבנו! אז להתראות בברוזה.

איפה? ב- Music Hall,147 Denforth Ave. מתי? 12 באוקטובר ב- 8 בערב. כרטיסים ב- 416-870-8000 Ticket Master.

SHMOOZIN



"It's amazing -- even in today's modern, high-tech world, our emotions are moved by something as ancient as the sound of a shofar."

Dry Bones

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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Fax: 416-785-4536

HOLIDAY DEADLINES

What's New and About People deadlines:

Monday, Oct. 6 - deadline for Oct. 15 issue

Friday, Oct. 10 (to 2:30 p.m.) - deadline for Oct. 22 issue

Monday, Oct. 20 - deadline for Oct. 30 issue.

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829

Saturday, Oct. 4

SHABBAT SHUVAH

Rabbi Moshe Stern delivers two Shabbat Shuvah drashot, How to Save and Strengthen Your Marriage, 3 p.m. at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, and Materialism and Wealth - What Has It Done to Us?, 5:15 p.m. at Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue. Everyone, men and women invited.

SUNNYBROOK MINYAN

Ma'yan Or, the Sunnybrook Liberal Minyan Shabbat services, 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. Kiddush following. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Sunday, Oct. 5

AGING AND MEMORY

The Rotman Research Institute of Baycrest Centre hosts a lecture on Aging and Memory with University of Toronto professors **Dr. Fergus Craik** and **Dr. Cheryl Grady**, at Baycrest Abe Posluns Auditorium, 2 p.m. RSVP **Karen** or **Sania** 785-2500, ext. 2616.

CUMMER LODGE

High Holy Day service for residents and next of kin at Cummer Lodge, 2 p.m., led by **Cantor Ephraim Sapir** of Beth Tikvah Synagogue and **Carl Rees**, spiritual leader of Kehilat Beit Avot at Cummer Lodge.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m., hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. All welcome to listen or tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Canadian Society for Yad Vashem memorial Service at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial, Earl Bales Park, 2 p.m. All organizations, schools, synagogues and landsmanshafts are invited to participate. 785-1333.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Feminist Book Discussion Group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network discusses *The Swamp Angel* by **Ethel Wilson,** 2 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. **Ruth Goldsmith**, 782-6414.

Monday, Oct. 6

ROMANIAN BB LODGE

B'nai Brith Romanian speaking Lodge, Dr. Filderman, meeting with **Joseph Spatru** who will speak about **Jack Elias**, 6:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. 631-0634.

CLUB FOR THE BLIND

The Hebrew Club for the Blind, providing social programs for its visually impaired members, meets 7:30 p.m., Bathurst Jewish Centre. Guest rabbi plus classical pianist **Dr. Dina Gruber.** Information, **Ben Bauer,** president, 905-731-7447.

Tuesday, Oct. 7

PRE-YOM KIPPUR

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning pre-Yom Kippur workshop with **Rabbi Ben Hollander** of Jerusalem: Tshuvah: Sin and Repentance in Biblical and Rabbinic Text, 7:30-10 p.m., Bloor JCC, Wallin Lounge. Co-sponsored with Downtown Reform Minyan. $8 at door. 905-764-1329.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

At Chug Tanach, Bible study group, **Eva Dessin** introduces the Book of Amos, Chapter 1, 8 p.m., Hurwich Educational Centre, 252 Finch Ave.W. Discussion in English.

Wednesday, Oct. 8

TORAH STUDY

Beth Tzedec Congregation presents Continuing the Legend of Nehama Liebowitz with **Rabbi Benjamin Hollander,** 7:30 p.m. Prof. Nehama Liebowitz, who died

[Cont'd. on page 33]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 32]

in mid-April at the age of 92, was known for her encyclopedic knowledge of Bible and commentaries.

JUDAISM BY THE BOOK

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich discusses What Judaism Sees in Disease and Death, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue.

FABRIC DOLL MAKING

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting 8 p.m.; Lodzer Holocaust Congregation, 12 Heaton St. **Marilyn Levy** speaks on Fabric Doll Making. **Sarita** 789-1145.

WOMEN AND WEALTH

Seminar on Investing in Your Future: Fundamental Financial Planning, at noon (complimentary lunch), Midland Walwyn, 181 Bay St. 4th floor reception. RSVP **Frances Greenwood** 369-2111 or **Jeffrey Silver** 681-4177.

And What Else Is New

SHABBATON RETREAT

Partners in Jewish Living traditional Shabbaton retreat, Judaism Faces the Challenges of Modernity: Resolving the Conflicts, for Jews by choice, their families and singles, with scholar/educator **Aaron Nussbaum,** Nov. 14-16 at Maple Lake Resort and Conference Centre in Parry Sound. A project of Rabbinical Assembly, Ontario Region, funded by Action Committee on Jewish Continuity of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. Registration deadline Oct. 14. **Rabbi Irwin Beigel** 782-1501 or **Isaac Alonso** 905-738-8547 or **Lisa Yurkiw 499-6602.**

CONCERT

Thursday Night Out Group presents **David Broza** in concert with **Marc Jordan** Sunday, Oct. 12, 8 p.m. $50 ticket includes concert and post party with performers. All proceeds go to Jewish Family & Child Service to Send a Kid to Camp. Reserve. **Jordana** 927-9818.

MEMORY AND AGING

Workshops, five weekly sessions starting Oct. 14 at the Wagman Centre, offer seniors information on changes that happen to memory during normal aging, led by Baycrest psychologists who also give practical tips on enhancing memory performance. $125. Assessments offered for an additional fee. Register 785-2500, ext. 2445.

THEATRE NIGHT

Na'amat-Club Aviva theatre night, the musical comedy *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, at New Yorker Theatre, Saturday, Nov. 8, 8 p.m. $50 (charitable donation receipt for $20). Tickets must be booked one month in advance. **Doris**, 905-771-7988.

ORAYNU EVENTS

Kol Nidre observance, Friday, Oct. 10, 8 p.m., North York City Hall Memorial Hall. RSVP **Sarah** 385-3910.

Yom Kippur discussion, **Prof. Barry Olshen** discusses the Book of Jonah, Saturday, Oct. 11, 2:15 p.m. North York Central Library, 2nd floor. RSVP Sarah.

KADIMAH AND USY

Kadimah and USY groups at Beth Tikvah Synagogue welcome individuals in Grades 6, 7 and 8 (Kadimah) and in Grades 9-19th birthday to come out, spend a few hours in a friendly atmosphere, renew old acquaintances, make new friends. **Barbara Friedman** 221-5083, local 304.

JF & CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups:

Relatives of Adults With Schizophrenia or Manic Depression, 6-week group, beginning Wednesdays in October, 6:30 to 8 p.m. **Marsha Berniker,** 638-7800. ext. 257

Self Confident Woman: to discuss self-esteem and communication skills, begins Oct. 14. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Do Your Kids Have Trouble Making Friends: for parents and kids (ages 6-18), begins Oct. 21. Pat Lieberman.

Positive Parenting groups: Your Preschooler, The School Age Child, Preteens, Surviving Your Teenager, begin Oct. 27. Pat Lieberman.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tzedec Haverim features Chai Singers in a program of multicultural music under direction of **Varda Hall Berenstein,** Monday, Oct. 6, 1:30 p.m. Hurwich Boardroom. Nominal charge.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning - Monday, Nov. 3, video movie *Mr. Holland's Opus* ; opening musical luncheon with entertainers **Ivory and Silver** Monday, Nov. 10. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Oct. 9 is a movie of unusual animals in nature forest in Zaire, 7:30 p.m. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Thornhill Square Oct. 6; Washington, Atlantic City Oct. 26-31; seminar on ABCs of Fraud Nov. 4, 10 a.m.; shopping in Buffalo Nov. 5; Square One Shopping Centre Nov. 19. Activities - table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork shop, trips day and night. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trip 1998. **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural discussion group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Club Hadar meets Mondays and Thursdays 1-4 p.m. at Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clarke Ave. W., Thornhill, Room 2 for Tai Chi, discussions, bingo. **Viola Gladman** 905-886-2625.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Uzi Grunvald of Lenscrafters adjusts glasses free of charge Tuesday, Oct. 7, 12:15 p.m.

Low Vision Support Group meeting, **Peter Liu**, pharmacist from Shoppers Drug Mart, discusses Medications for General Eye Conditions, Tuesday, Oct. 7, 1:30-3 p.m.

Arthritis information session, learn about related conditions. Films *Understanding Osteoporosis* and *Arthritis Remedies: Proven and Unproven* plus discussionThursday, Oct. 9, 1:30-2:30 p.m. **Joan**.

Arthritis Society Pain Management Clinic, **Bev Tobe**, therapist with Arthritis Society, will conduct individual assessments and counsel individuals on pain management, joint protection, energy conservation, Thursday, Oct. 9, 1-4:30 p.m. Book appointment at Wellness Desk.

Creative Writing class in conjunction with North York Board of Education. Instructor **Sylvia Warsh** Fridays 10 a.m to noon, 9 classes. Register Oct. 10. $31.50 North York residents. 491-0682 or 225-2112.

History of Music, Thursdays, 10 a.m. to noon, 9 classes, begins Oct. 9. Instructor **Esther Shifrin**. In cooperation with North York Board of Education. North York seniors Learning Card or $31.50.

Mass Media at the Millennium with **Hugh Innis** of Ryerson University, Tuesdays Oct. 7-Nov. 25, 10 a.m. **Bookie Kwart**.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-a-longs, dances, bingo. Nov. 7 is an Israeli movie. **Anna.**

Movie *The Bishop's Wife* Sunday, Oct. 5, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday afternoon social Oct. 8 features entertainer **Jenny Eisenstein** 1:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880,

New prenatal and pediatric nutrition lecture series, ext. 248.

Break the Fast Run, 10 K and 15 K Sunday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m. **Grant**, ext. 374.

Martial Arts program with kickboxing expert **David Rosenberg** and 3rd degree Black Belt karate instructor **Susan Adaskin** plus Tai Chi. **Joe Moritz**, director of athletic programs, ext. 492.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

High Holy Day services with Downtown Reform Minyan and The First Narayever Congregation at BJCC.

Women's Self Defence Club starting along with Scuba Divers Club. **Alison**.

Raptor Ball Youth Leagues for boys and girls, ages 7 to 13, learn skills, play games, attend a private Raptors practice, Fridays 5:30-7:30 p.m. or Saturdays 9-11 a.m. for 12 weeks. $60.

ABOUT PEOPLE

CANADA-ISRAEL OFFICERS

Stephen Victor, immediate past president of the Canada-Israel Committee, announces the following appointments to its board of directors: chair **Brian Morris** (immediate past president of B'nai Brith Canada); vice-chairs **Joe Wilder** and **Stephen Lipper;** treasurer **Sheldon Lerman**; secretary **Norman Godfrey**.

New appointments to the board include **Judy Mandelman**, Vancouver; **Cheryl Shore**, Calgary; **Bruce Elman**, Edmonton; **Dr. Lawrence Hart**, Hamilton; **Shoel Silver**, Toronto; **Dr. Ida Berger**, Kingston; **Evie Bloomfield-Schacter**, Montreal; **Joe Gabay**, Montreal.

CO-AUTHORS

Congratulations to chiropractic radiologists and co-authors **Dr. Peter Kogon** (professor of radiology, Universite du Quebec a Trois Rivieres) and **Dr. Marshall Deltoff** (radiologist at Central Chiropractic Group in North York) on the publication and release of *The Portable Skeletal X-ray Library* . This new textbook is an atlas of x-ray diagnosis and will be used by chiropractors, students and interns all over the world. They are the first Canadian doctors of chiropractic, specializing in radiology, to have a textbook published by Mosby-Yearbook of St. Louis, publisher of health science books and journals.

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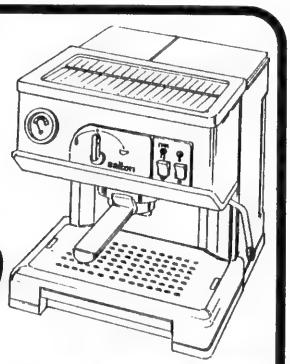

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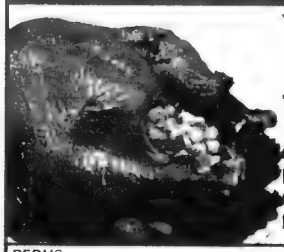

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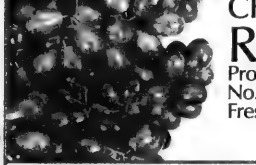

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Zionism after 100 years

They came to the Land from the many places of their dispersion. And in the very words they sang, "they built it up and were themselves rebuilt in doing so." This painting by Yochanan Simon, ***Sabbath in a Kibbutz***, captures perfectly the essence of what they achieved.

The Canadian Jewish news

Dreams fulfilled by actions

Editorial

Early on in *A History of the Jews*, Solomon Grayzel, wisely points out that "it is easier to dream than to do." He offers this wisdom subtly with the keen eye of a historian and with the knowing heart of an experienced observer of human nature.

Grayzel's aphorism evokes the very familiar but far more sonorous suggestion of Theodor Herzl: "If you will it, it is no dream."

Herzl's pen inspired; it had the journalist's flare. But Grayzel's is more insightful. It is in fact, a kind of rosetta stone unlocking the truth of human achievement.

The pages of history are filled with the stories of people who actually worked hard to achieve what they dreamed. And there can never be achievement without the sheer menial, day-in-day-out, hard work that Grayzel unglamorously calls "doing." That is certainly true of the pages of the history of modern Zionism.

In this supplement, through essay and through photograph, we have attempted to make this evident.

The dream of the return to Zion was fulfilled by the actions of countless thousands of ordinary individuals – like all of us – who in their hearts and with their hands determined, simply, to do the hard work of reclaiming and rebuilding the Land to which our collective Jewish soul has been attached for more than 4,000 years.

As we prepare to usher in the new year 5758 and as we reflect on Zionism after 100 years let us remember that we are – all of us – dreamers. But if we are to advance the cause of the Jewish people and bring humanity a little bit further along the road closer to an ideal world, we must also be, as our forebears – ancient and modern – doers.

Buchenwald survivors hold tightly to the flag of the yet-to-be-born State of Israel

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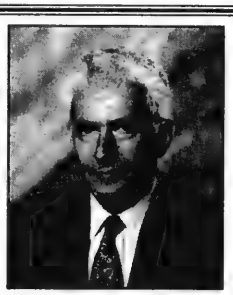

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In compiling the material for this supplement, we were determined to present to *CJN* readers poignant archival photographs that not only highlight and enhance the articles, but tell their own stories as well. As a result, most of the photographs in the pages that follow are excerpted from *Pillar of Fire: The Rebirth of Israel - A Visual History*, by Yigal Lossin (Shikmona Publishing Company, 1983.) *Pillar of Fire* is the very best published collection of archival photographs dealing with the pre-state years of Israel of which we are aware. Unless otherwise credited, the photos are from that unique collection. *MBD*

Zionism after 100 years

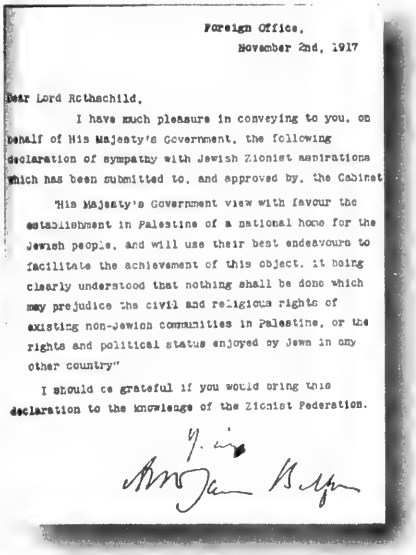
Declaration that inspired

On November 2, 1917, two days after the conquest of Be'ersheva by the British forces, as General Allenby's cavalry advanced northward towards jerusalem, Foreign Secretary Lord Arthur James Balfour wrote what he called a "declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations," in which the key sentence was: "His Majesty's Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people..."

In 1906 Lord Balfour, then Prime Minister, met with Chaim Weizmann, a young scientist who lived in Manchester. In his memoirs. Weizmann tells of the meeting at which they discussed the proposal to offer Uganda as a possible haven for the Jews.

"'Mister Balfour, supposing I were to offer you Paris instead of London. Would you take it?' Balfour sat bolt upright n his char, looked at me and responded: 'But Dr. Weizmann, London is already ours.' 'This is true,' I said, 'but Jerusalem was in our hands when London was just a swamp.'He leaned back, continued to stare at me and said two things which I remember vividly. First, he asked me.: 'Are there many Jews who think the way you do?' I answered: 'I believe that I express the opinions of millions of Jews whom you will never see and who are unable to speak for themselves.' To this, he declared: 'If this be the case, then the day will come when you will indeed the power."

Forty years after that conversation, the Jewish state did have the power and its shores received immigrants from all over the world.



Foreign Office,
November 2nd, 1917

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

'His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country"

I should ce grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Yours sincerely,
Arthur James Balfour

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Zionism after 100 years

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This most momentous event

By PROF. EUGENE ORENSTEIN

The celebration of the centenary of the convening of the first Zionist Congress, which we marked on Aug. 29 affords us a fitting occasion to consider a few of the highlights leading up to this momentous event in modern Jewish history and some of the lessons that may be learned from the past.

A History

Zionism presents us with a paradox. It became heir to the millennial yearning of the Jewish people for its homeland, Eretz Yisrael. Despite its emotional religious intensity, the Jews' link to Palestine during 18 centuries of exile did not significantly change the Jewish way of life and accommodation to minority status in the Diaspora.

Facing Jerusalem, Jews prayed three times a day for the Return to Zion, but they did not go there in significant numbers. From time to time, individual Jews did "ascend" to the Land of Israel to live a life of pious religious observance and to be buried in the earth of the Holy Land. Sometimes messianic movements caught up individuals or even entire communities in the fervor of penitence and expectation of the imminent Redemption, but these movements soon collapsed in the despair of disillusioned hopes and the majority of the followers returned to the traditional discipline of Jewish communal life.

A plundered home in Kishinev following a pogrom in 1903.

Mainstream Jewish messianism was quietistic. It was divine providence, not human action, which would determine when and how the Jews would be redeemed from exile and return to Zion. *Dehikat ha-kez*, "the forcing of the end," i.e. human intervention in the divine plan of redemption, was considered dangerous and destructive. The rabbis always underscored the fact that the children of Israel were placed under an oath "not to make known the end and not forcibly to hasten the advent of the end" (Ket. 111a).

Although Zionism inherited the desire for the Restoration in Zion from Judaism, it was from the Enlightenment and the emancipation, from the growing secularization of society and the rise of modern nationalism, that it received the dynamism, the energy to translate prayer into human action in the political, social and economic arena. The traditional Jewish belief in the Return to Zion had to be freed of its supernatural eschatalogical elements in order to be transformed into modern Zionism. Historians recognize this movement as a post-emancipation phenomenon which responded to new facets of the age-old dilemma of *Yisrael bein ha-amim*, Israel among the nations.

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Israel among nations

For almost two millennia traditional Jewish life was organized in autonomous religio-national communities which were given a designated, albeit restricted, place in the corporate structure of Christian and Muslim societies. Jewish identity was clearly defined and understood by both Jews and non-Jews.

This long-established order was destroyed in the West by the French revolution which emancipated the Jews. Jews were granted civic equality but, in return, had to surrender their national separateness. As stated by Clermont Tonnere, during the debate on Jewish eman-

[Cont'd. on page B 5]

Zionism after 100 years

There were three signifcant forerunners of Zionism

[Cont'd. from page B 4]

cipation in the French National Assembly, "To the Jews as a nation — nothing, to the Jews as individuals — everything."

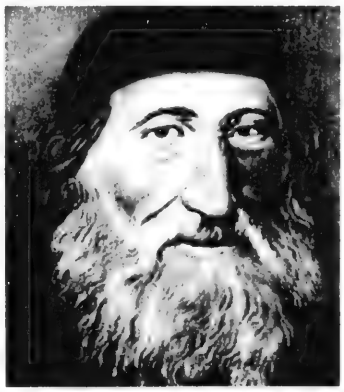
The dynamic activity of Jews in western Europe during the first half of the nineteenth century was generally concentrated on integrating into the new, rapidly changing societies of their respective states. Judaism became fragmented with the development of Reform to meet the challenges of modern society. The Jewish Enlightenment movement, the Haskalah, arose to foster the westernization and secularization of Jewish life. Several of its key features, the revitalization of Hebrew as a modern literary medium and the striving for economic "productivization" were later incorporated in Zionism. The Enlightenment ideal of equality for the adherents of all religions in civic society was soon marred by historicist exclusivism which characterized a large part of the growing nationalist movements in Europe.

It is against this background that we must view the appearance of the three most significant forerunners of Zionism in the nineteenth century, two of whom came from the traditional rabbinate, and one from the new revolutionary intelligentsia.

Rabbi Judah Hai Alkalai (1798-1878), a Sephardi born in Sarajevo and raised in Jerusalem, became rabbi of Semlin, in Serbia, in 1825. The Balkans were seething with nationalist struggles; Greeks, Serbs, Croats, Bulgarians and Romanians were just beginning to discover their national self-consciousness and to fight for their independence from the Ottoman and Austrian Empires. These national struggles were to help shape Rabbi's Alkalai's view of what the Jews must do to improve their condition. Rabbi Alkalai's traditional belief in the messianic redemption was the starting point for the transition to a modern movement based on Jewish political, social and economic activity.

In 1840, corresponding to the Jewish year 5600, there was a rash of messianic expectation among Jews throughout the Balkans and eastern Europe. The failure of the realization of these hopes coincided with the rescue of the Jewish community of Damascus, which had been charged with ritual murder. The Syrian Jews were saved by the efforts of two leading figures of French and British Jewry, Adophe Crémieux and Sir Moses Montefiore, as well as the protests of various western Jewish communities and the political pressure which they brought to bear on their respective governments.

Rabbi Alkalai's messianism began to undergo demystification as he inferred that the rescue of Damascus Jewry was a model for the process of redemption. Further stages of this process could be achieved by Jewish action. He believed that an organized Jewish resettlement of the Land of Israel was a prerequisite for the fulfilment of the divine promise of the Restoration in Zion.



Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Kalischer

Moses Hess

Rabbi Judah Hai Alkalai

Rabbi Alkalai published Hebrew works in which he developed a far-reaching plan to regain Palestine as the Jewish homeland, including the convening of a Jewish assembly to promote immigration of the first pioneers, the creation of an endowment fund (Keren Kayemet) to purchase land in Palestine, the revival of Hebrew as a spoken language, the return to agriculture and the creation of a Jewish armed force.

He even suggested that this would be achieved under the sponsorship of Great Britain. He toured western Europe to propagate his plan among Jews and gentiles. Rabbi Alkalai settled in Jerusalem in 1874.

Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Kalischer (1795-1874) is the second rabbinic figure who represents a synthesis of the traditional religious belief in *shivat zion* and a modern, realist approach. He, too, lived in a border area, Great Poland, much of which had been annexed by Prussia at the time of his birth. Like Rabbi Alkalai, Rabbi Kalischer's view of the course to be taken by the Jews was influenced by the national struggle in his land of residence, that of Poles and Germans, as well as by the Risorgimento and the Hungarian fight for independence. Beginning with mystical speculation about the reinstitution of animal sacrifice in Jerusalem as a means to stimulate the advent of the ultimate redemption, Rabbi Kalischer's religious devotion to the Return to Zion developed along ever-increasing concrete, practical lines. He suggested that the Jewish plutocrats, such as the Rothschilds, could purchase a charter from the

[Cont'd. on page B 6]

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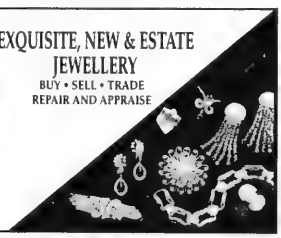

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Zionism after 100 years

Herzl presents a paradox in Zionism's history

[Cont'd. from page B 5]

Sultan of the Ottoman Empire which would grant Palestine to the Jewish people as its homeland.

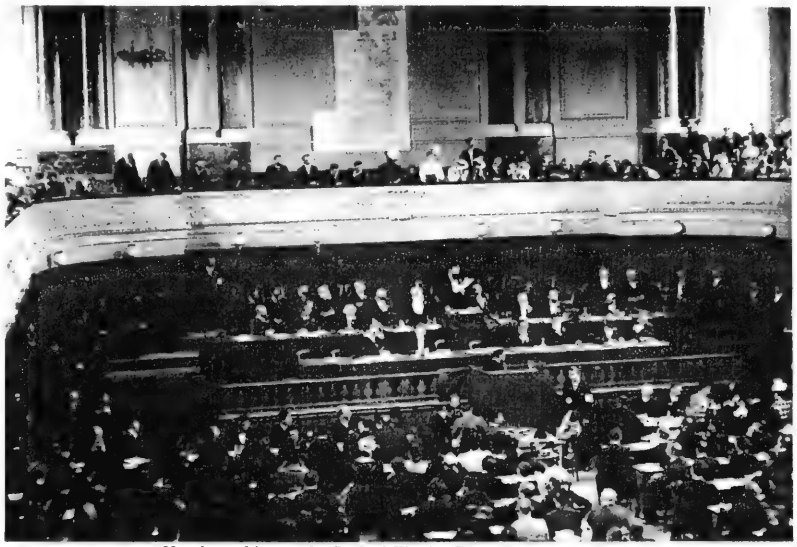
Rabbi Kalischer became a critic of the traditional system of Diaspora charity which supported the Jewish religious community in Palestine (Halukkah) and argued for the creation of a self-supporting economic structure, including Jewish agriculture, which would productivize the Old Yishuv and increase the absorptive capacity of Jewish Palestine.

It is interesting to note that the model of Jewish settlement in Palestine proposed by Rabbi Kalischer foreshadowed that of later Zionist application in the combination of public and cooperative ownership with private initiative.

Rabbi Alkalai and Rabbi Kalischer were lone figures during the gestation period of modern Jewish nationalism. The synthesis of tradition and modernity which they attempted to create would not gain considerable support until the Zionist idea was launched in the world arena by Theodor Herzl, a Jew who had broken with the religious tradition and who considered the Jewish question in secular society.

An unusual forerunner of Zionism was the pioneer of modern socialism, Moses Hess (1812-1875). Estranged from the religious orthodoxy and Jewish identity of his family in his youth, he accepted assimilation as the appropriate solution for the Jews.

Hess became one of the influential members of the circle of young Left Hegelians and was the first to recognize the genius of Karl Marx. He was briefly deeply affected by Jewish suffering during the Damascus Affair of 1840 but continued to seek universal human redemption in revolutionary socialism. Hess' thought was transformed by his identification with the struggle of the oppressed nations. Inspired by the liberal nationalism of Mazzini, he came to the conclusion that human progress demanded the harmonious cooperation of all nations, each making its specific contribution to human civilization. Hess recognized the Jews as a nation and urged them to preserve their nationality by working for the revival of a Jewish state in Palestine. He identified the Mosaic Law with the early striving toward a cooperative commonwealth and thus foresaw the establishment of the Jewish state on a socialist foundation. Thus a pioneer of modern socialism also became the first socialist-Zionist thinker and published his visionary conception of the Jewish state, *Rome and Jerusalem*, in 1862.



Herzl speaking at the Second Zionist Congress in Basel, 1898.

At the time of its publication it had little impact. Hess' socialist comrades viewed his Zionism at best, as a foolish eccentricity, and no segment of the Jewish community was yet prepared to receive his message. Herzl "rediscovered" Hess in 1901 and expressed great admiration for him and his work.

Hess and his two rabbinic contemporaries Rabbi Alkalai and Rabbi Kalischer, symbolize two types of Zionists who were to follow: Hess and, after him, Herzl had ignored their Jewish identity and had to rediscover and reclaim it, while Rabbi Alkalai, Rabbi Kalischer and the observant Jews who later followed in their footsteps, had to demystify their traditional messianism.

Herzl himself presents another paradox in the history of Zionism. This movement had a considerable history, both intellectual as well as actual Jewish settlement in Palestine, before Herzl appeared as an adherent of the Zionist idea who wished to concertize it in political

[Cont'd. on page B 7]

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Zionism after 100 years

Rational action

[Cont'd. from page B 6]

form. Earlier Zionist thinkers, such as Rabbi Alkalai, Rabbi Kalischer, David Gordon, Peretz Smolenskin, M. L. Lilienblum, et al, were much more deeply rooted in Jewish life and possessed much greater knowledge of Judaism, Jewish history and culture than Herzl did. Even the Russified Dr. Leon Pinsker had been more involved in Jewish communal life than Herzl, and it was Pinsker who, in response to the pogroms of 1881, set down the basic principles of political Zionism in *Autoemancipation*, 1882. Herzl acknowledged that had he known of Pinsker's *Autoemancipation*, he would not have written *Der Judenstaat*. Yet it was the alienated, relatively assimilated, secular Western Jew, Herzl, who is credited as the founder of political Zionism.

There is little that is original in Herzl's Zionist writings. Most of his ideas had been presented earlier and in greater depth and with more Jewish knowledge. What Herzl succeeded in doing was to take Zionism beyond the domain of the traditional rabbis and the fledgling Jewish nationalist intellectuals who debated Zionism on the pages of tiny Hebrew periodicals read by small numbers of eastern European Jews, and place it in the arena of international politics. This was Herzl's greatest accomplishment.

Thus Herzl convened the first World Zionist Congress in Basel Aug. 29 to 31, 1897. He was intent upon bestowing this assembly with the character of a Jewish parliament and he cast himself in the role of a major political leader or even a head of state. Herzl made every effort to accentuate the political character of the Zionist movement which he was revitalizing and reshaping.

In assessing Herzl's greatness, it is particularly important to remember the universalist and humanist vision of the Jewish state as depicted in *Altneuland*. Herzl warned of the danger of a chauvinistic nationalism in the Jewish state but he believed that the healthy new Jewish society would reject such an attitude. Contradicting his own statement that the best form of government for the Jewish state would be "an aristocratic republic," in *Altneuland* Herzl presents the picture of a democratic cooperative commonwealth, a progressive society based on pluralism and tolerance.

The past 100 years of Zionist history suggest that Zionism's greatest success has been the result of transmuting the impetus of Jewish messianism into rational political action.

Professor Orenstein is the chair of the Department of Jewish Studies at McGill University.

Collectors' Postcard

This postcard became a collectors' item. It includes a panorama of some of the leaders of the Zionist movement. Clockwise from the top: Theodore Herzl, David Wolfsohn, Nahum Sokolow, Lord Arthur James Balfour, Herbert Samuel, Menachem Usishkin, Max Nordau, and in the centre, Dr. Chaim Weizmann.

[From Ariel, 1996]

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Zionism after 100 years

So much to be accomplished

Theodor Herzl's Opening Address to the First Zionist Congress

Fellow delegates: As one of those who called this Congress into being, I have been granted the privilege of welcoming you. This I shall do briefly, for if we wish to serve the cause, we should economize the valuable moments of the Congress.

There is much to be accomplished within the space of three days. We want to lay the cornerstone of the edifice which is one day to house the Jewish nation. The task is so great that we may treat it in only the simplest of terms. So far as we can now foresee, a summary of the present status of the Jewish question will be submitted within the coming three days. The tremendous bulk of material on hand is being classified by the chairmen of our committees.

We shall hear reports of the Jewish situation in the various countries. You all know, even if only in a vague way, that, with few exceptions, the situation is not cheering. Were it otherwise, we should probably not have convened.

The homogeneity of our destiny has suffered a long interruption, although the scattered fragments of the Jewish people have everywhere undergone similar ills. It is only in our days that the marvels of communication have served to bring about mutual understanding and union between isolated groups.

And in these times, so progressive in most respects, we know ourselves to be surrounded by the old, old hatred. Anti-Semitism—you know it, alas, too well—is the up-to-date designation of the movement. The first impression it made upon the Jews of today was one of astonishment, which gave way to pain and resentment. Perhaps our enemies are unaware of how deeply they wounded the sensibilities of those of us who may not have been the primary object of their attack. The very part of Jewry that is modern and cultured, which has outgrown the Ghetto and lost the habit of petty trading, was pierced to the heart. We can assert it calmly, without opening ourselves to the suspicion of appealing to the sentimental pity of our opponents. We have faced the situation squarely.

From time immemorial, the world has been misinformed about us. The sentiment of solidarity with which we have been reproached so frequently and so acrimoniously was in process of disintegrating when we were attacked by anti-Semitism. And anti-Semitism served to strengthen it anew.

We returned home, as it were, for Zionism is a home-coming to the Jewish fold even before it becomes a home-coming to the Jewish land. We, the children who have returned, find much redress under the ancestral roof, for some of our brothers have sunk deep into misery. We are made welcome in the ancient house, for it is universally known that we are not actuated by an arrogant desire to undermine that which should be revered. This will be clearly demonstrated by the Zionist platform.

Zionism has already brought about something remarkable, heretofore regarded as impossible: a close union between the ultra-modern and the ultra-conservative elements of Jewry. The fact that this has come to pass without undignified concessions on the part of either side and without intellectual sacrifices is further proof, if such proof be necessary, of the national entity of the Jews. A union of this kind is possible only on a national basis.

There will doubtlessly be discussions about an organization, the need for which is recognized by all. Organization is an evidence of the reasonableness of a movement. But there is one point which should be clearly and energetically emphasized in order to further the solution to the Jewish question: we Zionists desire not an international league,

[Cont'd. on page B 9]

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Zionism after 100 years

A people can be helped only by its own efforts

[Cont'd. from page B 8]

but international discussion. Needless to say, this distinction is of the utmost importance in our eyes. It is this distinction which justifies the convening of our Congress.

There will be no question of intrigues, secret interventions and devious methods in our ranks, but only of unhampered utterances under the constant and complete supervision of public opinion. One of the first results of our movement, even now to be perceived in its larger outlines, will be the transformation of the Jewish question into a question of Zion.

A popular movement of such vast dimensions will necessarily be attacked from many sides. Therefore, the Congress will concern itself with the spiritual means to be employed for reviving and fostering the national consciousness of the Jews. Here, too, we must struggle against misconceptions. We do not have the least intention of yielding a jot of the culture we have acquired. On the contrary, we are aiming toward a broader culture. As a matter of fact, the Jews have always been more active mentally than physically.

It was because the practical forerunners of Zionism realized this that they inaugurated agricultural work for the Jews. We shall never be able, nor shall we desire, to speak of these attempts of colonization in Palestine and in Argentina with anything other than genuine gratitude.

But they spoke the first, not the last, word of the Zionist movement. For the Zionist movement must be greater in scope if it is to be at all. A people can be helped only by its own efforts, and if it cannot help itself, it is beyond succor. But we Zionists want to rouse the people to self-help. No premature, unwholesome hopes should be awakened in this direction. This is another reason why publicity of procedure, as it is planned by our Congress, is so valuable.

Herzl on his way to the first Congress meeting

Those who give the matter careful consideration must surely admit that Zionism cannot gain its ends other than through an unreserved understanding with the political units involved. It is generally known that the difficulties of obtaining colonization rights were not created by Zionism in its present form. One wonders what motives actuate the narrators of these fables.

The confidence of the government with which we want to negotiate regarding the settlement of Jewish masses on a large scale can be gained by frank language and upright dealing.

The advantages that an entire people is able to offer in return for benefits are so considerable that the negotiations are vested with sufficient importance a priori. It would be an idle beginning to engage in lengthy discussions today regarding the legal form which the agreement will finally assume. But one thing is to be adhered to inviolably: the agreement must be based on rights and not on toleration. We have had enough experience of tol-

[Cont'd. on page B 10]

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[Cont'd. from page B 9]

eration and "protection" which could be revoked at any time.

Consequently, the only reasonable course of action which our movement can pursue is to work for publicly legalized guarantees.

The results of colonization as it has been carried out so far were as satisfactory as its scope permitted. It confirmed the much-disputed fitness of the Jews for agricultural work and it established this proof for all time, as the legal phrase has it. But colonization in its present form is not, and cannot be, the solution of the Jewish question. And we must admit unreservedly that it has failed to evoke much sympathy.

Why? Because the Jews know how to calculate; in fact, it has been asserted that they calculate too well. Thus if we assume that there are nine million Jews in the world, and that it would be possible to colonize ten thousand Jews in Palestine every year, the Jewish question would require nine hundred years for its solution. This would seem to be impracticable.

On the other hand, you know that to count on ten thousand settlers a year under existing circumstances is nothing short of fantastic. The Turkish government would doubtlessly unearth the old immigration restrictions immediately, and to that we would have little objection. For if anyone thinks that the Jews can steal into the land of their fathers, he is deceiving either himself or others.

Nowhere is the coming of the Jews so promptly noted as in the historic home of the race, for the very reason that it is the historic home. And it would not have been by any means in our interest to go there prematurely.

The immigration of Jews signifies an unhoped-for accession of strength for the land which is now so poor; in fact, for the whole Ottoman Empire. Besides, His Majesty the Sultan has had excellent experiences with his Jewish subjects, and he has been an indulgent monarch to them in turn. Thus, existing conditions point to a successful issue, provided the whole matter is cleverly and felicitously treated.

The financial help which the Jews can give to Turkey is by no means inconsiderable, and would serve to obviate many an internal ill from which the country is now suffering. If the Near East question is partially solved together with the Jewish question, it will surely be of advantage to all civilized peoples. The advent of Jews would bring about an improvement in the situation of the Christians in the Orient.

But it is not solely from this point of view that Zionism may reckon upon the sympathy of the nations. You know that in some lands the Jewish problem has come to mean calamity for the government. If it sides with the Jews, it is confronted by the ire of the masses; if it sides against the Jews, it may call disagreeable economic consequences down upon its head because of the peculiar influence of the Jews on world business affairs. Examples of the latter may be met with in Russia.

But if the government maintains a neutral attitude, the Jews find themselves unprotected by the established regime and rush into the arms of the revolutionaries.

Zionism, or self-help for the Jews, points to a way out of these numerous and extraordinary difficulties. Zionism is simply a peacemaker. And it suffers the usual fate of peacemakers, in being forced to fight more than anyone else.

But should the accusation that we are not patriotic figure among the more or less sincere arguments directed against our movement, this equivocal objection carries its own condemnation with it.

Nowhere can there be a question of exodus of all the Jews. Those who are able or who wish to be assimilated will remain behind and be absorbed. Once a satisfactory agreement is concluded with the various political units involved and a systematic Jewish migration begins, it will last only so long in each country as that country desires to be rid of its Jews. How will the current be stopped? Simply by the gradual decrease and the final cessation of anti-Semitism. Thus, it is that we understand and anticipate the solution of the Jewish problem.

All this has been said time and time again by my friends and by myself. We shall spare no pains to repeat it again and again until we are understood.

On this solemn occasion, when Jews have come together from so many lands at the age-long summons of nationality, let our profession of faith be solemnly repeated.

Should we not be stirred by a premonition of great events when we remember that at this moment the hopes of thousands upon thousands of our people depend upon our assemblage?

In the coming hour, the news of our deliberations and decisions will fly to distant lands, over the seven seas.

Therefore, enlightenment and comfort should go forth from this Congress. Let everyone find out what Zionism really is; Zionism, which was rumored to be a sort of thousand years' wonder, is a moral, lawful, humanitarian movement, directed toward the long yearned for goal of our people. It was possible and permissible to ignore the spoken or written utterances of individuals within our ranks. Not so with the actions of the Congress. Thus, the Congress, which is henceforth to be ruler of its discussions, must govern as a wise ruler.

Finally, the Congress will provide for its own continuance, so that we may not disperse, once more ineffectual and ephemeral. Through this Congress we are creating an agency for the Jewish people such as it has not possessed heretofore, an agency of urgent needs.

Our cause is too great to be left to the ambition or to the discretion of individuals. It must be elevated to the realm of the impersonal if it is to succeed.

And our Congress shall live forever; not only until the redemption from age-long suffering is effected, but afterwards as well. Today we are here in the hospitable limits of this free city — where shall we be next year?

But wherever we shall be and however distant the accomplishment of our task, let our Congress be earnest and high-minded, a source of welfare to the unhappy, of defiance to none, of honor to all Jewry. Let it be worthy of our past, the renown of which, though remote, is eternal!

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Zionism after 100 years

Hebrew was never abandoned

By DINA RIPSMAN EYLON

On August 29, 1897 the First Zionist Congress took place in Basel, Switzerland, marking the beginning of political Zionism and the initiation of a new era in Jewish history. From that point developments in the history of Zionism moved rapidly. The State of Israel has now been a reality for nearly half a century and Hebrew has been accepted as its national language.

REVIVAL OF HEBREW

It was widely maintained that Hebrew ceased to function as an everyday spoken language at the time of the last Jewish revolt against the Romans in 135 CE. However, it would be a misconception to assume that Hebrew became a "dead language," confined merely to the synagogue walls. Never actually abandoned, Hebrew survived as a "living language," and was used as the primary language for prayers, halachic and midrashic literature, philosophical works, fiction, poetry, plays and history books. The immense corpus of Hebrew writings was comparable to the Greek and Latin literatures which were composed during the same period. Moreover, Hebrew as a spoken language continued to be used in religious schools and yeshivot throughout the Diaspora, and served as a communication tool, in commerce for instance, between Jews of different origins and backgrounds.

School children demonstrate at Bergen-Belsen.

A corpus of Hebrew

Maimonides (1135-1204), who lived during the Golden Age of Spain when the Jews produced numerous religious and secular writings in Hebrew was in fact the first to rule that the study of Hebrew was a major religious duty (mitzvah). He himself wrote his philosophical and halachic works in both Arabic and Hebrew.

Interestingly, figures such as the false messiahs Eldad Ha-Danni (ninth century), David Ha-Reuveni (16th century) and Shabtai Tzevi (17th century) conversed and studied in Hebrew. Furthermore, Hebrew has prevailed as a spoken language in the different Jewish communities of Eretz Yisrael and North Africa since the third century

[Cont'd. on page B 12]

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Official language in early years was German

[Cont'd. from page B 11]

CE. During the later days of the 19th century, following the growth of modern Zionism, Hebrew began to be taught in secular Jewish Schools in pre-state Israel even though it could not then be classified linguistically as a pure spoken language.

It is worth noting that the official language of the early Zionist congresses was German. Eventually, two camps formed within the Zionist movement: one followed Ahad Ha'am's (1856-1927) viewpoint that advocated Hebrew as the national language of the future Jewish state, and the other supported the Orthodox-Zionist party which believed that Yiddish should predominate. Following heated debates during the Zionist Congress of 1909, Hebrew was officially declared as the "Language of Zion," but controversy between Hebraists and their opponents lasted until the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

Two figures played a pivotal role in implementing the ideas of the return to Zion and the return of Hebrew as an everyday functional language. Theodore Herzl (1860-1904) and Eliezer Ben-Yehuda (1858-1922).

In an attempt to prevent unnecessary conflicts, Herzl made the official position of the Zionist organization on the issue of the Hebrew language "as vague as possible." Herzl grasped the limitations of Hebrew as a modern language: its restricted vocabulary and limited everyday usage rendered it awkward for communication between Jews. Years later, Herzl changed his view and realized that only Hebrew could be the national language of Eretz Yisrael.

Erroneously considered an assimilated Jew, Herzl intermittently tried to learn Hebrew. Furthermore, he hired Hebrew tutors for his children, and one of them, Trudy, was reported to converse in Hebrew quite fluently. Through the Zionist congress Herzl arranged financial assistance for Eliezer Ben-Yehuda's historical dictionary. On his last visit to Jerusalem, Herzl expressed regrets for his inability to speak

[Cont'd. on page B 13]

Eliezer Ben-Yehuda (1858-1922)

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Zionism after 100 years

Flowering Hebrew Culture

[Cont'd. from page B 12]

Hebrew, but promised to master the language by his next visit. Alas, he died prematurely at the age of 44, leaving behind a myth, perpetuated by historians, that he had no appreciation for the Hebrew language.

Herzl's contemporary, Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, was a revolutionary turned Zionist. For a while he swayed between the ideas of the Russian Revolution and his love for the Hebrew language. Ben-Yehuda understood that Hebrew should be the connecting link between Jews of different origins. He also believed that due to the increased assimilation of European Jews, Hebrew could not survive in the Diaspora. In 1881, upon arriving in Eretz Yisrael, he acknowledged the importance of reviving Hebrew as a spoken language and not just as a literary or religious tongue. Ben-Yehuda's predictions proved him to be a great visionary who followed his heart's desire with an unequivocal determination. The following anecdote related by his oldest son Itamar Ben-Avi (1882-1943) illustrates the point.

Boris Schatz (1866 - 1932)
Founder of Bezalel

Ben-Avi who has been called "the first Hebrew speaking child since Hebrew ceased to be a spoken language," recalled: "[Ben-Yehuda] was called to the Russian post office...and was notified that a sum of 100 shekels had arrived which would be turned over to him only upon signing his old name [Perlman] on the envelope. My father had of course adopted the clear Hebrew name "Ben-Yehuda." On your life! How he needed those 100 shekels at the moment! All his salary at that time, as an associate editor of the *Havatzelet*, was four shekels a month — laugh if you want — and with these four shekels he had to support himself, his wife and his "uneducated" son [Itamar, who was ridiculed for speaking only Hebrew]...Can you imagine the kind of greatness and heroism dis-

[Cont'd. on page B 14]

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Zionism after 100 years

Ben-Yehuda saw importance of Hebrew language

[Cont'd. from page B13]

played by his decision to return from the post office empty-handed, without signing his Russian name, without getting this desired money?! But as he entered his gloomy apartment, exhausted and shaken, he could look his small family straight in the eye and utter proudly: I chose to return to you as poor as I was yesterday, but loyal and dedicated to my people — a new Jew, one of a kind."

Scholars argue whether Ben-Yehuda was the first to suggest the revival of the Hebrew language. But as Prof. Shlomo Morag, a noted linguist, concluded, Ben-Yehuda was "a steersman and man of action, wedded to his objective and unceasingly preoccupied with reconditioning a vocabulary to meet the needs of the moment..." Apparently, Ben-Yehuda's great linguistic skills were far more significant than his social activism. Indeed many other teachers, thinkers, writers and politicians dedicated their lives to the revival of modern Hebrew in other ways: C. N. Bialik, S. Y. Agnon, Y. C. Brener, M. Y. Berditshevski, A. D. Gordon, Y. M. Pines, A. M. Luncz, and lesser known David Yellin, Nissim Behar, Yoseph Meyuchas, Eliyahu Sappir, Itzhak Epstein, David Yuddelevitch, Simcha Wilkomitz and Yehuda Grazovski (Gur). The contribution of the many thousands of immigrants who flocked to Eretz Yisrael during the first half of the 20th century was not always acknowledged. They were the ones who sent their children to Hebrew schools; they were the ones who discarded their mother tongue in favor of the holy language, Hebrew.

In his weekly publication, *Ha-Tzevi*, Ben-Yehuda listed his newly coined words and authored an array of articles and essays concerning Zionism and the implementation of modern Hebrew. He was instrumental in choosing the Sephardi pronunciation over the Ashkenazi, and was the founding member and the leading voice of various associations, such as the "Pure Language Society" (1890), and the Language Council [also known as the Hebrew Language Committee] which in 1953 became the Academy of the Hebrew Language. All were devoted to the advancement of modern Hebrew and to seeing it encompass all facets of Jewish life, particularly in Eretz Yisrael.

Spiritual zeal

The spirit of Herzl and Ben-Yehuda, whose visions and dreams were fulfilled almost to the letter, was eloquently described by Daniel Perski (1887-1962), an acquaintance of Ben-Yehuda: "I know of only two Jews in the last generation who imprinted their spiritual zeal and their strong will on the course of the life of our people in the present and for the future — Theodore Herzl and Eliezer Ben-Yehuda. What one had done for the political revival of Israel, the other had done for its cultural revival. The common element between them is the fact that both 'made' history, both caused our national resurrection."

Dina Ripsman Eylon is a PhD candidate in Post-biblical Hebrew Language and Literature and an instructor of modern Hebrew at the University of Toronto. She is the editor of Women in Judaism: A Multidisciplinary Journal *[http://www.utoronto.ca/wjudaism].*

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Zionism after 100 years

Hebrew writers of the second aliyah (from left) Y.H. Brenner, A.Z. Rabinowtiz, D. Shimonowitz, S.Y. Agnon. Agnon received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1966.

Will there yet come

Will there yet come days of forgiveness and grace,
When you walk in the field as the innocent wayfarer walks,
And the soles of your feet the clover leaves caress,
Though stubble will sting you, sweet will be their stalks.

Or rain will overtake you, its thronging drops tapping
On your shoulder, your chest, your throat, your gentle head bowed.
And you walk in the wet field, the quiet in you expanding
Like light in the hem of a cloud.

And you will breathe the odor of furrow, breathing and quiet,
And you will see mirrored in the gold puddle the sun above,
And simple will be these things and life, permitted to touch,
Permitted, permitted to love.

Slowly you will walk in the field. Alone.
Unscorched by flame
Of conflagrations on roads that bristled with horror and blood. Again
You will be peaceful in heart, humble and bending
Like one of the grasses, like one of man.

by Leah Goldberg

Leah Goldberg, one of Israel's foremost poets, is of the generation of Abraham Shlonsky, Uri Greenberg and Natan Alterman.

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Zionism after 100 years

Poetry by Rachel Blaustein endures forever

The poet Rachel Blaustein (1890-1931) was known affectionately and simply as Rachel of the Jezreel Valley. She lived too briefly, but her poetry endures to this very day, inspiring young and old alike through the sometimes tender, sometimes painful truths of her songs

Rachel was born in Saratov, on the Volga River in south Russia. She moved to Palestine in 1909 and soon established herself as the poet of the second aliyah, the transitional writer between the generation of Bialik and that of Shlonsky and Alterman

In his essay about the poet, Prof. Sholom Kahn says her poetry was associated with adolescence and with the pioneers who developed the kibbutzim and kvutzot of the Jezreel Valley.

"Rachel was the first whose lyric poetry was written entirely in modern Hebrew, and in the Sephardic pronunciation," Kahn writes.

"She was the the pioneer who first, spontaneously and naturally, described the experiences of a generation returning to the Land of its Fathers and to a life which included agricultural labor on its soil.

"She first gave expression to certain intimate human realities of the pioneering experience, its conflicting moods and profound frustrations. The immediacy of her appeal sprang from the personal note in her lyricism. Yet the chords she struck resounded deeply and are of universal interest and power."

And Perhaps

And perhaps it was only a dream after all?
And perhaps
I never really went forth with the dawn
to toil with the sweat of my brow?

Can it be on those flaming and endless days
when we reaped,
that I never gave voice to a song as I rode
on a cartful of sheaves high-heaped?

That I never did bathe in the perfect and placid
blue gleam
of Kinnereth, my sea, ah Kinnereth, my own,
were you real, then, or only a dream?

Dawn

A jug of water in the hand, and on
My shoulder – basket, spade, and rake.
To distant fields – to toil – my path I make.

Upon my right, the great hills fling
Protecting arms; before me – the wide fields!
And in my heart, my twenty Aprils sing...

Be this my lot, until I be undone:
Dust of thy roads, my land, and thy
Grain waving golden in the sun!

Translated by A.M. Klein

[Cont'd. on page B 17]

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Zionism after 100 years

[Cont'd. from page B 16]

To My Country
I've not sung of my country,
I've not praised its name
for the booty or glory that battle yields;
just a tree – my hands planted
by Jordan's still waters,
just a path – I have traced
through the fields
Very poor indeed – I know it, Mother,
very poor indeed
is your daughter's offering:
just a shout of joy
when morning brightens,
just tears in secret
for your distress.
Translated by Sholom J. Kahn

The Echo
This I remember:
The steep wall of mountain – mountain without end;
From peak to stony peak I call,

"Hedad! To youth! May youth live long!"
And then the echo answers strong,
"May youth live long!"

The years have levelled height and hill,
But one thing I remember still:
The high clear echo ringing when
The mountains called and called again
I hear as then.

O well for him who for the day
Of anguish somehow stored away
The shining shadow of a ray
A touch, an image fleeting by,
Or but a cry.
Translated by Marie Syrkin

Rachel Blaustein

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Alternative Zionism:

By MICHAEL BROWN

Perhaps after World War II it is only natural that we have come to look upon Zionism as a movement dedicated to the renewal of Jewish political life and as the answer to anti-Semitism. To any who had doubted before, the disadvantages of powerlessness became patently clear during the Nazi era, as Hebrew University scholar Yehuda Bauer has pointed out. Never again, most Jews vowed after 1945, would the Jewish people

Its Literature

be left entirely at the mercy of other nations. And since then, of course, the State of Israel has provided a much needed haven, not only for Holocaust survivors, but also for Jews from Arab lands and from the former Soviet Union and other countries of eastern Europe. It has taken them in, protected them from hostility, and allowed them to rebuild their lives in the new Jewish society, as Theodor Herzl had envisioned a century ago.

But Zionism was not born fully formed from the head of its putative father. Even before the arch-assimilationist newspaperman and playwright, Herzl, was reborn as a Zionist, other visions of Jewish national renewal had emerged with alternative — or ancillary — goals to the creation of a Jewish state. The most prominent proponent of a different Zionist vision during Herzl's own lifetime was Ahad HaAm (nee Asher Ginsberg). The latter was a not very successful businessperson (for some years he was the London representative of the Wissotzky Tea Company) who was also a somewhat cranky but very articulate and thoughtful essayist and critic. He saw in Zionism chiefly a means for the renewal of Jewish culture and the Jewish spirit.

But HaAm was also not the first of his line. His notion of spiritual Zionism was based on the Jewish cultural renewal that had its roots in the late 18th century in central Europe. That renaissance, which we know as the Haskalah or Enlightenment, moved gradually eastward into the European Jewish heartland during the 19th century.

In many ways parallel to developments among other European peoples, the Haskalah spurred a number of radical changes in Jewish society and culture. These included the transformation of Hebrew into a secular medium of communication and the creation of a modern Jewish literature in both Hebrew and Yiddish, as well as attempts to suffuse the Jewish economy with transcendent values.

Renewal of Jewish culture

During these years the hold of religion on the peoples of Europe was slackening. To a degree, the place of religion was taken by the newly secularized or partly secularized national cultures. As happened with other nations, the Irish, for example, the literary flowering fanned the fires of nationalism among the Jews. And, as with the German-speaking peoples before they turned to "race" as a unifying principle, language provided the adhesive for tying together a scattered nation no longer united by religion.

Yiddishists gave birth to Bundism and autonomism. These two ideologies, which enjoyed their hour upon the stage of history between the world wars, sought to

[Cont'd. on page B 19]

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Zionism after 100 years

Rekindling the Jewish spirit and its culture

[Cont'd. from page B 18]

create a national life for the Jewish people in Europe based on the Yiddish language. Along with their proponents, these approaches to Jewish nationalism were extinguished by the communists and especially the Nazis. Hebraists gave birth to Zionism which set its sights on the land of Israel.

The relationship between culture and nationalism proved to be reciprocal. As noted, renascent Jewish culture sparked national sentiments. On the other hand, religious thinkers and secularists concerned with the fate of Judaism in the modern world looked to nationalism as a means for revitalizing the antique culture. Early leaders of the Conservative Movement in the United States, such as Solomon Schechter and Mordecai Kaplan, and a few in the American Reform Movement, such as Rabbis Judah Magnes and Stephen Wise, looked to Zionism to breathe life and a modern spirit into the ancient religion.

So, too, did the Orthodox Rabbi A. I. Kook, the first Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Palestine, as it was then known. Rabbi Kook hoped that a return to the land of Israel would cause the enlargement of Judaism which, he believed, had been too long and inappropriately confined within the narrow parameters of ritual. Kook looked forward to bringing once again under the umbrella of Judaism social policy, labor law, politics, culture, all those aspects of life over which Jews — as Jews — could exercise no control in the Diaspora. He found a willing ear among Labor Zionists who served some of his goals. HaAm was a secularist, who remained passionately rooted in Jewish culture and sought to create through Zionism a civil religion which would make the tradition viable for unbelievers and believers alike.

Chaim Nachman Bialik, "the poet laureate of the Jewish People," was yet another, essentially secular, person, who viewed Zionism as an instrument for nurturing Jewish cultural development and for reviving the Jewish spirit, which he regarded as petrified. Bialik's works reflect acute awareness of the breakdown of the traditional foundations of Jewish life at the turn of the century. Language, he believed, was the only possible replacement for religion in a post-religious age, and Hebrew was the only language that could "serve as the foundation and root" of Jewish civilization in the future.

Bialik's first homeland was Jewish Russia, particularly Odessa. Shortly after the unusually violent pogroms in Odessa and elsewhere in 1905, the poet wrote to his friend, Sholem Aleichem, that "no country was as good (for Jews) as Russia, no city as good as Odessa." Although both men were known for their humor, Bialik's statement was not a joke. What he meant was that nowhere else in the world were there both a Jewish cultural and intellectual elite and a reading public comparable to those of Russia. Only there did the two authors have a ready-made audience.

The destruction of the eastern European Jewish communities during and after World War I forced Bialik to reorient his thinking. He knew that under the communists Russian Judaism was unlikely to survive in any recognizable form. Polish Jewry had been devastated economically by war and revolution and was now endangered politically. The poet turned in two directions at once: to America and to the land of Israel.

Earlier, Bialik had shown little interest in the United States. Now, however, he realized that the Americans had the potential for providing the necessary material support for Jewish culture. He became adept at searching "for the Golden Fleece," as Chaim Weizmann puckishly referred to Zionist fundraising in the United States in a letter to the poet. More significantly for Bialik, America had become home to a considerable number of Hebrew writers and readers. He came to look upon that country, at least sometimes, as less than "total compensation for the destruction of our life in other countries of the Diaspora, but [certainly] partial compensation." Yet he remained ambivalent about the New World — he never visited Canada — for a variety of reasons which are beyond the scope of this essay.

Although Bialik's early poems exhibit interest in the land of Israel, only after World War I did that country become his spiritual, as well as his political, homeland. He left Russia in 1921 with the aid of the writer, Maxim Gorky, and after a sojourn in Berlin, made aliyah three years later. In 1927, the erst-

[Cont'd. on page B 20]

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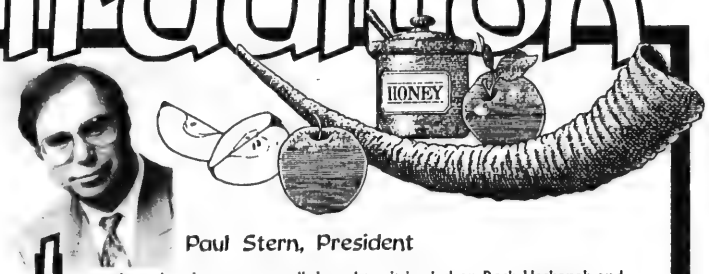

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I remember when I was very small, I used to sit in shul on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur snuggled up to my Saba. I'd listen to Kol Nidre mezmorized by the beauty of the words and the music . . .

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Declaration of faith

[Cont'd. from page B 19]

while agnostic poet proclaimed the land of Israel to be "the single, central location towards which God has pointed His finger." It was a declaration of faith in the future of Jewish culture, and especially of the Hebrew language in that country.

Whatever might be said of America, its cultural future lay in the English language. Jewish culture there would inevitably be derivative and translated, like his own poetry which appeared in both English and Yiddish translations in the United States in these years. In fact, Bialik recognized by the mid-20s, that there would probably never again be a Diaspora as "supportive" of Jewish cultural autonomy as turn-of-the-century Russia. The best long-term hope for the Hebrew writers of the United States, the poet asserted, was that they "become rooted...in the land of Israel." Only there, he felt, was an original, creative Jewish culture in Hebrew likely to prosper. (In contrast to the United States, Bialik's own writings — in Hebrew — became basic texts of Israeli education and culture.) For that reason, he energetically supported the Zionist Movement and even agreed to participate in fundraising campaigns, an activity he generally considered beneath his dignity.

Interestingly, one of the most powerful and persuasive expositions of Spiritual and Cultural Zionism was offered in English by a Canadian — A. M. Klein, the poet laureate of Canadian Jewry from the late 1930s to his death in 1972. Klein, a Zionist activist from his school days, wrote his allusive, poetic novella, *The Second Scroll*, in 1951 after a visit to the new State of Israel. In it he explored the meaning of the state for the Jewish people and ultimately for all humanity.

At one level, *The Second Scroll* is the story of the narrator's uncle, who bears the messianic name, Melech Davidson. The latter's spiritual and physical odyssey takes him from the shtetl through the Bolshevik Revolution and the Holocaust to Rome (Christianity), Casablanca (Islam), and finally Israel, where he is murdered by Arab terrorists soon after his arrival. At another level, the novella is the story of the narrator seeking not only his uncle but also the meaning of his uncle's life and of Judaism. At yet another level, the book is an attempt to take the comparative measure of communism, Christianity, Islam, traditional Judaism, and the Zionist vision embodied in the new state. And at still another level it is about art, literature, and language, especially Hebrew. It is Klein's view of Israel which is of most interest here.

The beginning of redemption

In *The Second Scroll*, Israel is, first of all, the place of physical redemption for persecuted Jews. Uncle Melech is a Holocaust survivor looking for a safe haven in the Promised Land. Perhaps in traditional Jewish terms the state represents just "the beginning of redemption," since Davidson finds death there, rather than safety. Others, however, fare better. Jews are reborn, as it were. The dry bones of Ezekiel's messianic vision spring to life following the epic, if metaphorical, war of Gog and Magog (the Holocaust).

More significant for Klein than the physical rebirth of the Jewish people is their spiritual revival in

[Cont'd. on page B 21]

Chaim Nahman Bialik (left) and Uri Zvi Greenberg

Zionism after 100 years

The true beauty of words in our everday uses

[Cont'd. from page B 20]

Israel. He sees the state as a laboratory for humanity in which can be realized the exalted Jewish ideal, as opposed to the flawed Christian, Islamic, and communist ideals, to say nothing of the evil Nazi ideal. In Rome, according to *The Second Scroll*, the highest achievement of society is Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel. In Casablanca, it is architecture. In both places, however, beauty is attained through the degradation of human beings, most notably the Jews.

Traditional Judaism denigrates art for art's sake and any art which depicts human forms; and the Israel of Davidson and the narrator is, in that sense, artless. More acceptable than representational art from a Jewish point of view is literature, the artistry of words. This art form abounds in Israel, although Klein depicts Hebrew literature at the beginning of the '50s as derivative, insular, reactionary, and even self-hating. The true beauty of words he unexpectedly finds in everyday uses: in street names and shop signs which make of Hebrew a living language in the most immediate sense.

Klein appears to consider the only really legitimate art form to be life itself. The Messiah of Zionism has come, *The Second Scroll* suggests, leading his ancient people back to their homeland from a modern genesis in the shtetl, through a new exodus and a new desert wandering. In the Promised Land, they can engage once again — if allowed — in their task of making an art of life, of creating the beautiful and the good in their quotidian personal and communal lives and their everyday language. The reborn Israel is a country of Davidsons: exiles from Eden, wanderers risen from the dead come home to fashion a new life. It is a country of "metamorphosis and rejuvenation," of making "Aught from Naught."

In Israel, Melech Davidson is reflected in many people. He is a painter, a farmer, a bootblack; he is 36 refugees whose righteousness sustains the world. He is a Moroccan Jew, a German Jew, a South African Jew, a Bulgarian Jew. Melech is no man and everyman; he represents human possibility. He personifies the fulfilment of the most exalted vision of spiritual and cultural Zionism: "the divinity of humanity."

Klein's vision is inspiring although not very down-to-earth, unrealistic even as a portrait of Israel in its heroic age. But it should not be dismissed as the mere musings of a cockeyed optimist. Better, it should be seen as a utopian prism refracting the notions of cultural and spiritual Zionism expressed earlier and more soberly by Bialik, HaAm, Rabbis Kook and Magnes, and others. Most of these thinkers sympathized with Herzl's goals and appreciated the need to rescue Jews. (None of them foresaw the Holocaust; nor, for that matter, did anyone else.) But all of them dreamt of a Zionism that would uplift individual Jews and the Jewish people, as a whole, through the revitalization — in different ways — of Jewish culture, Judaism, and the Hebrew language. In setting out their goals for Zionism, they all kept in mind Hillel's question: "And if I am for mine own self, what am I?"

Michael Brown is professor of Humanities and Hebrew and director of the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University. His most recent book is The Israeli-American Connection: Its Roots in the Yishuv, 1914-1945.

A.M. Klein delivering his first speech about his trip to Israel at a Canadian Jewish Congress meeting in 1949. The trip resulted in his writing *The Second Scroll*.
Photos taken from *Like One That Dreamed*, Usher Caplan, (McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 1982)

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Woes of your people summon you from far
Corners of exile, and their bitter cry
Has roused you; great the wonder brought to pass;
The tear breaks from its faithful fount — the eye,
Big with sweet pearls and warm, 'tis seen
Unburdened, after vigil keen.

Sure now the thronging waters stifle breath,
Evil has gained the eye's own lodgement place,
Our cry has rent the very heart of Heaven,
The grave is calling by our side for grace …
Whose heart leaps not in dread to greet
You, bless from far the hour you meet?

From ends of earth no anthems have you brought
But ancient dirges, new upon each morn,
To shew your people in the sight of sun
Tossed in their blood as waves on water borne;
They rise, they fall from trough to crest,
Whose heart with dread shall not be stressed?

'Tis good our tears in unison should fall,
Flow from the ends of exile to one urn;
Redemption fails, but our Redeemer liveth,
To come with that great hour for which we yearn:
Last left for dust shall then discern
You pioneers of our return.

And in our annals, full with tales of grief,
Shall be a treasured pearl — your sacred tear;
Who hinge the doors and set the gables, they
Will know whose hand has laid the head-stone here.
Your mem'ry in dark hours shall rest
A ne'er fading sun to the oppressed.

Translated by L.V. Snowman

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Zionism after 100 years

Early tensions between Zionism and religion

By PROF. MARTIN LOCKSHIN

Ask any North American Jewish fundraiser today and I'm sure he or she would agree: "If you want to put together a list of possible supporters of a Zionist project, a good place to start would be by getting a list of synagogue members." The converse is probably equally true: "If you want to start a new synagogue or a new chavurah today, start by finding a list of people who buy Israel Bonds or otherwise support the State of Israel."

RELIGIOUS RESPONSE

Proud, active Jews today in Canada are, more often than not, active both in the Jewish religion and supporters of the Zionist enterprise. To us today the combination seems perfectly natural. But this was not always the case. For the first 50 years or so of Zionism — basically from the first Zionist Congress in 1897 until just before the creation of the state — it was very likely that regular synagogue attendees in North America were cool or even inimical to Zionism, and Zionist activists, for the most part, were unmoved by and perhaps even disdainful of Jewish religious practices. It is only for around the last 50 years that Zionism and religion have been successfully wedded to each other here.

In the context of 19th century Jewish history, the tensions between religion and Zionism are understandable. Jewish intellectuals a hundred years ago generally believed that there was a "Jewish problem" in the western world and that Judaism was at least partly at fault for creating that problem. Many leaders felt that if Judaism would simply redefine itself in a way that was more appropriate for the modern world, anti-Semitism would quickly disappear.

Zionism was seen as one obvious solution to the Jewish problem. Many Zionists — from Herzl to Ben-Gurion — had no interest in or respect for institutional Jewish religion. They argued that if Judaism were to manifest itself in the standard manner of other nationalist identities, the Jewish problem would disappear.

At the same time, many or most Jewish religious leaders were claiming that Jewish identity should *not* be seen as a nationalistic identity. Jews of Germany were to see themselves as German nationals; Jews of France as French nationals. Their religious identity was Jewish but not their national identity.

In our modern western world those two approaches, though clearly mutually exclusive, both seem to have a certain logic. The western world knows of few group identity patterns that encompass both nationalism and religion. The anomalous nature of Judaism was seen, by non-Jews and by Jews, as a clear source of problems. Judaism, they argued, had to be "normalized" — either as a religion or as a national self-determination movement, not as both.

Accordingly, early Zionist leaders often made fun of religious practices as relics of outdated "medieval" Judaism. And religious leaders often had very strong words of criticism for Zionism. Such critics came from both Reform and Orthodox rabbis. Reform and Orthodox criticism of Zionism were not identical, but they did have much in common. (An intelligent discussion of the issues can be found in a collection of Hebrew articles entitled *Zionism and its Jewish Opponents*, edited by Haim Avni and Gideon Shimoni in 1990.)

Both Reform and modern Orthodox Jews of 100 years ago were convinced that the best strategy for Jews was to work hard to become loyal and trusted citizens of the countries where they lived. They saw the Zionist enterprise as counter-productive for it implied that the Jews were not and could not become true Germans or true Americans.

Just over 100 years ago when the Fourth of July fell on the Sabbath that follows the Jewish fast day of the 17th of Tamuz, the Reform Rabbi Kaufmann Kohler (who a few years later would be appointed the president of the Hebrew Union College) delivered a speech entitled Palestinian or American Judaism? at Beth-el Congregation in New York City. In that speech he argued that America represented the true future of Judaism and the true manifestation of such Jewish values as freedom and dignity.

"We [Reform Jews] behold in Jerusalem's overthrow, not a fall, but a rise to a higher glory. For us Zion stands for the fulfilment of humanity's keenest hopes and loftiest ideals ...and every "city of Brotherly Love" forms a part and link of the same. We recognize in the Fourth of July the offspring of the Sixth of Sivan....Why then should we lament over the fall of the old?"

Judaism's 'most dangerous enemy'

At a time when Jewish hopes and aspirations were being realized in the New World, Rabbi Kohler argued that it would be "a blasphemy and a lie" to pray for — or presumably to work towards — a return to Jerusalem.

Just a few years later in 1918, one of the leading neo-Orthodox thinkers in Germany, Rabbi Isaac Breuer, published his book *Judenproblem* in which he described Zionism as Judaism's "most dangerous enemy" ever to arise. Rabbi Breuer should not be seen as an enemy of modernity with a haredi world view. He studied law, philosophy and history in various German universities and he was employed as a lawyer. He was a spokesperson for the Orthodox school of *Torah im Derekh Eretz*, of a commitment to combining halachic Judaism with involvement in western culture. But being involved in western culture for Rabbi Breuer meant being a loyal German, just as being involved in western culture for Rabbi Kohler meant being a loyal American. They both saw Zionism as opposed to the political-religious goals that they had for the Jews of their countries.

Both the Orthodox Rabbi Breuer and the Reform Rabbi Kohler — whose visions of Judaism were very different one from the other — claimed to be continuing in the spirit of Rabbi Samson Rafael Hirsch, the founder of the *Torah im Derekh Eretz* philosophy. Rabbi Hirsch's writings left little room for

[Cont'd. on page B 24]

Zionist Conference at the Biltmore Hotel, New York in 1942.

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Zionism after 100 years

Most Orthodox Jews rejected early Zionist movement

[Cont'd. from page B 23]

Zionism; he saw the Diaspora as a positive development in Jewish history that was helping the Jews accomplish their goals in the world. Rabbi Hirsch argued that land was never anything more than a means to an end in Judaism and that the Jews of the world were united by religious values, not by land. He expressed these opinions in the context of arguing in favor of Jews seeking full equal rights in Germany. (See Rabbi Hirsch's *Nineteen Letters*, letter 16.)

The opinions of Rabbi Kohler and Rabbi Breuer are by no means the only religious Jewish opinions at the turn of the 20th century. "Religious Zionism" existed then just as it has existed throughout history. In fact, two of the earliest modern Zionist thinkers and writers, Zevi Hirsch Kalischer and Yehudah Alkalai, were Orthodox rabbis. The Mizrachi movement, founded in 1902, insisted that true Orthodoxy should and would support the nascent Zionist movement. Conservative Judaism, from its inception, had a positive attitude to Zionism. In the Reform movement as well, the Zionist idea had its strong supporters. Even in the last years of the 19th century, the prominent Reform Rabbi Stephen Wise had already begun an illustrious Zionist career. The Reform Rabbi Judah Magnes, an active Zionist in the United States at the turn of the century, later moved to Eretz Yisrael and became the first chancellor of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Still the dominant viewpoint both within Orthodox Judaism and Reform Judaism was not that of Rabbis Kalischer, Alkalai, Wise and Magnes. The opinions of Rabbi Kohler and Rabbi Breuer predominated. Most Orthodox Jews — even "modern" Orthodox Jews — rejected the Zionist movement and were suspicious or even hostile towards the avowedly secularist *chalutzim* who were trying to rebuild the land. And the unambiguous official position of Reform Judaism here in North America, as expressed in the Pittsburgh platform of 1885, was that "We consider ourselves no longer a nation, but a religious community and therefore expect neither a return to Palestine ...nor the restoration of any of the laws concerning the Jewish state."

The situation in the Diaspora ba-

[Cont'd. on page B 25]

Refugee children at the port of Haifa.

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Rabbi Kook

[Cont'd. from page B 24]

sically mirrored what was going on in Israel. Most of the Zionist leaders — not only those from the Labor movement — felt indifference at best or hostility at worst to religion. For them, religion was a relic of the *galut*, and had little place in the new modern country that they were trying to build. Their feelings of disdain for religion and for religious Jews were also reciprocated. The grand majority of religious Jews in Eretz Yisrael in the early 20th century were opposed and often openly hostile to the Zionist enterprise.

Tireless worker

To be sure, a character like Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook (who died in 1935) stands out as a tireless worker towards the goal of reconciling Zionism and religion. Rabbi Kook was not alone; he gathered around him a number of other impressive rabbis and commanded much respect among disparate groups of Jews in Eretz Yisrael and beyond. But in fact, during his lifetime his own movement of religious Zionism was very small. He had many admirers, but very few disciples or students. He had grand dreams: the full name of the yeshivah that he established — commonly known as Merkaz Harav — is Ha-Yeshivah Ha-Merkazit Ha-Olamit, The Central Yeshivah of the World. But it was not until many years after his death that any significant number of students came to study there.

Jewish thinking about the relationship of Zionism and religion has undergone very serious changes — all for the good, to my mind. Today, particularly here in the Diaspora, religious Jews — whether Reform, Orthodox or any other denomination — are almost always supporters of Zionism. It is very hard now to find a Reform Jew who would follow Rabbi Kohler's negative approach to Zionism. In the North-American Orthodox world the situation is more complex since there are still Orthodox Jews — Haredim — who do not support Zionism. But the approach of the neo-Orthodox, anti-Zionist Rabbi Breuer has very few supporters these days. Haredi anti-Zionists are usually people who reject modernity and Western culture in addition to rejecting Zionism. It is difficult today to find Orthodox Jews who take a willing part in Western culture and still reject the Zionist idea. Even Rabbi Breuer himself eventually moved to Israel to escape from Hitler's Germany and became active in the Poalei Agudat Yisrael political party, a party that is generally considered pro-Zionist or, at the very least, a "fellow traveller" of the Zionist movement.

[Cont'd. on page B 26

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Zionism after 100 years

Henrietta Szold, founder of Hadassah and director of Youth Aliyah, welcomes the "Teheran Children."

Still, some tensions

[Cont'd. from page B 25]

The situation in Israel today is much harder to analyse. The tensions between religion and Zionism there, are exacerbated by political tensions since there is no separation of "church" and state in Israel. But even in Israel there has been great progress in patching up the relationship, at least on the philosophical level, between religion and Zionism. Most religious Jews in Israel today *are* Zionists. Seventy-five years ago that was not the case. And anti-religious sentiment among secular Zionists just isn't what it used to be either. Although many secular Zionists are very angry about religious coercion issues in Israel, few of them feel as negatively disposed to the ideas of religion as they once did.

What caused the essential rapprochement between religion and Zionism? Why are Jews today, especially in the Diaspora, comfortable calling themselves both synagogue-goers and Zionists? When and why did the change take place? To be sure, at least within the Reform movement the changes were gradual and a pro-Zionist position evolved over time. By 1937, the Reform "Columbus Platform" had rejected the anti-Zionism of the "Pittsburgh Platform" and purposely took a neutral approach to the issue of Zionism. Still it may be possible to isolate some event or events that led to today's state of affairs, where almost all religious Jews advocate a Zionist position.

It may be that the turning point was the Shoah or the events that led up to the Shoah. How could a religious Jew reject the idea of Zion as the "safe haven" when a safe haven was so sorely needed? Or perhaps the major factor in the change was the creation — and the most impressive success — of the state. Arguably it was much easier for a religious Jew to oppose Zionism when Zionism was a risky, uncertain proposition. It makes less sense to oppose an enterprise that is as great a success as the State of Israel is.

Shoah was turning point

But I would propose that the major change in Jewish attitudes to Zionism and religion is a result of the fact that few of us really believe any more that there is such a thing as a "Jewish problem." Anti-Semitism to be sure still exists, but most of us feel that anti-Semitism is the problem of anti-Semites. We no longer feel that our behavior in some way causes anti-Semitism. We, thank God, no longer ask what we can do to "normalize" Judaism to make it more palatable to the non-Jews.

This new found Jewish self-confidence is positive for many reasons. One of the major benefits is that we Jews no longer feel a need to redefine our identity in a way that would not be perceived as "anomalous." True, our combination of religion and nationalism is not common in the modern West. But it is the traditional approach of classical Judaism and we should be very happy that now there is no shame and no danger involved in saying that we are religious Jews, of whatever denomination, and that we are also Zionists.

Prof. Lockshin teaches at York University in Toronto.

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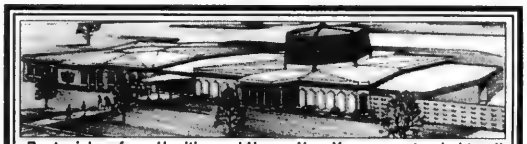

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Zionism after 100 years

Beginnings that came together

By EUGENE ROTHMAN and DAVID AZRIELI

BEGINNINGS

What constitutes the beginning of a movement? In the case of Canadian Zionism, was it the rise of a visionary leader such as Clarence de Sola? Was it the establishment of the Canadian branch of Hovevei Zion in 1887 in Montreal by Alexander Harkavy and Lazarus Cohen? Or, was it the formal foundation of a Canadian Zionist organization, Agudath Zion in 1898?

CANADIAN RESPONSE

In the end, none of these may have been the birth moment of Canadian Zionism. What is important, though, is the fact that about 100 or so years ago many beginnings came together to give shape to a century of Canadian Zionism. It is difficult to point to the exact moment of creation for this movement as an expression of Jewish national identity in Canada. But more significant is the fact that it made its rich and varied century-long journey parallel with the growth of the Canadian Jewish community and with the evolution of Canada itself.

By the end of the 19th century, Canada's Jewish community had been transformed. The early Jewish settlers in Canada came from western or central Europe and reflected these origins in their culture and outlook. However, after 1882, the arrival of thousands of poor Yiddish-speaking Jews from eastern Europe, who were generally Orthodox in their religious expression and always exuberant in their cultural expression, changed the face of Canadian Jewry.

These newcomers were the products of a culturally rich eastern European existence that emphasized religion and community. They also were refugees from a region that persecuted them and emphasized their otherness, their alienation. Combined, these formed in Europe the crucible of a Jewish national identity and the expression of that identity — Zionism as the Jewish national movement.

However, if some Jews in eastern Europe turned to the past for a Messiah who would organize the perfect Jewish world, many secular Jews looked to the rebirth of Hebrew, the remembering of Jewish history and the revival of Jewish culture as the way of achieving a more perfect Jewish condition. Still, even if secularists and traditionalists did not share a totally common view, many Jews did share a belief in the possibility of a better world for Jews, one that saw the realization of Zionism's dream — the rebuilding of a Jewish home in Palestine.

Zionism had its followers in Canada. The earliest organizational efforts were in 1887 by the scholar Alexander Harkavy, who tried to establish a Zionist presence 10 years before the First Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland. Even prominent Canadian non-Jews were supporters. In 1854, Henry Wentworth Monk called for the establishment of a Bank of Israel and appealed to Queen Victoria for a Jewish home in Palestine. Reverend J. W. Beaumont petitioned Benjamin Disraeli in 1872 to support "Judea for the Jews."

However, the founder of Canadian Zionism was the charismatic Montreal communal leader,

[Cont'd. on page B 28]

Golda Meir (then Myerson) visited Labor Zionist colleagues in Montreal in 1929. [Photo from Canadian Jewish Congress Archives]

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Zionism after 100 years

'Words cannot paint scene'

[Cont'd. from page B 27]

Clarence de Sola. In 1899, he was chosen the first president of the Federation of Zionist Societies in Canada and held that position until 1919.

In 1900, de Sola travelled to London for the Fourth Zionist Congress. He reported that "Words cannot paint the scene. Only those who have been to a Zionist Congress can realize the strength of the movement and the absolutely overwhelming enthusiasm that is at the back of it." In December, Canada's new Federation of Zionist Societies held its first Convention in Montreal with a membership of 828.

During his presidency, de Sola ensured that Zionist activity centred around three pillars: negotiations, fundraising and education. The Jewish Colonial Trust and the Jewish National Fund were causes which were successfully addressed. Other efforts were directed towards establishing Hebrew Schools and Jewish organizations across Canada while at the same time encouraging aliyah to Palestine. Zionist educational efforts were enhanced by the growth of Jewish publications throughout these years.

However, the shadow of the Great War in Europe overtook the success of the Canadian Zionist movement. The terror of 20th century warfare was unleashed in August 1914 and the most vulnerable, the Jews, suffered the greatest, particularly in Tsarist Russia.

Canadian Zionists allied themselves to the British Empire. In return, at a convention on Nov. 16, 1915, Canadian Zionists formally expressed the desire that after victory the British should help the Jewish people establish a Jewish homeland. Thus, in 1918, 500 volunteers to the Jewish Legion were recruited from Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg and points west. Together with U.S. volunteers, which included David Ben Gurion, they received military training at Windsor, Ontario and York Redoubt.

The war years also witnessed the achievement of a major steppingstone towards the realization of a Jewish homeland — the Balfour Declaration. On Nov. 2, 1917, Britain pledged to give active support to the establishment of a national home in Palestine. This pledge made the Jewish people a belligerent ally of Britain.

JNF certificate for the purchase of two trees, issued in Montreal in 1919 to Reverend Joshua Dubitsky, the *chazan sheni* at Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue. [Photo from Canadian Jewish Congress Archives]

De Sola was informed by the British Foreign Minister, Arthur Balfour, of the intentions of the British cabinet during the spring of 1917. On May 29 in a three-hour meeting between de Sola and Balfour at the Government House in Ottawa, the plans for a Jewish homeland in Palestine were first discussed. De Sola, along with the Canadian prime minister, Arthur Meighen, gave their support to the Declaration, which led them to believe that Britain would assume the task of setting up a Jewish homeland.

BUILDING THE YISHUV: THE INTERWAR YEARS

During the 1920s and 1930s, the Yishuv, the Jewish community in Palestine began to grow dramatically. In 1920, there were 50 agricultural settlements in Palestine. By the end of the decade this number had increased to 110. The population had multiplied almost three times to 160,000 by 1930. By 1929, there were 2,500 Jewish industrial enterprises with approximately 11,000 workers, and the value of their products totalled 2.5 million pounds sterling annually.

Back in Canada, on Jan. 19, 1919, Arthur Jacob Freiman, then the age of 38, was chosen chair of the Federation of Zionist Organizations. His wife, Lillian Freiman, 33, was named chair of Hadassah Organization of Canada. Together, as the unquestioned leaders of the Canadian Jewish community, they guided the Canadian Zionist movement throughout the interwar years.

The Canadian Jewish Congress of 1919 set out the Zionist agenda for the entire Jewish Community. The Congress declared its solidarity with the establishment of a Jewish home and called on "the

[Cont'd. on page B 29]

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CJC set agenda

[Cont'd. from page B 28]

peace conference to recognize the aspirations and historic claims of the Jewish people in regard to Palestine...and the development of Palestine into a Jewish commonwealth."

This was followed by a burst of organizational activity. The Canadian Ahdut Avoda was founded in Toronto in 1921. By 1922, it had branches in Montreal, Windsor, Hamilton, Winnipeg and Calgary. The Labor Zionist movement, led by M. Dickenstein, was established in 1924. In 1925, a women's division, later the Pioneer Women's Organization of Canada, was founded. Finally, under Freiman's leadership, Hadassah chapters were organized across the country.

Anti-Semitism in Canada was never far below the surface

In 1924, A. J. Freiman founded the Canadian Keren Hayesod Campaign. This educational campaign was destined to revolutionize the concept of Zionist fundraising. The campaign's objective was to build the foundation or infrastructure for Palestine's ability to absorb the halutzim or pioneers who arrived on its shores. It also became one of the most intense educational programs in Canadian Jewish history, personally linking tens of thousands of Canadian Jews with the experience of rebuilding a Jewish home.

As the 1920s ended and the 1930s began, the condition of the Jewish people throughout the world began to change, largely for the worse. Liberal ideas and institutions appeared to be losing their capacity to deal with the economic and political problems Europe was facing. These were some of the causes for the rise of fascist states, most prominently in Italy and Germany, and for unleashing of dark forces elsewhere.

Anti-Semitism in Canada was never far below the surface. Now, it violently and publicly emerged. In an attempt to bridge the gap between Jews and non-Jews, A. J. Freiman made a nation-wide radio address. Joining him was Bennett, who declared that in Palestine: The historic and ancient homeland some time again settled by the descendants of dispersed and conquered people, faith triumphs over doubt, hope over despair, with confident belief that the promises will surely be fulfilled. Such is the story of the Jews.

However, in the years that followed, Bennet's "confident belief that the promises will surely be fulfilled" were belied. The Nazis began to prepare the ground for the destruction of European Jewry; Arabs rioted in Palestine against Jewish immigration; and, in Canada, government immigration policy with respect to Jews fleeing persecution was characterized by the phrase — "none is too many."

FROM HOLOCAUST TO RENEWAL

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[Cont'd. on page B 30]

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Zionism after 100 years

Canadian Zionist agenda: immigration, statehood

[Cont'd. from page B 29]

pean and Christian anti-Semitism and the final violence with which it was put into effect by Nazi Germany. Initially, a successful war effort was the main objective for the Zionist movement. However, as the knowledge of the atrocities committed against European Jews filtered out of Europe, the Zionist agenda changed. The 1942 Biltmore Program now constituted the new thrust of the Zionist movement — the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine.

Despite the horror of the Holocaust, few countries accepted European Jews. So the Yishuv tried to force open the gates in Palestine. In mid-1945, the first boats began to arrive in Palestine with survivors. Immigrants also arrived by land through Syria. They were violently opposed by British military authorities.

The twin thrusts of immigration and statehood also set the Canadian Zionist agenda. Following the deaths of the Freimans, leadership of the Jewish community passed to Samuel Bronfman, Harry Batshaw and Saul Hayes. They were supported in their efforts by the writer, A. M. Klein.

Both Bronfman and Hayes attended the initial conference of the United Nations in San Francisco in 1945, an organization that would be crucial to the establishment of the State of Israel. In Ottawa, political and bureaucratic change in Canada created a friendlier environment. Lester Pearson was appointed deputy minister at the Department of External Affairs and his part in the negotiations was fortuitous for the Zionist movement. This was because of his strong childhood attachment to the Holy Land; his deep sympathies for the survivors; and, as one of the United Nation's founders, his commitment to its role as peacemaker.

Minority status

Later Pearson wrote that "It seemed imperative, moreover, after the annihilation of six million Jews in various centres in Europe, that arrangements should be made in at least one country in the world for the Jewish people to be definitely freed from the limitations and the fears imposed by minority status."

Another Canadian, Supreme Court Justice Ivan C. Rand, made a major contribution to the establishment of Israel. He became Canada's representative to the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP). The committee was established to investigate all issues relevant to Palestine.

Rand convinced other committee members to give the Jews autonomy in their own territory. His views carried weight because as a judge, his impartiality was unquestioned. He successfully swayed the majority to call for partition and the establishment of a Jewish home.

Israel's War of Independence resulted in feverish activity in Canada. Ben Dunkelman and Ben Adelman led the recruitment of men to fight in the war. A Canadian Jewish Haganah steering committee tackled two tasks: the creation of a recruiting network among the more than 18,000 Canadian Jews who served in the War; and raising the funds needed to send Canadian volunteers to Palestine.

Enthusiasm was high. All across Canada, Canadian Jews contributed to the recruiting effort. These included Lionel Druker, D. Louis Harris, Sam Zacks, Sydney Shulemson, Moshe Myerson, Ben Adelman, Leon Crestohl, Hy Cristall, Harry Freeman, Arthur Goldberg and John Sector to name but a few.

The Canadian recruiting was financed locally. Thanks to the efforts of Sam Bronfman, Sam and Ayala Zacks, Moe Myerson, Sydney

[Cont'd. on page B 31]

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Canadian Jews risked lives

[Cont'd. from page B 30]

Shulemson and Harry Batshaw and other sympathizers, the fundraising was an overwhelming success.

Armaments were also needed for the Yishuv. The arms and equipment procured in Canada were sent to Israel on board a schooner bought by Sam Zacks. It subsequently became the very first vessel in Israel's yet-to-be-born navy.

Finally, Canadian Jews made the ultimate sacrifice in the support of Israel: they risked their lives. Hundreds of war veterans volunteered to fight. Awaiting them in Palestine was Ben Dunkelman, a World War II veteran, who had won the DSO, for bravery at Hochwald and had reached the rank of Major with the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

One of Dunkelman's most valuable contributions was to alert the High Command to the importance of mortars in support of advancing infantry. As a result, the army's first mortar battalion was created, and it played a decisive role in many battles, particularly the capture of Tzfat.

Eventually, hundreds of Canadians joined MAHAL (Volunteers from Abroad units). And they participated actively in the drive on Nazareth; Operation Hiram in Meron; in Northern Galilee; Operation Lightning against strategic bases in Ashkelon, Ashdod, Bet Daras and Bashit; the capture of Lod Airport; the battle at Auja-el-Hafir; and, the assault on El-Arish.

Men like Joe Weiner, Zwi Zur, Dov Aldoubi, Murray Cappell, Lionel Druker, Arthur Goldberg, Irving Kaplansky and Moe Dankovy, Norman Levy, and Leo Heaps served in the land defence of Israel. Others such as Eddie Kaplansky and David Panar joined the Israeli Air Force. Many non-Jews volunteered as pilots, including George F. Beurling, John McElroy, and Ben Sturrey.

Death did not distinguish between Jew and Gentile. Among those who fought and died were Wilf Cantor, Willie Fisher, Fred Stevenson, and Ralph Moster, to name only a few.

Ben Dunkelman as a young volunteer in Palestine. Photo from *Dual Allegiance*, B. Dunkelman, (Crown Publishers Inc., New York, 1976)

BEYOND STATEHOOD: THE NEW CHALLENGES

The establishment and recognition of the State of Israel led to a new Zionist program. There was the need to nurture close ties between the governments of Israel and of Canada. Israel's efforts at nation-building required massive support. A new relationship between the Diaspora and the Jewish State had to be defined. These were the challenges.

The Canadian Jewish community worked tirelessly to bring both countries closer. Its material contributions from the beginning was among the highest in the world. On a per capita basis, Canadian Jewish support for Israel was twice as great as that of the American Jewish community.

Canadians in Israel made their mark as well. Asher Ben Natan was prominent in the defence establishment and then the Foreign Service. Bernard Joseph Dov Yosef, took on the unenviable responsibility for guiding Israel through the tsena, the "austerity" period. Later, this Canadian lawyer became Israel's minister of justice.

Virtually every area of endeavor was marked by collaboration and mutual support — culture, education, tourism, trade, commercial ventures. And most of all Canadian Jewry continued to give its children, as Israel shaped the identity of Canadian Jews and gave new meaning to their existence.

But for Canadian Zionists, the fulfilment in 1948 of the 50 year-old dreams harbored by a few Jews who came out on a wintry night in 1898 to establish a Zionist society, did not mean that the end of days was in sight. Work remained to be done, if the Jewish state was to flourish and serve the needs of Jews everywhere. This, then, would be the challenge of the next 50 years.

This article is based on the authors' soon-to-be-published Canadian Zionism: A Celebration.

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Zionism after 100 years

A revolution in Jewish life

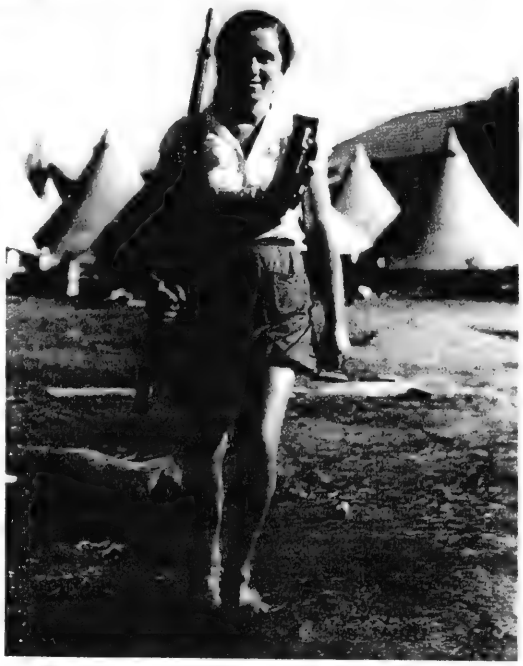
By HAROLD M. WALLER

As we mark the centennial of the founding of the Zionist movement by Theodor Herzl, it is fitting that we assess the impact of Zionism on Jewish life in the 20th century. Zionism, of course, provided the intellectual and ideological framework for the process that led to the establishment of a Jewish state in the traditional homeland. But Zionism did far more than enable the Jews to renew their sovereign existence. Indeed it represented a significant departure from patterns of thought that had prevailed for millennia, challenged key religious assumptions, led to the revival of the Hebrew language as a modern means of communication, and gave new meaning to our notions of Jewish identity and Jewish peoplehood. As Shlomo Avineri has argued, it truly represents a revolution in Jewish life.

Perhaps the most substantial accomplishment of Zionism had to do with the Jewish people's approach to history. What the early Zionists were saying was that it would no longer be sufficient for the Jews to await messianic redemption in order to resolve their political problems. Rather they were prepared to take history into their own hands and act to achieve their political goals. They would no longer be buffeted by societal currents, but instead would act independently. This was a key point that made many Orthodox Jews uncomfortable with the direction of the movement. And it is precisely for this reason that Zionism represents such a radical departure from past practice.

Its Success

Zionism proclaimed that Jews were now prepared to act collectively in history in pursuit of their political objectives rather than assuming a passive posture while awaiting redemption. Zionists wanted to make things happen. Those Orthodox Jews who perceived religious meaning in such a stance were welcome to participate. This challenge led to splits within Orthodoxy, the effects of which are still being played out in Israel and, to a lesser extent, the Diaspora.



A member of the Haganah during the 1936 riots.

Although some revolutions signify a radical and nearly total break from the past, others retain some continuities. Zionism's appearance on the Jewish scene in fin de siecle Europe did transform much of Jewish life there and ultimately throughout the parts of the world where there were Jewish communities. But it also evoked a profound connection with Jewish history, without which it might well have failed. That connection was the focus on Eretz Yisrael as the place where the Jewish national home would be established. Since much of the impetus for the Zionist movement was to find a way to resolve the acute problems of European Jewry, especially in eastern Europe, there was an understandable emphasis on physical safety and rescue, i.e., Zionism as a response to anti-Semitism.

As a result, the meaning of the movement in terms of the larger issues of Jewish history was often overlooked. Consequently, serious consideration was given to establishing the homeland in some place other than Eretz Yisrael (the Uganda option) and a spirited debate on the subject took place at the Zionist Congress in 1903. The decision to

[Cont'd. on page B 33]

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Zionism after 100 years

Traditional symbol

[Cont'd. from page B 32]

retain the objective of returning to the Land of Israel was critical to the long-term success of the movement because it appropriated a traditional symbol and maintained continuity with long-standing Jewish values, thus serving as a unifying factor for the Jewish people as a whole.

The Jews of Europe in 1897 were in transition from the largely self-contained communities of the pre-Emancipation period, when Jews in most countries lacked the normal rights and opportunities of citizens, to a situation where they could aspire to equality in their respective countries, if not achieve it. But they also faced opposition to these aspirations, an intensification of anti-Semitism, and the dilemma of the so-called Jewish Question.

As nationalism intensified in Europe in the latter half of the 19th century, the place of Jews in their various host societies became a critical issue for both Jews and non-Jews. The increasingly desperate plight of the Jews in the Russian Empire in particular led to the search for radically different solutions, of which Zionism proved to be the most successful. But in order for Zionism to succeed it had to convince Jews to think of themselves in a new way that entailed an emphasis on peoplehood above all.

Desperate plight of Russian Jews

The idea of Jewish peoplehood per se was hardly a novel one. After all, it goes back to biblical times. But in traditional Jewish life, peoplehood and religion were inextricably linked. Members of the Jewish people practised Judaism, and individuals who professed the Jewish religion were part of the Jewish people. The connection between peoplehood and religion meant that concepts of political redemption, i.e., a return to the land from which the Jews had been exiled, were linked to religion and were difficult to articulate independently. If God was going to send the Messiah to redeem the Jews, it would only be when He was ready for it to happen.

What the Zionists did was to separate the religious and national dimensions. They promoted the view that the Jews were a people like other peoples in their quest for a normal national existence and that the Jewish people had historical rights to a homeland. The basis for those rights may have been the experience of the Jews living independently in Eretz Yisrael in the biblical and post-biblical periods, but it did not depend on any religious recognition. It followed that individual Jews were part of the Jewish people for historical reasons without the necessity for anything more than a nominal religious commitment.

In practice, this was a way to integrate what had become a disparate Jewish people in religious terms, particularly because of the emergence of large numbers of secular Jews who had given up many or even most of the elements of religious observance that they had learned from parents and grandparents. Thus Zionism provided Jews with a way to be a full member of the Jewish people without having to be religiously observant by re-

[Cont'd. on page B 36]

Jewish refugees in 1938.

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Zionism after 100 years

TIMELINE INTO HISTORY

A ZIONISM TIMELINE

1882-1904 — The First Aliyah brought 25,000 immigrants from Eastern Europe, Russia, Romania and Yemen.

Feb. 14, 1886 — The publication of *Old/New Land*, containing Theodor Herzl's vision of the future Jewish State. Public reaction prompted Herzl to convene the First Zionist Congress.

Aug. 29, 1897 — The First Zionist Congress was convened in Basel and the WZO was created with Herzl as president. The Basel Program was endorsed as the official Zionist platform, defining the goal of Zionism as the establishment of a national homeland for the Jewish people in Eretz Yisrael, secured by public law.

Dec. 29, 1901 — Keren Kayemet LeYisrael (JNF) was founded, with the primary purpose of purchasing land for Jewish settlement in Eretz Yisrael. After the creation of the State of Israel, JNF was the main force behind afforestation and development programs.

Jan. 28, 1902 — Shaare Zedek Hospital, the first hospital outside the Old City walls, was founded in Jerusalem.

Feb. 26, 1902 — The Anglo-Palestine Bank was founded in London as the financial arm of the World Zionist Organization. In 1951, it became Bank Leumi le-Israel.

Aug. 23, 1903 — Theodor Herzl submitted the "Uganda Program" to the delegates to the Sixth Zionist Congress, causing a storm of protest in the Congress hall. Originally proposed by the British government, it was meant to provide a temporary solution to the plight of the Jews by establishing a Jewish colony in Uganda. (The program was rejected by the Seventh Zionist Congress in 1905.)

July 3, 1904 — Theodor Herzl, author, journalist and the father of modern Zionism, died.

1904-1914 — The Second Aliyah brought 40,000 immigrants to the country, mostly from Russia.

Oct. 22, 1905 — Herzliya Gymnasium, the first Hebrew school where classes were conducted entirely in Hebrew, was founded.

Jan. 16, 1906 — The Bezalel school for arts and crafts was established by Boris Schatz in Jerusalem. Today, it is Israel's leading academy of art and design.

1908 — The World Zionist Organization, responsible for developing Jewish settlement in the country, creating a Jewish economic structure, and collective settlement,.opened a Palestine office in Jaffa.

April 11, 1909 — Tel Aviv was established as a Jewish suburb of Arab-populated Jaffa.

Oct. 28, 1910 — Degania Aleph, Israel's first kibbutz, was established on the eastern bank of the Jordan river.

1910 — Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, the reviver of the Hebrew language, published the first Hebrew dictionary. In his efforts to make Hebrew the daily spoken language in Eretz Yisrael, he established the Hebrew Language Academy, founded newspapers for adults and children, and published a number of textbooks and readers.

The founding of Tel Aviv in 1909

April 11, 1912 — The Technion, the first institute of technology in Eretz Yisrael, was established, with classes conducted entirely in Hebrew.

Nov. 2, 1917 — The Balfour Declaration was issued in the form of a letter from the British Foreign Secretary to Lord Lionel Rothschild. It expressed support for the "establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people."

1918 — The Habimah Theatre was founded, now the national theatre of the State of Israel.

1919-1923 — The Third Aliyah brought 35,000 immigrants to Israel, mainly from Russia and Romania, including Jews who had been stranded overseas by World War I.

Dec. 9, 1920 — The Histadrut, Israel's trade union movement, was created to "arrange all the communal, economic and cultural affairs of the working class" and to "build a labor society in Eretz Yisrael."

1920 — The Principal Allied Powers decided to award the Mandate of Eretz Yisrael to Great Britain, with the responsibility of maintaining a normal life for both Jewish and Arab inhabitants.

1920 — The Haganah, an underground military organization active in national defence, settlement, clandestine immigration, and the struggle against the British Mandatory authorities, was founded.

April 1, 1925 — The inauguration of the Hebrew University on Mount Scopus, Jerusalem. It was later evacuated in the 1948 War of Independence; the reunification of Jerusalem in 1967 enabled the Mount Scopus campus to be reconstructed and reopened on April 25, 1976.

1924-1928 — The Fourth Aliyah brought 67,000 immigrants to the country, mostly from Poland, but also other Eastern European countries.

Aug. 11, 1929 — The Jewish Agency was established to act on behalf of the Jews of Eretz Yisrael. Its aims were to promote Jewish immigration, absorption, housing, welfare, health, education and settlement.

1930-1939 — The Fifth Aliyah brought over 250,000 immigrants to Israel, mostly refugees from Nazi Germany, Poland and Central Europe.

March 28, 1932 — The first Maccabiah was held in Tel Aviv, with Jewish delegations from 21 countries participating.

Dec. 1, 1932 — The publication of the first issue of the *Palestine Post* (now known as the *Jerusalem Post*).

Dec. 26, 1936 — The first concert of the Palestine Orchestra (now known as the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra) was held in Tel Aviv. Arturo Toscanini conducted, and Bronislaw Huberman, the orchestra's founder, was the soloist.

May 17, 1939 — The British White Paper on Palestine was published, recommending the establishment of a bi-national state in Palestine, and restricting Jewish immigration and land sales to Jews.

Sept. 7, 1947 — The 4,500 passengers of the illegal immigration ship, Exodus, were captured by the British on their way to Israel and returned to Europe.

May 14, 1948 — David Ben-Gurion announced the establish

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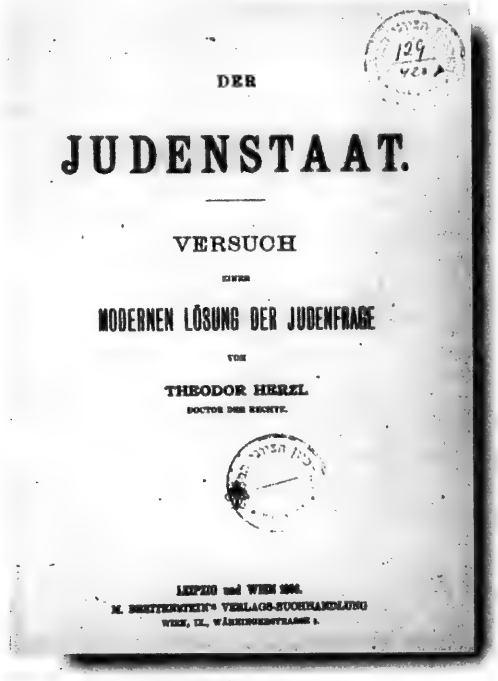
Pioneers in the Jezreel Valley



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The Jewish State

Zionism after 100 years

TIMELINE INTO HISTORY

[Cont'd from page B34]

ment of a Jewish state in Eretz Yisrael, to be called the State of Israel.

May 15, 1948 — The termination of the British mandate in Palestine. The same day, armies from neighboring Arab countries invaded Palestine, beginning Israel's War of Independence.

May 31, 1948 — Prime minister David Ben-Gurion announced the establishment of the Israel Defence Forces (IDF).

May 11, 1949 — Israel was admitted as a member of the United Nations.

Nov. 8, 1949 — Operation Magic Carpet brought 50,000 Yemenite Jews to Israel by air.

Dec. 13, 1949 — Jerusalem was proclaimed the capital of the State of Israel by the government of Israel.

Feb. 4, 1949 — Israel's Knesset (parliament) was convened.

July 20, 1949 — The War of Independence ended.

Nov. 2, 1949 — The inauguration of the Weizmann Institute of Science, devoted to research and teaching of the natural sciences.

1950 — Army radio began broadcasting.

1951 — Operation Ezra and Nehemia brought over 130,000 Iraqi immigrants to Israel. The first transit camp was set up, consisting of tents and other temporary structures. Between 1950 and 1953, more than 100 camps were erected throughout the country.

July 5, 1950 — The Law of Return was enacted by the Knesset, giving every Jew the right to immigrate to Israel, unless he presented a danger to public health or security.

1953 — Yad Vashem, dedicated to perpetuating the memory of the martyrs of the Holocaust and to its research and documentation, opened on Mount Herzl in Jerusalem.

Sept. 8, 1954 — Mass aliyah from Morocco, Tunisia and other North African countries brought 161,000 immigrants to Israel.

Aug. 7, 1955 — Bar-Ilan University, an academic institution with religious orientation, was established.

Oct. 29, 1956 - Nov. 5, 1956 — The Sinai Campaign broke out between Israel and Egypt in response to the ongoing Egyptian blockage of Eilat and the Gulf of Aquaba, increased terror against Israel, and the establishment of Egyptian and Syrian joint military command. Within 100 hours, the Egyptian forces had been completely routed.

June 9, 1958 — The Rubin Academy for music and dance opened in Jerusalem.

1960 — The Hadassah Ein Kerem hospital opened.

May 30, 1963 — Haifa University was founded.

June 11, 1964 — Israel's National Water Carrier was completed, making it possible to expand and develop industry and agriculture in arid areas of the country.

1964 — Pope Paul VI visited Israel.

May 11, 1965 — The Israel Museum in Jerusalem was inaugurated.

June 5-11, 1967 — The Six Day War was fought against Egyptian, Syrian and Jordanian troops. Jews worldwide celebrated the victory.

1970 — The University of the Negev, the forerunner of Ben-Gurion University, opened in Beersheva.

David Ben-Gurion declares the creation of the State of Israel.

The famous picture of Herzl looking toward the future from his hotel room in Basel.

1971 — The Jerusalem Theatre was dedicated.

1972 — The presidential residence in Jerusalem was dedicated.

Sept. 5, 1972 — Eleven Israeli sportsmen were killed in an Arab terrorist attack in the Olympic village in Munich.

Oct. 6, 1973 — The Yom Kippur War broke out when Egyptian and Syrian forces attacked Israel on the holiest day of the Jewish year.

July 4, 1976 — Israeli and Jewish hostages held at Entebbe Airport in Uganda were rescued by soldiers from elite units of the IDF in a daring military operation.

1977 — Egyptian president Anwar Sadat came to Jerusalem.

May 15, 1978 — The opening in Tel Aviv of Beth Hatefutsoth, the Museum of the Jewish Diaspora, as a research and exhibition centre of Jewish life through time.

Dec. 10, 1978 — Prime minister Menachem Begin received the Nobel Prize for Peace.

March 26, 1979 — A peace treaty with Egypt was signed at Camp David by Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin.

July 30, 1980 — The ninth Knesset passed the Basic Law: Jerusalem, Capital of Israel, which states that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel and the seat of the President of the State, the Knesset, the Government, and the Supreme Court. It also guarantees the sanctity and protection of all holy places and promises free access to their holy sites for members of all faiths.

April 25, 1982 — Israel completed its final stage of withdrawal from Sinai as part of the peace treaty with Egypt.

June 6, 1982 — In defence of the northern settlements, Operation Peace for Galilee erupted as a result of the PLO's growing strength in Lebanon, the Katyusha shelling of northern Israeli settlements, and intensified terrorist infiltration.

Sept. 4, 1985 — The New Israeli Shekel (NIS) was minted.

1984 — Operation Moses brought 7,000 Ethiopians to Israel by air.

Sept. 19, 1988 — The Lavion Satellite was launched into space.

Jan. 15, 1991 — The Gulf War broke out when Israel was attacked by Scud missiles from Iraq.

May 24/25, 1991 — Operation Solomon brought 14,500 immigrants from Ethiopia to Israel in a dramatic round-the-clock airlift.

1989 — Massive wave of Russian aliyah begins, bringing to Israel several hundred thousand immigrants.

Sept. 13, 1993 — The Oslo agreement's Declaration of Principles was signed between the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization. The signing marked the beginning of the process whereby various powers would be transferred from Israel to a Palestinian Authority to be established in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District.

Oct. 26, 1994 — Israel and Jordan signed a peace treaty in an official ceremony held in the Arava Desert. Jordan received control of 400-square-kilometres in the Arava to be leased back to Israel, and Israel undertook to supply Jordan with millions of cubic metres of water annually.

Nov. 4, 1995 — Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated at the conclusion of a peace rally in Tel Aviv. His assassin, Yigal Amir, shot the prime minister three times at point-blank range.

1995 — Chechen and Yugoslavian families caught in the war zones were rescued and brought to Israel.

May 29, 1996 — In Israel's first direct election for Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu of the Likud defeated incumbent Shimon Peres of the Labor party. **(WZPS)**

Zionism after 100 years

Choices available to European Jews were clear

[Cont'd. from page B 33]

placing a religious identity with a secular one. In terms of the history of the Jews, this was probably Zionism's most radical accomplishment.

By the first decade of the current century, the choices available to European Jews regarding their relationship to the Jewish people had become clear. One could be a Jew in a religious sense without embracing modern Jewish nationalism, an option espoused by both Orthodox and Reform Jews for different reasons, a nationalist Jew without a substantial commitment to religious practice, or a religious Jewish nationalist. The latter two types were the mainstay of the Zionist movement while the members of the first category opposed Zionism. There were other options too. Some Jews assimilated and relinquished any connection with the Jewish people. Among them were Marxists who rejected any form of nationalism as a matter of principle and ideology. Another alternative was to conceive of a Diaspora-centred Jewish nationality, as articulated by the Bund.

Why then was Zionism so successful in garnering support? Aside from the timing and meeting the needs of the Jewish masses, Herzl and his colleagues articulated a new kind of Jewish identity that was very inclusive, especially with regard to both Orthodox and secular Jews, and which maintained continuity with Jewish history and tradition by stressing the importance of the Land of Israel for Zionist aspirations. This one could relate to Jews and Judaism in a new way while at the same time holding on to a central concept in Jewish history: return to the traditional homeland. Although it is unlikely that the Zionist leaders developed their ideology with that as a primary consideration, it certainly proved helpful in their efforts to attract adherents. Moreover, as Jacques Kornberg has shown in a recent biography, Herzl's contribution to ideology and political organization was motivated in large part by his grappling with his own issues of identity.

During the half century between the first Zionist Congress and the founding of the state, Zionism enjoyed a great deal of success because it provided a novel way to organize the Jewish people on an international basis. In the post-Talmudic period, Judaism itself was organized largely on a local basis. There really was no mechanism for institutions that had more than a regional focus. Zionism, with its frequent congresses, brought Jews together from many different countries and with its institutions that operated between the congresses. This was an innovation in Jewish life, giving Jews in a collective sense an international presence. Although it could not speak for all Jews in a literal sense, it did claim successfully to speak on behalf of the Jewish people and received international recognition as such.

The other major accomplishment of the Zionist movement during this period was the rebuilding of the homeland in a way that brought different kinds of Jews together. The collaborative effort to establish an organized and authoritative Jewish presence in Mandatory Palestine demonstrated how the Jewish people, or at least a significant part, could be mobilized on behalf of a cause. This too was an innovative development in Jewish life. And finally, the fact that Zionism eventually was able to establish the State of Israel, bringing to fruition 50 years of incredible effort in the face of great adversity and worst tragedy in Jewish history, is perhaps the surest proof of the revolutionary

[Cont'd. on page B 37]

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Zionism after 100 years

A place of refuge

[Cont'd. from page B 36]

character of Zionism. Less than 50 years after the creation of Israel, it is still early to try to assess its full significance in the long sweep of Jewish history. But there can be little doubt that Israel is transforming the nature of Jewish life worldwide, even as the force of Zionist ideology in the society may be waning.

When talking about Zionism in the period after 1948, it is difficult to distinguish between the achievements and effects of the ideology and those of the state. Still it is clear that Zionism enabled Jews around the world to relate to Israel, not just as a place of refuge for Jews in danger, but also as a source of inspiration and renewal of Jewish life. For Jews in the Diaspora who have chosen not to make aliyah, Zionism

A source of inspiration

enables them to connect with Israel, to be part of its destiny, to have a stake in its future, and to have the opportunity to formally join the Jews of the Jewish state should they change their minds. Thus it is a unifying force, perhaps the strongest such force in the contemporary Jewish world. A hundred years after Herzl convened the first Zionist Congress, Zionism remains the most effective means of articulating a collective Jewish political interest.

Any reflective examination of Zionism since Herzl would have to recognize that it does not have a history of unbridled success, most notably the inability to save the Jews of Europe from the Nazis, the persistence of anti-Semitism, and the failure to unite the Jews of the world to the fullest extent.

Nevertheless there is little doubt that the situation of the Jews of the world has been transformed since 1897 and that Zionism was the chief engine driving that transformation. The outlook for the Jewish people now is fundamentally different than it was at the turn of the century. In the wake of the terrible losses of the Holocaust, Zionism and the Israeli state have provided a means for the continuity of the Jewish people in an era when religious affiliation is not attractive for many Jews.

As Zionism enters its second century, it is instructive to remember that revolutions can run out of steam as societies find it increasingly difficult to generate the energy that propelled the revolution in the first place. Zionism is no exception. Life in Israel has become routinized as the society matures. Elements of the population, notably and ironically often in the religious sector, continue to be motivated by Zionism's lofty ideals. Yet on the other hand, in some secular parts of the society, a post-Zionist value system seems to be taking hold. As for Diaspora communities, Zionism has become largely an organizational phenomenon rather than a revolutionary movement. But perhaps the most serious question about Zionism that we might contemplate is whether in the long run it can function successfully as an ideology that will maintain the continuity of the Jewish people or whether the question of religious self-identification must be re-examined. In any event, the Zionist revolution succeeded beyond the dreams of its leaders and has had a truly momentous impact on Jewish history.

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Today's date is greatest in our history

Address by David Ben-Gurion at the Jerusalem Jubilee Celebration on Rosh Chodesh Elul 5707, Aug. 17, 1947.

David Ben-Gurion.

Delegates to the First Congress, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Since we went into exile, we have had many dates in our calendar which will not be expunged from our memory for decades, and maybe centuries to come. But the anniversary of the event to commemorate which we have assembled here today does not resemble them.

The other anniversaries mark things that happened to us. They are a record of persecution, decrees, expulsions, massacres and destruction. Today's date however, is the greatest in our history since the destruction of our political independence following the defeat of Bar-Kochba.

It has two distinctive features. The first is that it is a date made by ourselves, not by anyone else. The second is that it made us into a nation once more.

The First Congress did not make a nation of us out of nothing. There had always been a Jewish nation, even when we were dispersed in exile and the world as a whole did not know of our existence as a nation; but we were only a potential nation. That day, 50 years ago, made us; and on that day we turned ourselves into a nation in reality.

The First Zionist Congress, in 1897, saw the regeneration of a Jewish people conscious of its nationhood and proclaiming its aspiration to become once again a people like other peoples, and to lead an independent existence in its own country.

The man mainly responsible for this date — Theodor Herzl — made an entry in his diary which seemed overbold and exaggerated. He wrote: "Today I founded the Jewish State," to which he added: "If I stated it aloud, there would be universal laughter, but perhaps in five, certainly in 50 years' time, everyone will see the truth of that statement."

This was no outburst of enthusiasm on the part of a dreamer, or an illusion that immediate success would follow, but the expression of a profound historical intuition. On that day, the Jewish State was indeed founded, for a State is founded first in the hearts of the people.

The alternative periods given by Herzl — five years or 50 — are interesting. For here, too, is evidence of the deep intuition and historical greatness of the Zionist leader. He fully believed that within a few years, the Jewish State might come into being; and it is doubtful whether he could have done what he did without his belief that the project was feasible and that it could be speedily accomplished.

It would indeed be a sign of a warped judgment to say, in retrospect, that Herzl was wrong. For he was not so wrong: it was not utterly impossible for the Jewish State to have come about within a short time…There are many instances in history of probabilities that do not achieve realization.

[Cont'd. on page B 39]

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Zionism after 100 years

We see the prophecy has not yet been fulfilled

Defence position at the Jaffa– Tel-Aviv border.

[Cont'd. from page B 38]

Nevertheless, they are probabilities; and the man of vision recognizes them as probabilities and strives to bring about their realization. But not all projects that are planned succeed; and it was not because Herzl was a poor prophet that the Jewish State did not arise. For he indicated a second alternative, — 50 years, which means that he foresaw the possibility of hindrances and deferments. And now, 50 years after the event, we see that the prophecy has not yet been fulfilled. The professional wiseacres say, "Behold the result of fantasy." But they would do well not to pass hasty judgment.

This semi-centennial — commemorating the greatest event in our history in exile — is being celebrated at the most critical juncture in generations. We have just witnessed a destruction the like of which has not been experienced for centuries. The first, and only, nation to proffer help to us has become our opponent. Heavy clouds are gathering in the Palestinian sky, — I say this, not because I am under the influence of the events of the past week, which may prove transient: I would have said the same thing a fortnight ago as well.

Finally, we are faced with a terrible threat from within. At no time previously have there been such destructive elements in our midst as at present. Anyone beholding the crises and dangers, both external and internal, might say: "The man was a dreamer. His dream remains unfulfilled, not only after five, but after 50 years; while the little that has been achieved stands in grave jeopardy."

Yet Herzl was no dreamer. The past 50 years were not merely a period of fearful crisis in the history of our movement: they have also paved the way to the future. We now stand on the threshold of the establishment of the Jewish State. I do not necessarily refer to the work of the committee now in progress in Geneva or to the United Nations Assembly. For it is a fact that our State is in the making in Palestine. What we have today are the beginnings of a Jewish State, and by virtue of them we shall surmount the grievous crises we are now undergoing.

We have been confronted with England's fight against Zionism, — a fight which, by reason of its inner logic, is being transformed into a war against the Jews.

There is a direct connection between the White Paper and the disturbances in Liverpool. The fight against Zionism is of necessity an anti-Jewish fight. We are the only people that for a period of 1,800 years has thwarted all the designs harbored to compass its destruction.

In addition, we have before us the threat of internal disruption. If, despite those various dangers, we stand, not without anxiety — for complacency at this juncture would be an unforgivable sin —, but without fear and assured of our ability and our future, it is because we have in fact established the beginnings

[Cont'd. on page B 40]

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Zionism after 100 years

We stand on the threshold of the Jewish state

[Cont'd. from page B 39]

of the Jewish State in Palestine. Whatever the verdict of the United Nations Committee may be, no committee or section of world opinion that directs its gaze to Palestine can fail to see that there it beholds, not just another Jewish community, but a Jewish nation, — a nation with the attributes of statehood like any other independent nation.

There is something else which stands revealed in a most tragic manner, and that is that all the few achievements we have made, and in fact the entire range of Jewish creation from its beginnings down to the present day, are the fruits of tragedies that have overtaken our people.

Our people has a unique quality in that it can turn disaster — be it ever so great or overwhelming — into a source of new strength, creativeness and self-assertion; it does not give in. This is proved by the men and women called Displaced Persons or "illegal" immigrants. Even those who can claim some acquaintance with Jewish history and poetry and with the Jewish faith and who are aware of the Jewish people's connection with its country, had no idea how deep that connection was until confronted with the terrible grandeur of the spectacle of "illegal" immigration.

No people in the world has displayed such a powerful connection with its country as that now being displayed by the "illegal" immigrants, and no one in the world can fail to see it. The nations of the world were unable to understand the mystery of a people which had left and been made to leave its country — for it partly left of its own volition as well as being forcibly ejected — and yet which retained its connection with that country. Many refused to believe it. They thought it was a *façon de parler*, a meaningless dogma. Today, however, no one can doubt this connection in view of the mighty force of what is called "illegal" immigration, and at the sight of the immigrant ship "Exodus 1947."

But this does not comprise the full measure of the force that Herzl wished to harness and apply, the utilization of which he rightly saw, by means of his profound intuition, as the beginnings of the Jewish State.

This is only the motive force. Everyone, even a blind man, is bound to see that there already exists in Palestine, a Jewish State in embryo form, and not just another Jewish community; and that there are Jews in other parts of the world — in Germany and Poland — whose ties with Palestine are literally "strong as death," as the Bible puts it.

This, however, is only the visible form of that force. What we have today was a latent urge only two generations ago; but it would not have emerged if it had not been latent. The latent Zionism is greater than the visible. But I doubt whether the world today can, or whether it would if it could, see more than the visible forces that are actually before its eyes.

It is my belief that we stand on the threshold of the Jewish State. It is not the State as conceived in the age-old dreams of the Jewish people or even as seen in Herzl's vision. It is the first stage of a State determined by the measure of visible power that has been generated in Palestine and that is forcing a path by means of "illegal" immigration.

There is no cause for fear in the fact that this may be only the first stage and determined by the measure of visible power. For this power, before it came into operation, was also latent. But this stage will not prove the last in the realization of the vision: it is the first stage; we are standing on the threshold. Herzl's prophecy is being fulfilled. After 50 years — and this is no arbitrary period — we are approaching the establishment of the Jewish State in its first stage.

Let me end by saying a word to those few in our midst — many are no longer with me, others are scattered throughout the world — who were vouchsafed the unique privilege necessarily restricted to only a few, of being present at the great occasion which saw the regeneration of the Jewish people and the birth of the Jewish State in its heart.

Yours was a great privilege, and one which we and those who come after us cannot, in the nature of things, experience; for it was the privilege of the first-comers. You have added a great date to the Jewish calendar, a date that has transformed Jewish history. I hope that you will live to see the establishment of the Jewish State, and I utter this hope in the belief that its fulfilment may be imminent.

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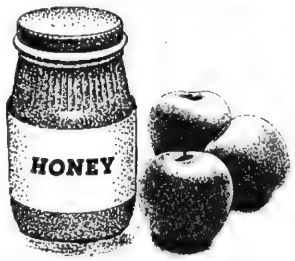

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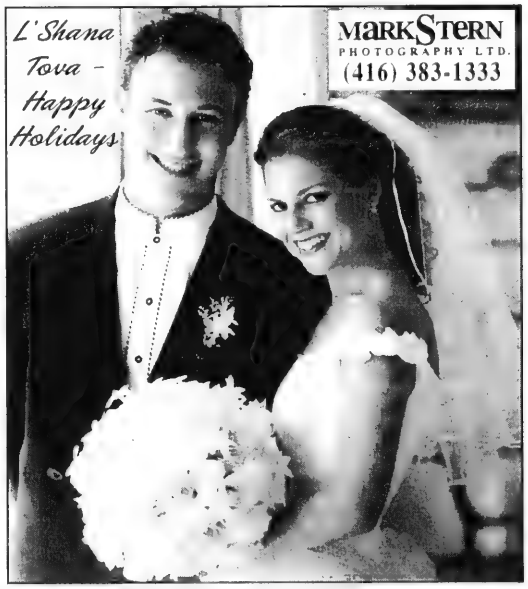

Zionism after 100 years

A deliberate intervention in human history

By YEHEZKEL DROR

Zionism is one of the most heroic successes to have come from an attempt by human beings to shape their collective future through deliberate intervention with history. Zionism brought about a radical shift in the

THE NEXT 100 YEARS

situation of the Jewish people by moving nearly one-third of all the Jews who survived the Holocaust to Israel and establishing there a strong state for the Jews. And this transformation in Jewish and global history was brought about very quickly, relative to the magnitude of the deed.

Equally amazing – and most unusual for history-changing endeavors – was the fact that the outcomes of the Zionist revolution were faithful to the intentions of its founders. However, the Zionist revolution is far from over.

With all its might, Israel's physical, long-term survival in a turbulent Middle East increasingly saturated with hi-tech weapons is far from assured. More insidious, but in many respects even more dangerous, is the possibility that Israel will be a thriving "state of the Jews," but not a "Jewish state," in any meaningful pluralistic sense. Instead, an "Israeli nation" may crystallize, as proposed by the so-called "post-Zionists" (who, in substance, are mostly "anti-Zionists"). Such a development may well spell the end of the Jewish people and of Judaism, both in Israel and in the Diaspora.

To realize the true nature of this danger, it is necessary to understand correctly the true character of the Jewish people: Jews are not a "nation" in any reasonable meaning of that term. We are different inter alia in the unique fusion between being a "Jew" in the religious-traditional sense and belonging to the Jewish people. Neither is the Jewish people a religious community in the

[Cont'd. on page B 42]

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Zionism after 100 years

New Zionist tasks

[Cont'd. from page B 41]

usual sense. We are different in the central role for us of the Promised Land as a polity and in the social-political dimensions characterizing the Jewish people.

In contrast to nations and religious communities, the Jewish people is a "civilization" embedded in the "Holy Land" which serves as its cradle and existential basis.

This fundamental nature of the Jewish people and of Judaism are often ignored, thanks to Western language games that are limited by the concepts of "nations" and "religions" as shaped by European history. Indeed, most contemporary discourse on the Jewish people in Israel continues incorrectly to proceed in terms of "nationality," as adopted by classical Zionist thinkers under the influence of national movements of their time. And most discourse on the Jewish people in the Diaspora, especially in North America is very ambiguous: to view the Jewish people as a "nation" is not convenient; and to view Judaism as a religion is inadequate. Thus modern thinking about the Jewish people and Judaism remains a "hollow shell" as it were, with much harm to understanding its problems and developing adequate treatments.

Understanding the essential nature of the Jewish people and of Judaism as a people and as a civilization with unique characteristics, such as the central role of Eretz Yisrael, is crucial for evaluating the present situation and for reflecting upon great tasks still facing Zionism. If the Jewish people were "only" a nation, most of the aims of Zionism would have been achieved with the establishment of the State of Israel and its tremendous achievements. The remaining tasks would be "more of the same"; Haredim.
continuous aliyah and strengthening of the state. Alternatively, if the Jewish people were "only" a religion, the very idea of Zionism might be regarded as a mistake, as indeed is claimed by many of Haredim.

However, when one accepts the view that the Jewish people and Judaism are a "civilization," then the nature of the problems which must be faced becomes clearer, posing novel missions for Zionism.

A strong identity

The major danger facing us is the possibility of losing our Jewish identity, both in Israel and in the Diaspora. This would condemn the Jewish people and Judaism to declining and ultimately to disappearing. One can understand the danger more clearly when one considers that the factors which assured our survival during the many generations of exile no longer apply.

Diminishing numbers of the Jewish people adhere to a "religious" way of life. Anti-Semitism no longer builds walls around Jews. Assimilation is an increasing phenomenon. True, the trauma of the Holocaust strengthens remembrance as a survival factor and the existence of Israel provides a strong identity factor. But these cannot be relied upon to ensure the long-term meaningful survival of the Jewish people and of Judaism: Israel can lose its Jewish character and the

[Cont'd. on page B 43]

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Zionism after 100 years

Israel can become more of 'normal' nation-state

[Cont'd. from page B 42]

Diaspora may disappear.

Israel can easily become more and more of a "normal" nation-state with an Israeli identity but with an evolving "Israeli" nationality increasingly detached from Judaism on the one hand and from the Diaspora on the other.

The thriving of Jewish people requires creativity

In the Diaspora, the "Israelization" of the state of the Jews and the resulting loss of "deep" contact with it by Diaspora Jews might reduce Judaism to a faith with a number of different versions of deteriorating content which have the allegiance of a decreasing number of adherents. Together, these two trends may lead to the "unthinkable" but sure transformation of the Jewish people and Judaism into a "living museum," as predicted by Arnold Toynbee.

Zionism has succeeded in overcoming Jewish "enslavement to other nations." Jews in the Diaspora enjoy unprecedented freedom and prosperity. However, these very successes may paradoxically lead to Jewish "enslavement to other cultures." In the longer run, this may finish off "the Jewish people and Judaism from within, much more than militant anti-Semitism, and even the Holocaust, ever did from without. In addition to the physical security of the State of Israel, dealing with the long-run threat is the critical challenge facing the Jewish people, Judaism and Zionism in the foreseeable future.

Therefore, I propose the following categoric imperative for Zionism over the next 100 years: *Assuring and strengthening the meaningful existence and the thriving of the Jewish people and of Judaism, including a strong, "high-culture" Jewish State of Israel and a viable Diaspora.*

Meaningful existence and the thriving of the Jewish people and of Judaism are an organic whole which cannot be severed: without thriving Judaism there can be no thriving Jewish people, and without a thriving Jewish people, demographically, socially and politically, there is no basis for Judaism.

But neither the thriving of Judaism nor the thriving of the Jewish people can be achieved without "civilizational" creativity, in matters of culture, religion, values, styles of life, social structures and more. In a rapidly changing humanity, living only on the basis of remembrance of the past will not be sustainable for long; and merely "doing more of the same" will not work. Indeed, it is my view that peak, Jewish, pluralistic creativity is not only a moral imperative, but is also essential for the survival and

[Cont'd. on page B 44]

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Creativity essential

[Cont'd. from page B 43]

the thriving of Judaism and the Jewish people, both in Israel and in the Diaspora.

Creativity is essential, given the diminishing role of adherence to Orthodoxy as assuring the future of the Jewish people and of Judaism. Within a non-Orthodox perspective, the development of meaningful secular content for Judaism as a civilization is also essential. In Israel, the crisis of secular Judaism is pronounced. It leads to indiscriminate adherence to western values and to the proliferation of "Israeli" cultural elements lacking any basis in Judaism. In the Diaspora, the scope of assimilation testifies to the difficulties of providing substitutes for Orthodoxy.

Therefore, without new pluralistic and largely non-religious "civilizational" content for Judaism based on an unbroken chain of generations but fitting a new world, Israel is likely to "assimilate" into western and perhaps Middle Eastern cultures as another "nation state;" and the Jews in the Diaspora are likely to assimilate into their surrounding cultures, with only narrow enclaves of "Judaism as religion" remaining.

A further step in this analysis is to realize the present paradoxical situation of the Jewish people and Judaism in the world. Never before has the Jewish people possessed so much political strategic power; but seldom before has Judaism as a "civilization" been so unimportant in terms of humanity as a whole. This civilizational weakness cannot but weaken the meaningfulness of Judaism in the eyes of the Jews themselves, especially in the younger generation, and this will lead to a decreasing will and ability to continue to be Jews and to have their descendants be Jews as well.

Pride in strength is justified and useful, but in a small people, it cannot for long substitute for a sense of "meaning." Therefore, renewed peak Jewish creativity, which would also be of benefit on a wider basis, is urgently required.

Zionism aimed to intervene with history to assure the survival and thriving of the Jewish people and of Judaism. During the first 100 years of Zionism, the emphasis – rightly so – was on saving Jews and re-establishing the state of the Jews in the Promised Land. Cultural creativity was recognized as essential; much was achieved, such as the revival of the Hebrew language with all its "civilizational" significance. However, "cultural Zionism" was pushed aside. Priority was given to

[Cont'd. on page B 45]

There was a feeling within the Yishuv that all Jewish history had been directed toward this moment, Nov. 29, 1947

Zionism after 100 years

Renewed Jewish creativity urgently required

[Cont'd. from page B 44]

building up the Jewish homeland and saving Jews.

Indeed, this task is not over. Israel continues to need strengthening through aliyah, both as a norm and as an existential need. However, the time has come to "refound" Zionism.

The time has come to refound Zionism

This proposal involves a radical shift from political Zionism to a new version of "cultural Zionism," as originally proposed by Ahad Ha'am and later by Mordecai Kaplan. Aliyah and strengthening Israel will continue to be main values of Zionism. But the emphasis must shift, in part, to a broader view aimed at ensuring the thriving of the Jewish people and Judaism, encompassing "Jewish civilization."

I propose four major values of Refounded Zionism which must be added to the values of aliyah and strengthening of the State of Israel:

• The Jewish nature of the State of Israel must be a "Jewish State," not only a "State of the Jews." Unless Israel is uniquely a "Jewish State" within pluralistic meanings, Zionism, despite all its tremendous achievements, may fail, with dismal consequences for the Jewish people and Judaism as a whole.

• While the Jewish State of Israel will be central to the Jewish people, we must increase efforts to strengthen the meaningful existence and the thriving of the Jewish people and of Judaism in the Diaspora as well.

• Strengthening the Jewish people and Judaism, and pursuing unity are major tasks for both Israel and the Diaspora. Hence, there is a need for a *Jewish people policy*, in which the State of Israel fulfils a pivotal role, but which would be a matter for the Jewish people as a whole in full partnership between all its parts.

• The encouragement of Jewish pluralistic creativity is a must. Jewish education, both in Israel and the Diaspora, has little hope of strengthening Jewish identity unless its content is innovatively developed on the basis of tradition, but also cognizant of the concerns of the young in their rapidly shifting world.

For the sake of the future, the revitalization of Zionism, the movement of the Jewish people, is needed as much now as it was in the past. But, to do this, Zionism itself must undergo renewal. This involves the painful, "constructive destruction" of what is obsolete and the creative development of values, missions and tasks.

I may be wrong with my substantive proposals. But there is no doubt in my mind that despite all the tremendous achievements, the meaningful survival of the Jewish people and of Judaism is not assured. This is true because of the physical dangers facing Israel in the foreseeable future, even if the peace process proceeds very well. It is also true because of the "assimilation" dangers facing the Jewish people in Israel and in the Diaspora.

Therefore, great challenges continue to await Zionism in its second hundred years. It is up to all of us to participate in refounding Zionism so that it meets new challenges and continues its heroic successes.

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Zionism after 100 years

Avraham Burg

From generation to generation: The next 100 years

By AVRAHAM BURG

One hundred years after the First Zionist Congress, we now celebrate the unparalleled triumph of the Zionist movement in bringing a majority of the world's Jewish people home to their own strong sovereign nation in the Land of Israel. The ingathering of the exiles is largely complete, and Hebrew has been developed not only as a living language but as a cultural bridge that links world Jewry with generations of both the past and the future.

Ironically, just as the physical rescue of the Jewish people is being

THE JEWISH AGENCY

completed, an ample cause for celebration, the threat of our spiritual destruction looms ominously on the horizon. Assimilation: an enemy with no face, no leadership, no ideology, no organization and no resources, is claiming a large number of our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

Here in Israel, we confront the no less pressing need for societal reform. Reform that will allow Jews to live with Jews, despite their differences. Reform that will build and unite a more moral, tolerant, pluralistic society. The threat being faced in Israel is no longer one of immediate existence, but rather of the existential content we will be able to pass on to our children, and they to theirs. Men and women, secular and religious of all streams, the wealthy and the needy of varied ethnic background — all must be made partners in a human and ideological bridge to a better Israeli future.

Both of these challenges — the fight against assimilation in the Diaspora and the struggle for unity in Israel — grew out of the successive chapters of the Zionist dream. The first chapter was that of pure vision. The second was of realization, translating the vision into a strong and powerful reality. The third chapter will be that of shaping the moral content of our lives — in Israel, in the Diaspora and between us all as partners in the mosaic of Jewish peoplehood.

Theodor Herzl envisioned this phase a century ago when he wrote: "I believe that even after attaining our land, Zionism will not cease to be an ideal, because Zionism, as I understand it, includes not only the yearning for part of the Promised Land for our oppressed people, but also the yearning for moral and spiritual wholeness."

Today's Zionist is someone who has the commitment to confront these challenges. A Zionist is someone who has the strength to dream and the passion for fulfilment in Israel. A Zionist is someone who has the readiness to sacrifice on behalf of collective Jewish continuity and the whole Jewish people. He or she is proud of these traits, never tires and already dreams the next dream, that which our grandchildren will fulfill. Because it is for them we truly toil, in the certainty that they will do the same for their children.

Avraham Burg is the chair of the Jewish Agency for Israel and World Zionist Organization.

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Zionism after 100 years

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R. Asarch, Zurich
E. Attali, Constantine
I. Bahar, Paris
Mrs. Blanche Bahar, Paris
W. Bambus, Berlin
M. Banyas, Tolna
B. Barbasch, Brussels
F. Beer, Paris
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H. Benjaminowicz, Korobkow
I.L. Berger, Pinsk
Dr. M. Berkowitz, Vienna
Dr. J. Bernstein-Kohan, Kishinev
H. Birkenstein, Frankfurt a. M.
Dr. N. Birnbaum, Vienna
Dr. E. Blumenfeld, Jaroslav
Dr. M.J. Bodenheimer, Cologne
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E. Davidson, Berlin
A. Donreich, Vienna
S. Drujan, Basel
Dr. M. Ebner, Czernovitz
Dr. M. Ehrenpreis, Diakovar
Mrs. Ehrenpreis, Diakovar
I. Eljaschoff, Berlin
B. Epstein, Heidelberg
Dr. D. Farbstein, Zurich
H. Farbstein, Warsaw
H. Feinberg, Basel
B. Feiwel, Brno
Dr. B. Fernhof, Buczacz
N. Finkelstein, Brest-Litovsk
E. Fried, Vienna
Lazarus Friedmann, Mayence
Leon Friedmann, Mayence
M. Gelis, Berne
A. Ginsburg, Liverpool
A. Ginzberg (Achad Haam), Odessa
G.S. Gitelewitz, Mariapol
Mrs. S. Gitelewitz, Mariapol
Dr. I. Gleisner, Jamnitz
I. Goitein, Frankfurt a. M.
I.L. Goldberg, Vilna
W. Gross, Jaffa
Dr. S. Gruen, Vienna
B. Guenzburg, Welisch
I. de Haas, London
A. Hausmann, Lemberg
P. Heinrich, Heidelberg
C. Herbst, Sofia
Dr. Th. Herzl, Vienna
I. Hirschensohn, Jassy
Miss Klara Hirschensohn, Jassy
L. Horodischz, Brest-Litovsk
L. Huppert, Friedeck
M. Ibidrichim, Petersburg
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[Cont'd. on page B 48]

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Zionism after 100 years

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[Cont'd. from page B 47]

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1897-1905 Theodor Herzl
1905-1911 David Wolffsohn
1911-1921 Otto Warburg
1921-1931 Chaim Weizmann
1931-1935 Nahum Sokolow
1935-1946 Chaim Weizmann
1946-1947 David Ben-Gurion
1956-1968 Nahum Goldman
(After the 27th World Zionist Congress, held in Jerusalem in 1968, the position of president was no longer filled.)

Chairmen of the Zionist executive

1920-1931 Nahum Sokolow (called president of the executive)
1921-1923 Menachem Ussishkin, chairman of the Eretz Israel executive
1931-1932 In this period F.H. Kisch chaired the meetings of the executive in Jerusalem, but did not generally use the title of chairman
1933-1935 Arthur Ruppin
1935-1948 David Ben-Gurion
1948-1956 Berl Locker and Dr. Nahum Goldman
1956-1961 Zalman Shazar
1961-1965 Moshe Sharett
1965-1973 Louis Pincus
1973-1974 Arye L. Dulzin
1974-1975 Pinhas Sapir
1975-1976 Arye L. Dulzin (acting chairman)
1976-1977 Josef Almogi
1978-1987 Arye L. Dulzin
1987-1994 Simcha Dinitz
1994-1995 Yehiel Leket (acting chairman)
1995- Avraham Burg

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Zionism after 100 years

Demise of Zionism highly exaggerated

By RABBI DOW MARMUR

Since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, it has been fashionable to argue that Zionism has come to an end, for its objective — a sovereign Jewish state — has been achieved.

OPINION

tive — a sovereign Jewish state — has been achieved.

It is my view however, that the demise of Zionism is highly exaggerated. Taking stock on its 100th anniversary should be seen as an opportunity to point to its possibilities in the next century.

Moreover, it is important that we do so, because after all, we are trying to make sense of our Judaism while living in a Diaspora that sees unprecedented personal and collective freedom, with almost boundless individual opportunity, in considerable prosperity, but which, at the same time, must face assimilation with all its ramifications.

The questions that concern us are: What does Zionism mean to us today, a century after its inception? How can commitment to Judaism strengthen our bonds with our people and our God through the link with Zion?

As a first attempt at an answer, I draw your attention to a book by Ari Elon, *From Jerusalem to the Edge of Heaven*, published by the Jewish Publication Society.

Elon takes frequent trips to the Diaspora. But his most frequent excursions to the Diaspora are made without having to leave the borders of Israel. "Everyday I take off from Israel to Pumbedita," he writes. Pumbedita was the place in Babylonia of long ago where one of the great academies of the Talmudic period had its seat.

By studying and teaching Talmud, Elon says that he is transporting himself into a world that is fundamentally different from the world of modern Israel. I understand Elon to say that he is trying to live both in the world of perennial Judaism and in the world of contemporary Israel.

"We need our national home as a place to come down to, and come down in, so that we can once again take off skyward with renewed strength," writes Elon.

A less poetic way of saying the same thing might be to suggest that, in order to be authentic Jews we need both Pumbedita and Jerusalem, Toronto and Tel Aviv, the world of Judaism as it has evolved through the ages and the state of the Jews, as it has emerged in our time. And that both can be in the same place, at the same time.

To describe the two interconnected worlds of his Jewish existence, Elon plays with two similar sounding Hebrew words. He distinguishes between *rabbani*, the world shaped by Rabbinic Judaism and *ribboni*, a word that can be translated as "sovereign."

To be a Jew today, one has to be committed both to the world of the rabbis and to the sovereign State of Israel. The Zionism of the next century must find a way of bridging gaps and avoiding dichotomies, of enabling us all to live in Pumbedita and Jerusalem, Toronto and Tel Aviv, at the same time. But how to get there is a laborious process

Martin Buber taught that Judaism has at least three components: the faith of Israel, the people of Israel and the land of Israel. The challenge for us is to find a way of placing ourselves in the centre of the triangle that these components form with equal access and equal commitment to all three corners.

That's how I understand the nature of the covenant that the God of Israel makes with the people of Israel: If the people obey God's commandments, God will take the people to the land of Israel. Each of the three elements is essential and each is contingent on the others.

The first century of modern Zionism could never integrate this truth. It could never combine more than two of the three elements. Zionists were divided between secularists and religionists: The secularists linked people to land and left out faith; the religionists linked faith to land, and even though they did not repudiate people, they tended to see the role of the people primarily in the land, not outside it — like Ben Gurion. As we are moving into the second century of modern Zionism, the division between religious and secular has lost its meaning.

Until modern times, the faith of Israel was so strong and the people of Israel so cohesive that it was enough to imagine the land of Israel without actually being there. And imagine Jews did! Our festivals have always been celebrated according to the climate of the land of Israel. My favorite example is Tu b'Shvat. Try to plant a tree anywhere in Canada in January or February, when Tu b'Shvat occurs.

Similarly our synagogues are so built that worshippers face Jerusalem. Even the dead are buried according to the same orientation.

[Cont'd. on page B 50]

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Then came the Enlightenment

[Cont'd. from page B 49]

Thus, what is nonsense in geometry has happened in Jewish history The triangle existed even though the third corner and the third side were missing. The force of the other two, as it were, projected enough energy to make up for the absence of the third.

Then came the Enlightenment.

Whenever it reached Jewish communities, it tended to shatter their faith. As a result, the people of Israel was gradually weakened through defection and indifference. In the wake of the Enlightenment came also modern anti-Semitism. It brutally weakened the people of Israel. As a result there was no longer enough force in the faith and in the people to keep the triangle together.

The Holocaust was the culmination of this process. Hitler might have got what Emil Fackenheim has called his "posthumous victory," had not the State of Israel been established.

Israel's existence and the struggle for its existence,helped to restore the triangle of faith, people and land. The movement that brought about Israel started half-a-century before the state was actually created; but it is the creation of Israel that brought it all together.

Only then were the people and the faith renewed. Despite our memories that haunt us and the scars that can never heal, Judaism has been restored. It is impossible to understand this restoration without recognizing the role that modern Israel has played in it.

Zionism in the next century must be a celebration of our new condition. Therefore it must not only recognize the place of Israel in contemporary Jewish history, but also establish a new relationship between it and the Diaspora.

To recognize the significance of the land of Israel for the people of Israel is also to acknowledge new challenges. The interaction between the corners of faith, people and land has created new realities for Jewish life.

Israel made hope real

The interaction between the renewed faith and the restored people has brought hope back to Judaism. The national anthem of Israel is called, *Hatikvah*, hope. For though hope is inherent in all Judaism, it was only now that it became possible for Jews to root their hope in political reality.

The return of the people of Israel to the land of Israel not only revived the people and reclaimed the land, but it also made hope real. We could sing with conviction the words of the *Hatikvah*, "*Od lo avda tikvatenu*, our hope has not yet vanished."

The return of the people of Israel to the land of Israel has also given rise to Jewish power. To be sovereign means to have power. Israel has become a source of power to be reckoned with in the region and on the international arena, and Jews as individuals and as communities have gained influence in the world. The sovereignty of place has brought influence. To be a Zionist is to recognize it and to act accordingly.

Along similar lines, the interaction between the faith of Israel and the land of Israel has made it necessary for us to live as a people by the principles of righteousness that we have been taught by prophets and sages. As a *rabbani* people we were only able to preach righteousness; as a *ribboni* people we are called upon to practice it. The Jewish state, worthy of that name, must also be a testing ground for Jewish teachings.

Each of hope,power and righteousness, positive forces though they are, also have negative sides to them.

Hope can easily deteriorate into false Messianism and that's precisely what is happening before our eyes.

Similarly, the use of power can be both positive and negative. That is why we are called upon to heed Irving Greenberg's plea to use power "with the memory of powerlessness."

This last point deserves to be stressed: We must never forget that having been "strangers in the land of Egypt," we must treat strangers as if they were our brothers.

What has been said about power can also be said about rightcousness. Zionist education demands that we show the way to righteous means that lead to righteous ends. It is a task that Israel and the Diaspora share. Its realization calls for a new partnership.

Another aim of Zionist education is to help ourselves and each other to affirm that, with the return to the Land and the re-establishment of the triangle, Judaism has undergone a paradigm shift.

Zionism came into being when the prevalent Jewish paradigm was survival. It was the Judaism of the Diaspora to which Zionism tried to offer the solution — survival through sovereignty. The majority of Jews rejected it. They believed that they could survive by staying put in their involuntary exile, or choose another exile. The Holocaust vindicated the Zionist solution and proved the others wrong.

Having been proven right and having made Jewish survival possible, the next task of Zionism is to assure what we have come to call continuity. If survival was the response to the threat from without, continuity is the effort to counteract the danger of erosion from within.

Thus, we turn to the new, Zionist paradigm for direction. Those who insist that Zionism is dead think only in terms of the old survival paradigm.

[Cont'd on B 51]

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Israel is central

[Cont'd. from page B 50]

Those who see the dawn of a new era in Zionism after the establishment of the Jewish state reckon with the new stress on continuity.

The new "post-modern" Zionism will no longer be concerned with the dichotomy between Diaspora and homeland, where Diaspora spells disaster and homeland spells survival because both will have been integrated into the joint quest for continuity.

The challenge now is how to relate to the three components of the second triangle of Judaism. How to make hope real? How to exercise power with the memory of powerlessness? How to practice righteousness, not only preach it?

In response, I offer the following platform.

- Israel is central. It is the only place in the world where a total Jewish experience is possible.
- Israel and the Diaspora are interdependent. The task of Zionism is to establish the most viable line of communication between them.
- There must be religious pluralism, human rights and social equality for Jews and non-Jews alike.
- Hebrew education must be emphasized. Through Hebrew the *rabbani* world and the *ribboni* world can, literally, speak the same language.
- Aliyah is a mitzvah incumbent on all Jews. One ought to observe the mitzvah in the best way one can including through "partial", or incremental aliyah.
- Failing full aliyah to Israel, one ought to experience pilgrimage to Israel as a way to deepen our understanding and love of Israel and to reinforce our sense of Jewish solidarity.
- Financial support should not be neglected.
- Zionism of the next century will mean a much more vigorous debate about the relationship of Israel to its neighbors. Of course, Israelis and Israelis alone are to vote on what kind of government they want, but because Israel is not only the state of its citizens but also the state of the entire Jewish people, Zionist debate must have a voice, even when it cannot have a vote.

In following this prescription, we will show that the slogan, "Long live the State of Israel" can only ring true if it is preceded by the statement, "Long live Zionism." And in the same way as we can say, "Long live Israel" because of the sacrifices made by the pioneers, builders and citizens of the State, so will we only be able to say, "Long live Zionism," if we will make the effort. The time is now.

Rabbi Marmur is the spiritual leader of Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto.

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Zionism with roots

By SISSY BLOCK
Special to The CJN

On Tu b'Shvat this year, Israel's official tree ceremony commemorated the centennial of the first Zionist Congress in Basel, Switzerland, in 1897. It is fitting, therefore, that the ceremony was held at the Jewish National Fund's (JNF) Herzl Forest in Hulda, located in the Shfayla Hills between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

Named for the founder of Zionism, Theodor Herzl, the Herzl Forest has played a vital role throughout Zionist history. "Zionism may have started in Basel, but as far as I'm concerned, Zionism in Israel started here in the Herzl Forest," said Ami Hirsch, JNF press liaison.

The JNF was established at the Fifth Zionist Congress in 1901 in Basel for the purpose of raising money from Jews worldwide to purchase land in Israel and help Jews settle there. At this time, however, Israel was under Turkish rule, and land purchased but "not put to good use" was unilaterally repossessed by the Sultan. "The Zionists decided to plant trees on its newly purchased land to stake their claims," said Hirsch.

During the Sixth Zionist Congress in 1903, it was decided to use JNF money to plant olive trees in Israel. "The land," said Hirsch, "was to be used to grow a commodity that could be sold and whose profits would be reinvested in the JNF towards the purchase of more land." In addition, the intension was to use the olive oil in Jewish households everywhere for kindling the Sabbath candles in order to strengthen the relationship between Jews in the Diaspora and those in the land of Israel.

In 1904, upon Herzl's death, the first olive tree forest was planted in his name. Some 800 dunams of land were purchased from Arabs in Hulda, and by 1905, the first olive trees were planted in the Herzl Forest.

In 1908, the building that came to be known as Herzl House was built on the forest grounds to house its manager and workers. The original manager was not a Zionist and was quite happy to hire local Arab workers to plant the olive trees. In protest, Zionist pioneers in nearby communities came and pulled the seedlings from the ground. The manager was subsequently fired and

[Cont'd. on page B 53]

The "Love Tree" behind Herzl House, a favorite spot for young Zionists, where they used to go to kiss. [WZPS photo by Flash 90]

Herzl Forest is a lush, proud symbol

[Cont'd. from page B52]

then only Jewish labor was used at Hulda.

However, the olive trees failed to flourish, and in 1912 the JNF decided to plant other types of trees at Hulda: trees that produced inedible fruit but which grew fast and strong, such as pine, eucalyptus, cypress and evergreen. This set a precedent for the kind of trees that the JNF would plant throughout the land of Israel; it was the beginning of a countryside afforestation program.

Herzl Forest also became the site of the first national training farm. Newly arrived young pioneers came to Hulda to learn both agricultural skills and those required for living and working in a group. After their training was completed, they were sent to inhabit and develop other settlements throughout the country. The farm's U-shaped compound, which included a laundry, bakery, cow shed and water reservoir, was built alongside Herzl House. The pioneers lived in tents in the centre.

In 1929, during the Arab uprising that swept through Israel's Jewish settlements, the pioneers of Hulda fought a heroic battle in its defence. However, the forest was eventually burned and all but the compound's reservoir was destroyed. Herzl House was badly damaged and the community's leader, Efraim Chizik, was killed.

In the aftermath, British authorities forcefully evacuated the rest of the pioneers from the forest, though they were allowed to return to bury their leader. Chizik's grave in the forest lies alongside a large monument of Jerusalem stone sculpted by Batya Lishensky The sculpture, *Labor and Defence*, depicts Zionist images of physical labor and the defence of the land of Israel.

Determined to honor the defenders of Hulda, the JNF decided to replant Herzl Forest in 1931. In the same year, Kibbutz Hulda was established by members of the Gordonia Zionist movement. "The kibbutz was at first based in Herzl House," says Hirsch, "but in 1937 moved two kilometres to a higher hill which was considered easier to defend."

Members of Kibbutz Hulda fondly recall a childhood spent playing in Herzl Forest. One woman, Avigdora, spoke of the "Love Tree," where Zionist youth would go to kiss. "It is down to the right, behind Herzl House," she said, laughing a little at the thought.

Another reminisced about her husband Ya'akov who lived in the bottom floor of Herzl House until the age of three. "I just remember him telling me about the light shining in the beautiful stained glass windows of the building," she described with a smile.

In 1948, with the outbreak of the War of Independence, the forest changed quickly from a peaceful "playground" to a supply base, the site of a shooting range, and the point from which soldiers set out from Hulda to battle for besieged Jerusalem. An alternate water pipeline, to replace the one destroyed by the Arabs, was also constructed there.

Now, nearly 50 years later, Herzl Forest stands as a lush and proud symbol of how much the Zionist idea has blossomed in Israel. Its shady trees shelter picnic tables where Israeli families and school children come to enjoy the forest. What's more, Herzl House is now undergoing renovations and will eventually become a museum with exhibits depicting the site's historical role.

Golda Meyerson (Meir) at Kibbutz Merhavia.

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Bridging the religious divide

By KATIE GREEN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

As the religious secular divide widens, different groups across the country attempt to bridge the gaps. It's a Tuesday night in Tel Aviv, and Kapulsky's cafe at 47 Allenby St. is buzzing with conversation. But this is not the normal coffee-drinking crowd and the cafe's owner, Yehuda, has put up the "closed" sign on the door. All the tables and chairs have been pushed to one side and a group of about 30 people are sitting in a circle. These are ordinary Israelis between the ages of 20 and 40, but a closer look establishes that they come from a mixture of backgrounds – non-observant, Orthodox and haredi.

The subject for the evening's discussion is education, and although the debate is sometimes heated, there is no shouting, pointing or hostility. Everybody here has come to listen as well as to talk.

The meeting has been organized by Mahane Meshutaf, Common Denominator, a non-profit, non-political movement dedicated to the unification of the Jews of Israel. Founded two years ago by Rabbi David Geffen, its record in promoting discussion between politically and religiously disparate Jews over the last two years has been impressive.

In 1996, it organized more than 350 seminars for over 10,000 participants, as well as workshops for many kibbutzim. It ran courses for the Israeli Air Force. The Meretz party sent representatives to Mea She'arim for weekday and Shabbat programs.

The organization has more than 100 non-observant, Orthodox and haredi volunteers working throughout the country.

Rabbi Geffen's determination to set up Common Denominator was motivated by his experiences in the army. During his reserve duty stints he noticed that soldiers of different backgrounds and beliefs could be "very unpleasant" to one another and he decided to try to put into effect the rabbinical training he received at Jerusalem's Aish HaTorah Yeshiva, where he was taught to love all Jews, no matter what their beliefs.

"If I sit next to a stranger on the bus, then I care about him, and I respect him," says Rabbi Geffen. "I don't have to bash him over the head with religion. I don't have to lecture him on what he should be doing, or try and force him round to my point of view. I listen to what he has to say. I gently explore the things we have in common. I extend towards him friendship and courtesy. That is how you build bridges."

And the bridges need to be built. The conflicts that beset Israel's religious and secular communities have cut so deeply into the bedrock of Israeli society that people from different backgrounds feel irreconcilably estranged from one another. The result: division, prejudice and violence.

In 1996, The Geocartography Institute (a public-opinion polling organization) conducted a poll among Jewish Israelis in which participants were asked about this polarization; 47 percent said they believed the situation would deteriorate into civil war.

Common Denominator is not the only organization that promotes understanding between religious and secular Jews. The well-established Gesher organization, which was set up in 1970 for this very purpose, has become known for its informal education seminars and weekends throughout the country. It also publishes textbooks for religious and state schools.

Dr. Daniel Tropper, one of Gesher's founding members and its present director, feels that the situation over the last 37 years has worsened.

"Religious communities are moving farther and farther to the right while secular communities are becoming ignorant of Jewish tradition," Tropper says. "The key is to reintroduce Jewish culture and history back into state schools, so that secular people feel that Judaism once again belongs to them. Otherwise we lose our commonality."

[Cont'd. on page B 55]

Yemenites of the second aliyah around 1909.

Zionism after 100 years

People have central concern in common

[Cont'd. from page B 54]

"We are witnessing a spontaneous, grassroots growth of both formal and informal groups of people who want to reverse the trend. People may meet in classrooms, community centres or private homes, but they all have a central concern in common and they've taken on the responsibility to do something about it."

One such group is the Rosh Pina Mainstreaming Network, founded in 1992. Chana Zweiter, a former American with experience in school integration programs, started the network with other parents and academics who designed joint after-school activities for fit and disabled children. The idea was to encourage social interaction between the two groups and to discourage stereotyping. The programs were so successful that Zweiter and her team realized they would be able to use similar techniques for religious and non-observant children.

"We live in segregated worlds, and the children from each world have very little to do with each other," Zweiter says. "Our challenge is to treat this separateness and teach new behaviors."

Rosh Pina's idea was received enthusiastically by Jerusalem city hall. A program started at two neighboring schools, one general school and one state religious school, in the Pisgat Ze'ev neighborhood.

"There was rock throwing, anger and animosity between the pupils," Zweiter recalls. "We introduced two sport and two drama programs as after-school electives, which were attended by children from both schools. Over the year, relations between the pupils drastically improved."

As an end-of-year project, the children worked together to paint two huge murals, one for each school. In the wake of this success, Rosh Pina plans to extend its electives to other schools.

Rosh Pina's work has dealt with one of the major questions that must be treated when considering the secular-religious equation: If religious and non-religious children are to be schooled in two separate systems, what opportunities will there be for communication and growth in the future?

"Children don't have to be schooled together to be taught tolerance," maintains Moti Chabert, one of Common Denominator's directors. "The important thing is for tolerance to be on the agenda in every single classroom."

Chabert is not alone in his assessment. Almost all the bridge-building groups are working towards the introduction of cognitive programs into the school curricula that will enable kids to explore it properly.

Authorities tend to differ in their analyses of what must change in our society before we ourselves can change. Harvey Goldberg, professor of anthropology at Hebrew University, feels there are two key factors to be considered.

"First, peace with our Arab neighbors might be an important step," he argues. "At the moment, so many societal and human resources are tied up in the effort to solve our problems with our neighbors that peace within our own camp does not get our full attention. Once Israeli-Arab relations are more or less settled, then more talented people will be able to apply themselves to the secular-religious problem."

But the second factor is a more controversial one. "Eventually we are going to have to separate religion and state," Goldberg emphasizes. "Each must be independent of the other in order to thrive."

Whatever the magical formula required to make Israelis love and respect one another, the proliferation of new organizations indicates that some talented individuals have already taken the step predicted by Goldberg. Perhaps they feel they do not have the luxury of waiting until there is peace with the Arabs before coming to grips with the serious business of our own disharmony.

"The bottom line," says Tropper, "is that we're a family and as in any family, the fights and arguments cause us great anguish. We could split into different groups forever and go our separate ways, but at some fundamental level we know we must stay together and communicate. This is critical for Israel's survival."

[Cont'd. on page B 56]

Grape harvest at Rishon Le-Zion, 1912.

Darryl, Michelle Aaron & Sidra Fisch

Wish their family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Joe, Marlene, Melanie & Jason Flicht Elyse, Ron& Zachary Goldkind

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Jerry & Helen Fishman Mark & Doreen, Aimee, Haley, Stacey & Shane Fishman Gary & Sheryl, Robbie, Raquel & Alexander Rubinoff Len & Marcy & Ryan Susman

Wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year.

Allan & Pat Friedland Jeffrey & Marla

wish their relatives and friends - a happy and healthy New Year

Sylvia & Edward Fisch and family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Phil & Rochelle Feldberg Jeff & Waleuska, Robyn & Adam

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

שנה טובה

Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Fox *and* Charise

Felicia & Warren Spiegelman *and* Samantha

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy Shana Tova

Jerry, Miriam, Tamara Sharona, Ronit, Meir Faivish

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Philip & Cyla Fiksel Nathan, Miriam, Jaimie & Stacie Birnbaum

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Chaim & Eda Feinstadt

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Betsy, Lou & Marla Fruitman Pamela & Howie Gould Lisa & Dan Belzowski

Phyllis & Irving Feldman Jonas & Brandon

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

G's . . .

David & Gert Goldberg children Jill, John & Sydney

64 Carscadden Drive

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Norm & Joyce Goldstein Ilaina, Jaimie & Joshua

34 Garnier Court

Wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel

Ruth Gilad and Family

Anne Gottlieb Marc, Beth, Brian & Stephanie Gottlieb

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy Shana Tova.

Ruth & Ernest Goldsmith
543 Fairlawn Avenue
Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

MORI, ANABELA & RACHEL GOLDLIST
wish family & friends a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.
Special wishes to daughter & sister
JORDANA

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel
Max and Guta Glicksman
19 Misty Crescent

Felice Gropper
Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Regina and Charles Goldfinger and Family
Best wishes to our children grandchiidren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.
Beatrice, Hymie & Alyssa Guttman

Wishing all my family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.
Selma Goldstein

Sam & Gitta Ganz Children & Grandchildren
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Morris & Ada Rose Glick
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Moishe & Mania Gruda

Joseph, Nina & David Glincman
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Mr. & Mrs. Israel Goldgrub and Family

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Gladstone and Neil
Dr. & Mrs. Terry Davis and family
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Leo and Sarah Goldstein & Family
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Annie Goldlist
Best wishes my children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Sarah & Nathan Goldlist

Rae and Sam Goldberg
Debbie, Sol & Esther
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Aim was to enable all Israelis to study

[Cont'd. from page B 55]

Nobody would agree with him more than Ruth Calderon Ben-Shahar, founder of the the Elul organization and winner of this year's Keren Avi Chai prize for furthering close relations between Israelis of different backgrounds. Ten years ago Ben-Shahar set up Elul, an informal learning program where Israelis could study the Jewish sources in depth.

"My aim was to enable all Israelis, whatever their background, to study the texts that are their heritage," she explains. "And it's not as difficult as one would think. They already have the language, which is a big start.

"Let's not pretend that we can resolve all our differences by sitting in a room learning Talmud," she concedes, however. "We Israelis come from many different cultures; so our relationship to one another is complex. But what we can achieve is a kind of gentle connection. The studying provides an objective third medium through which we can communicate indirectly."

But exactly whose responsibility is it to promote this communication?

Moshe Peleg, one of the directors of Common Denominator, is a Chassid living in Mea She'arim. He cites numerous Jewish sources which underline that Jews are halachically required to care about one another. He quotes the best-known source: *Ve'ahavta lere'echa kamocha* (Love your fellow as yourself) (Leviticus 19:18). "Isn't that supposed to mean something?" he asks.

"And what about "*Kol Yisrael areivim zeh bazeh* (All Jews are responsible for one another)," which is mentioned in the Talmud?"

Rabbi Geffen tells the following story: "We read in the Torah that when God sees the children of Israel worshipping the golden calf, He decides to destroy all of Israel and start a new nation from Moses. Moses pleads to save the nations and God relents. When Moses comes down from the mountain, he sets about identifying the culprits. Three thousand people are found guilty and executed.

Our sages ask: Why was God prepared to put an end to the entire Jewish people when only 3000 people – a small percentage of the whole – committed the sin of the golden calf? After all, righteous men such as Joshua and Caleb were among those who would have been destroyed. The answer is that God held the righteous responsible for the sins of the nation. To hold themselves back from idolatry was right, but by standing on the sidelines they were evading their responsibilities.

Rabbi Geffen adds: "When Judgment Day comes, we religious people will have a lot to answer for. Right now we point our fingers at the secular community, blaming them for so many of our national and cultural problems. We say, 'It's all their fault.' We don't communicate. We don't explain. We don't share. What has happened to our sense of responsibility?"

Despite the fact that the onus might lie with those following the precepts of the Torah, Peleg finds discrimination can make the work hard: "In my work at Common Denominator I meet many secular people – kibbutzniks, politicians, professionals – who have never come across Haredim before. Yet their perceptions of how Haredim live and think are denigrating in the extreme. They have a picture of Haredim as violent, narrow, inward-looking, parasitical and selfish; the women second-class citizens; the children neglected and dirty. How can you believe these things about people you have never met? From the television screen? From the newspapers? It that what is going to define how you feel about me?"

When challenged that the Haredim are not receptive to other Jews, Peleg denies it. "Many chassidic sects, including the Bostoner and Belzer Chassidim, organize Shabbatot for secular people," he argues. "The atmosphere during these events is unbelievable. You don't believe me? Let me fix you up for a weekend."

Despite the deterioration of the last three decades, Tropper is encouraged by the flowering of many small, bridge-building organizations in the last few years.

Ze'ev Jabotinsky (1880-1940).

Holy Days East and West

By RABBI JONATHAN CHIPMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

When my late father, a Polish-born American Jew, came on aliyah nearly 25 years ago, he became a regular worshipper at the local congregation of Jews from North Africa in the then-small moshav Omer, near Beersheva. Notwithstanding the different accent and melodies, he found the service familiar enough until the High Holy Days. Then he felt totally lost. At the end of Yom Kippur, he told me later, he felt as if he had not really davened.

His experience was of course not unique. Many Ashkenazim, regardless of land of origin, find participation in High Holy Day services in a synagogue of Oriental Jews a bewildering experience. Where is the haunting melody of Kol Nidre, sanctified with centuries of Jewish longing and suffering, that opens the evening service for the holiest day of the year? Where is the stirring "U'netaneh tokef," one of the high points of the Musaf service on all three of the High Holy Days, with its dramatic description of the heavenly hosts trembling in fear and anxiety at the coming of the Day of Judgment — a prayer which, in the typical Ashkenazi synagogue, is the high point of the cantor's dramatic musical rendering of the liturgy?

Where is Hamelech, the "official" opening of the morning service, with the cantor chanting "Ha-ah ah-ah-ah-ah-ah" in gradually rising tones as he approaches the reader's stand, symbolizing the fear and trembling with which we approach the Divine King of Kings from a great distance, until he concludes with the mighty shout of "Ha-MEH-lech?"

And where are all of the special melodies for the different Kaddishes, and the opening section of the Shemoneh Esray/Amidah, used universally throughout the Ashkenazi world — the melodies reputedly originating at the time of the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai?

The answer is that all these moments, emotionally charged and evocative as they may be, are not essential parts of the ancient core of the holiday liturgy. That core — the basic Amidah text for each of the High Holy Days, the three special middle blessings added to the Musaf of Rosh Hashanah, the vidui [confession] added after each prayer of Yom Kippur, and the shofar ceremony on Rosh Hashanah, all of which are mentioned in the Mishnah or other sources — are essentially the same in all the liturgies.

The other features mentioned, important and beloved as they may be, are communal customs that developed differently in the various communities, most of them a "mere" 700 to 1,000 years old.

What customs most shape the Sephardi and other Oriental High Holy Days, distinguishing them from Ashkenazi practice? The difference can already be felt at the beginning of the month of Elul preceding Rosh Hashanah. Whereas Ashkenazim only begin the recitation of the Selichot [penitential prayers] from the Saturday night preceding Rosh Hashanah for only four days, Sephardim and other Oriental Jews start Rosh Chodesh Elul [the first of the month of Elul].

Unlike their Ashkenazi brethren, who usually recite the Selichot just before the weekday morning service, often well after daybreak, Sephardim generally rise before dawn to recite their Selichot during

[Cont'd. on page B 58]

Aaron David Gordon (1856-1922)

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Fay Goldlist
Marlene & Sam Hait
Barry & Randee Goldlist
Rochelle & Seymour Frydrych and Families

Irving & Faye Gold
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Jack & Ruth Gutholc
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Irving & Paula Goldhar
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

H's . . .

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
Sonia & Yehudi Hendler,
Jeff & Fran
Sindi, Joel, Fern, Marissa & Mark Kachuck

Max and Mary Hain
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year

Gusta Hefner
Jerry, Lynda, Glen & Andrew Hefner
Wish all their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

I's . . .

Larry & Bunny Iskov
Howie & Rachel
wish their family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Paula & David Ingber
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

J's . . .

Isaac & Basia Jesin & Family
& Sonia Slawin
wish all our friends & extended families a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous New Year.

Wolfe & Miriam Justein
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

K's . . .

Leonard & Joyce Krieser
Ryan, Shawn & Cody
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Lou & Betty Kestenberg and Sharon & Barry Kaufman and family
Wish all their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Bernyce & Marvin Kalifer
Ronnie, Nancy & children
Debbie, Wayne & children
Ellen, Gerry & children
Wish their friends & families a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year
לשנה טובה

Blossom Klein & Family
Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel

KAY & KELLY KLERER
wish all their children
Shawn & Marsha, Howard, Joel & Pamela
grandchildren
Marc, Seth, Daniel & Elyse
Jonah & Brandon
family and friends
a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful coming year.

Mrs. Rose Krieser and Family
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

Izak & Regina Kozlowski and Family
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Marilyn Kostman
Elayne & Roberto Slimak
Sasha, Jonathan & Noah
Arny, Jesse & Tyler Kostman
Best wishes for a year of Peace and Serenity, Health & Happiness to all our Friends

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
Susie & Murray Klein
David, Robbie & Jamie

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Kon
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mara & Eugene Katz
Linda, Leon, Michael, Aaron & Daniel Katz
Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Nancy & Howard Kleinberg
children & grandchildren
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

FAYE & MARTIN KELLERSTEIN
REBECCA, JEREMY & DAVID
Wish their relatives & friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kranc and Family
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes to our children grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year
שנת שלום
Betty & Izzy Kirshenbaum

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
Ruth Kerbel and daughter Donna

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
The Koltun Family

Rita, Tom & Brandon Kolin
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Dora, Harry, Andrew & Jonathan Kichler
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Harry & Lucy Kreitzman
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Selichot silence broken by blasts of shofar

[Cont'd. from page B 57]

the "night watch," while it is still dark. In some old non-Ashkenazi neighborhoods — such as Nahla'ot, Bukharim, and Knesset Yisrael in Jerusalem — it is still customary for the synagogue sexton to go from house to house, knocking on the door with a special wooden hammer to wake the people to come to synagogue. As the bleary-eyed worshippers come in, the sexton offers each arrival a hot cup of strong tea or Turkish coffee, which they sip as the chanting of the hymns begins.

The Selichot themselves differ on two major points. First, unlike the Ashkenazi liturgy, in which a different group of liturgical poems are recited each day, the Sephardi Selichot are uniform for each of the 26 weekdays of Elul, with special additions only on the morning of Rosh Hashanah eve, and thereafter during the Ten Days of Penitence [between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur].

Second, in the Sephardi Selichot, the silence of the night is broken by blasts of the shofar each time the Shelosh Esray Midot, [the Thirteen Qualities of Divine Compassion] (Exodus 34:6-7) are recited. Ashkenazim, by contrast, suffice with one short set of shofar blasts throughout Elul, not during Selichot but at the very end of the weekday morning service. The reason for this is rather simple: unlike the Sephardim, who begin Selichot on Elul 1, for the Ashkenazim there is no integral connection between the "preparatory" shofar blowing of Elul and the period for reciting the Selichot.

A second Sephardi custom, adding much color to Rosh Hashanah, is the "seder" on Rosh Hashanah night, a custom that is also observed among some chassidic groups, and in recent years has gained increasing popularity in Ashkenazi yeshivah circles. Whereas Ashkenazim most often open the festive repast with an apple dipped in honey, accompanied by blessings for a sweet year, most Jews of Oriental origin, following the advice of the Talmud in Keritot 6a, open the Rosh Hashanah dinner with an elaborate series of dishes whose names in Aramaic are considered to augur a good year. Thus, for example, gourd or squash/kera is eaten, together with a prayer entreating God to "tear up —kra —any evil decrees against us." And so on.

The ritual of eating apple with honey, squash, black-eyed beans, leeks, beets, dates, carrots, pomegranates, dates, and a sheep or fish head, each with its own special prayer-with-a-pun, may last the better part of half an hour, and possibly leave the participants with little appetite for the other dishes of the festive meal.

A third major difference is in the structure of the liturgy itself. The Ashkenazi ritual is filled with piyutim [liturgical poems] inserted in the cantor's repetition of the Amidah, swelling the repetition to three or four times its original length. Many of these piyutim — particularly those by Rabbi Eliezar Hakallir, the father of what became the Ashkenazi piyut — are written in ornate, even convoluted, medieval Hebrew, filled with unconventional grammatical constructions and learned midrashic allusions.

As a result, even many Jews well versed in the tradition find the piyyutim difficult to understand. The Sephardim, by contrast, use piyyutim in the framework of the Amidah very sparingly: the Amidah for Rosh Hashanah, at least in the popular machzor [High Holiday prayerbook] based on the custom of Baghdad, has no piyyutim at all; on Yom Kippur, they appear only in the Kedushah and in one place set aside for Selichot preceding the long confession.

Part of this objection may hark back to the polemic over piyyutim during and after the lifetime of Maimonides. Maimonides took exception to the use of piyyutim on two grounds: first, the halachic problem involved in interrupting the statutory text of the Amidah with extraneous material; second, the theological contents of many of the piyyutim were considered objectionable.

In the Sephardi liturgy, the piyyutim are placed in other, halachically less central parts of the service; and the ornate and difficult liturgical poems of Hakallir give way to the clear and sonorous classical Hebrew of Rabbis Yehuda Halevi and Shlomo Ibn Gvirol, and other authors of their class.

Finally, of course, there are the melodies. The haunting melodies of the Ashkenazi liturgy were composed by the Maharil (Rabbi Yaacov ben Moshe Halevi Segal (Moellin), the 14th century compiler of Ashkenazi custom, rabbi of the great Rhineland community of Mainz.

The melodies of the Sephardi and Oriental Jews, by contrast, are rooted in the Oriental musical traditions of North Africa and Asia Minor, replete with trills and based on maqamim (scales) including musical intervals (quarter-notes and the like) that are foreign to western ears.

To return to the initial question: all we can hope is that our Ashkenazi worshipper in a Sephardi or Oriental synagogue, longing for the familiar Hamelech, Unetaneh Tokef, Kol Nidre, and all the rest may learn to thrill to the sound of a full-throated congregation singing Adon Haselihot [Master of Forgiveness], remembering that all are the voices of the Children of Israel crying out to their Heavenly Father.

Zionism after 100 years

A fertile peace good for business

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

Long before Israel and Jordan signed a peace agreement, Refaat Marrei Zahran knew the value of Israeli produce.

Years ago, the Jordanian farmer and industrialist managed to smuggle two Israeli grape stems over to his farm near Amman. From them he developed healthy, fruit-bearing vines.

Sitting outside his farmhouse recently, serving the plump green grapes to a handful of visiting Israeli farmers, Zahran said he longs for more than just a couple of vines.

Like many Jordanian businesspeople, he is hoping that a fertile peace between the two neighboring countries will help cultivate increased bilateral business agreements, joint ventures and trade.

"It's time our countries started to work together to build peace and business," said Zahran. The 24-year-old, heir to his father's industrial conglomerate, was one of several Jordanian industrialists to host the Israelis during a recent trip across the border.

The trip was organized by Zvi Shorer, a Beit She'an-based businessperson and founder of Lahav She'an, an organization that works to promote peace with Jordan by encouraging and developing joint academic and business projects. The Jordanian and Israeli delegates were meeting to discuss the possibility of integrating Jordan's cheap labor, natural resources and access to the Arab countries with Israel's know-how and Western market mentality.

"It's a natural combination," said Shorer, whose organization receives financial backing from American and European individuals and institutions.

At least 10 Israeli textile companies, including Delta Galil Industries and Castro, have already set up shop in Jordan, where labor costs about $150 per month per worker, compared to nearly $1,000 in Israel. Now smaller, independent businesspeople and farmers are looking to see what opportunities lie across the river.

Squatting and rubbing Zahran's soil through his farm-worn fingers, Johanan Maoz, general manager of Valley Farmers Centre in Migdal Ha'emek, said he was impressed by the potential the Jordanian's land offers. Not only does Zahran have 500 dunams of undeveloped land, he also has water, scarce and expensive in Israel. It courses under the soil and is fully controlled by the Zahran family.

"The land looks good," said Maoz, as he packed up arid soil and water samples to take back to Israel for quality checks.

Jordan's cheaper resources and access to the Arab world could be a boon for the troubled Israeli agriculture industry. And the knowledge of people like Maoz, a specialist in herb growing, could enable Zahran to grow high-quality foods for export.

"It could take us 100 years to get to the technological stage the Israelis are at," said Zahran. "By finding Israeli partners, we can reduce this time."

Other Jordanians, such as Isaa Matalka, would then be interested in transporting the goods between Jordan, Israel and the Arab countries. Already, Matalka said, his trucks are entering Israel, picking up goods in Haifa and bringing them back across the border before setting out for other Arab states. Several Arab countries already import Israeli high-tech and pharmaceutical products via Jordanian channels.

Since Jordan's industrialists tend

[Cont'd. on page B 60]

The defenders of Tiberias in 1921

Helen Krieser
Robert & Regina
Alisse, Jodi & Brian Lee

Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Israel Koplowitz

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

BEST WISHES FOR A YEAR OF PEACE AND SERENITY, HEALTH AND HAPPINESS TO OUR CHILDREN, MACHATONIM, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS AND THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL.

Joe & Jean Kichler

L's . . .

Sarah & Simon Laski

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Yetta Lanys
Marty & Sandy Lanys
Shawn & Jana
Shane & Patricia Lanys
Tiffany & Lori

Wish all our relatives and friends a Happy, Healthy & Peaceful New Year

Vicki & Syd Lanys
Sandra & Michael Lanys
Sheryl, Sheldon, Lindsay and Sean Cheskes

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Fela Lichtblau and Family

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

Anne Landau,
Doris Rothenberg

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Max, Shirley, Shaun & Rozanne Lacob

I wish my family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Mary Levitt

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Teddy & Lorraine Libfeld and Family

Jack & Rose Lipszyc

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Sonia & Ben Lant

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Shelly & Marilyn Little
Adam, Jeremy & Sari

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Marilyn, Bruce, Erin, Michael & Brian Lubelsky

M's . . .

Mr. & Mrs. David Mendlowicz
Simon & Deborah Mendlowicz
Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year
Alex & Paula Mishevski
Lucien & Audrey
Barry & Susan
and families

Carl & Sylvia Mahler
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year

JOE & HELEN MORGAN AND FAMILY
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

The families of
Sid & Sandy Moshenberg
Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Max Moneta
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Alice & Morris Macarz
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Dr. & Mrs. Seymour Moskovitz and Family
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all pur family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.
Lil & Lou Melamed and Family

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Melnik
children & grandchildren
Wish all their relatives, friends & neighbours a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Marcus
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

N's . . .

Ben & Karen Nightingale and Family
Kitchener-Waterloo
Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Chaim & Sarah Neuberger and Family
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

O's . . .

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Orlan

Matthew, Shawna & Lewis Orzech
Best wishes to our family and friends for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Looking for Israeli partner with expertise

[Cont'd. from page B 59]

to have a wide range of holdings, one business connection can sprout into a number of ventures. Take Matalka: For him, transporting goods across the Sheikh Hussein passageway is just one aspect of the relationship he hopes to develop with Israel. He is also interested in a joint venture with an Israeli fruit-juice and concentrate manufacturer.

"We're looking for an Israeli partner with expertise," he said, "and in exchange, they will own a stake in the company and produce juices under their own name." Such an arrangement, he added, is not only a good business proposition, but an auspicious opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the two countries.

"We've been fighting with each other for the last 50 years," Matalka said. "Now it's time to contribute what we can, and make peace."

Peace via economic integration has always underscored discussions on how to create harmony in the Middle East. During the Lahav She'an group's day-long visit to Jordan, the theme emerged with regularity. Talking to each other like members of a family who have reached the conclusion that, like it or not, their futures are inextricably linked, the Jordanians and Israelis tried to steer clear of politics and evaluate the positive things their former enemies now have to offer.

Yet much as people on both sides would like to combine Israel's intellectual property with Jordan's physical assets, political problems and psychological barriers still threaten the blossoming relationship.

Jordanian red tape is frustrating at best and insufferable at worst, dissuading some Israeli entrepreneurs from entering the market. Border delays, for example, have caused shipments of produce to rot. And farmers in Israel fear that cheaper, Jordanian-grown produce will compete with Israeli goods on local supermarket shelves. They also worry that they will lose control over their know-how.

During one of the Lahav She'an meetings, a Jordanian businessperson began talking about some Israeli onions he had received through back channels via the West Bank. As it turned out, one of the Israeli delegates, farmer Jeremy Haham, had developed the high-tech onion, which is used to spawn crops. Realizing what had happened, the Jordanian promptly offered Haham 1,000 dunams to grow his onions — plus all the profits for the first year.

Haham was caught in a bind. While such a deal would help him exercise control over his know-how in the future, Haham, who speaks fluent Arabic, admitted that his uncertainty about the Jordanians' motives taints his attitude toward working with them.

"This is the Negev the way it was 50 years ago," he said. "If he gives me the desert, why should I develop it for him?"

For many people the answer is clear: Money.

"If it's not Yankel farming in Jordan today, it'll be Moshe doing it in two weeks," said Zvi Avner, agricultural research and development manager from the Beit She'an Valley Regional Council.

And so, despite the bureaucratic difficulties and geopolitical fears, Israel's Yankels and Moshes are developing business ties with Jordanians. Entrepreneurs such as Otniel Schneller, general manager of Comgro, feel that the combination of Jordan's resources and proximity and Israel's know-how means sure-fire success.

"This could be the Middle East's

[Cont'd. on page B 61]

In the fields of Moshav Kfar Yehezkel

Zionism after 100 years

Wider regional opportunities

[Cont'd from page B 60]

Silicon Valley — and not just in high-tech," said Schneller, who operates trade offices in Jordan and participates in joint ventures in infrastructure. "I don't think either side is doing enough to exploit this potential."

Foreign corporations are also sitting up and taking notice of the regional potential. Nissho Iwai, Japan's sixth largest conglomerate and the 13th biggest worldwide, will begin conducting feasibility studies for a railway line running from the Israeli side of the Dead Sea to the Red Sea via Jordan.

For other conglomerates the wider regional opportunities are the only reason to invest in Israel. During a recent visit here, Westinghouse/CBS President Jack Tymann expressed his concerns about the stalemate in the peace process. For U.S. companies, he said, Israel is only interesting if it can serve as a springboard to the wider Middle East.

"To get into markets we need economies of scale," he said. "For [the Middle East] market to become one of the emerging markets of the 21st century, it must reorganize."

Political wheels may turn more slowly than local and international businesspeople would like, but there are definite signs of improvement in the commercial relationship between Jordan and Israel.

Last year, bilateral trade with Jordan totaled $13.8 million. In the first six months of this year, two-way trade was $12.7 million

"Trade is certain to grow as people on both sides get to know each other better," said a Ministry of Industry and Trade representative from the Middle East desk.

And people like Lahav She'an organizer Shorer, who returned to Israel with a $40,000 joint-venture deal to establish a turkey farm in Jordan, said that even with all the starts and stops, the two countries will continue to deepen and strengthen their business ties. As a result, peace will flourish. "There's no alternative," he said.

On guard duty.

Mark & Barbara Obar
Children & Grandchildren

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

P's . . .

Rose & Sam Pacht
Children & Grandchildren

Wish all their relatives, friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.
Moniek & Genia Prusznowski

Isaac, Minny, David, Barbara, Sammy & Alyssa Peters
Morris, Marsha, Michelle & Jennifer Goldstein

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Pearl
Melvin & Rhonda, Jordan
Michael, Zane & Samantha
Jack, Sigal, Tommy, Mickie & Tal

Leib and Fanny Pillersdorf and Family
83 Collinson Boulevard
Toronto, Ontario

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Zalman & Pola Pila
199 Clanton Park Road

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Dorothy & Ben Pinkus
Wendy, Ernie, Bev, Stacy, Michael & Shawna

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

SADIE PEREL
ARNOLD & HYLA PEREL
STEVEN, CHANA MIRIAM, BRYNA & YOSEPHA

wish their relatives and friends a Peaceful, Healthy and Happy New Year

Isaac & Sylvia Peck
Ryan, Jared & Samantha

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Sam & Dora Prince

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

R's . . .

Max & Sabina Rosenbloom
Joseph, Lee, Sheera, Avi, Adina & Eli Minkowitz

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Martin, Lena, David & Joshua Rauchwerger and Helen Rauchwerger

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Genia & Henry Rakowski

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Helen Reich
52 Evanston Dr.

Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Zionism after 100 years

Jack & Hedda Rothman

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. P. Rechtsman and Family

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year

Morris & Dena Rozen Eryn & Daniel

Wish their family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Willie & Bertha Rosengarten & Family

672 Briar Hill Avenue.

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Nathan & Heddy Rydel

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Sam & Eva Rotholc

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Lily & Mike Rosenberg children & grandchildren

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Paul & Phyllis Rosengarten

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Ralph, Yona, Jesse, Danielle, Joanna, Kari Rabinowicz & Mrs. Bell Rabinowicz

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Ryan & Fay Rotstein

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Mike & Sally Rosen

31 Denmark Crescent

Wish all their relatives, friends and clients a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Jack & Mary Rapoport

147 Almore Ave.

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Adele & Jan Rolin

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy and healthy & peaceful New Year.

Myer & Miriam Rosenberg

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

S's . . .

Wishing our parents, family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Henry, Susyn & Carl Smith Lisa & Derek Frankfort

Belle Shub

471 Coldstream Avenue

Wish my relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Karl Sanders and family

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Christians of Jerusalem caught in the middle

By JUDITH SUDILOVSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

The elderly guard at the Jerusalem church responded quickly when he spied three Muslim men trying to steal a camera from a tourist. He chased them out of the compound and thought he was rid of them. But later that evening they returned.

"One [of the Muslims] put a knife to my throat and said he would kill me, but I was not afraid, because I believe in God. God helped me," says George, 67, a Palestinian Christian living in eastern Jerusalem.

When he complained to the Israeli police, he says, they did not take him seriously and told him to come back the next day with the priest of the church. Frustrated, he never went back.

George recalls the incident, which occurred last year, as he sits in the courtyard of his house drinking tea with his wife, Mariam, 64, and their neighbor, Diana, 70. They are the only Christians in their immediate neighborhood, and although the couple have cordial relations with all their neighbors, only Diana is like family. All three asked that their real names and the location of their homes not be used. Like other Christians interviewed who requested anonymity, they say they fear retribution for speaking out.

For Ibrahim Wahbieh, a 34-year-old Catholic resident of Jerusalem who works at the Church of St. Peter in Gallicantu, the incident at George's church is a perfect example of how Muslim youths feel free to harass and pick the pockets of Christian pilgrims at Christian holy sites. It's something they wouldn't dare do at Al-Aksa Mosque, he says.

But problems with the Muslim community aren't the Christians' only concerns. George still recalls that 20 years ago he was stopped by a group of Border Police as he was on his way to the Central Post Office on Jerusalem's Jaffa Road. They were checking identity cards and he was made to wait, along with a group of Palestinians, while the cards were checked. The police eventually let him go, but George still remembers the humiliating incident with anger.

"To the Israelis we are Palestinians and to the Palestinians we are Christians, Crusaders," says Mariam with a sad laugh, referring to the conquerors of Jerusalem from whom the Muslim hero Saladin liberated the city in 1187.

Christians are a small and shrinking minority in Jerusalem. According to the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies, a public policy research institute, they numbered some 15,800 in 1995 (the last year for which there are end-of-year statistics) out of a total population of 591,400. But these figures include expatriate Christians.

Using independent data, Dr. Bernard Sabella, a Bethlehem University sociology professor, determined that when expatriates are excluded from the count, the number of local Christians is only 10,800, down from 28,000 in 1945. According to Sabella, about 2,500 Christians have left the city since 1967.

Members of the dwindling Christian community say they are increasingly finding themselves caught between the larger Jewish and Muslim communities, as both those groups become more entrenched in their own religious and national identities. Yet their destiny as Palestinian Christians is inextricably connected to that of the Muslims, as it has been for hundreds of years.

On the one hand, Christians say they are allied with Muslims in the same nationalist struggle. But in a society that is becoming more Islamic and looks toward Saudi Arabia and Syria as role models, many Christians feel like outsiders. They are more likely to identify

[Cont'd. on page B 63]

Hebrew writers in Tel Aviv (Standing) Ben-Ami and Bialik. (Seated) Ravnitzky and Ahad Ha'am.

Zionism after 100 years

Disputes are often related to family clans

[Cont'd. from page B 62]

with Europe and the west, and in some ways even with the liberal community of Israel. In this, the Christians say, they face the same dilemma as the more secular Muslims.

Even George says that Christians and Muslims are united in their political struggle, but concludes that it is not easy being a Christian in Jerusalem; Diana concurs.

During the intifadah, two Muslim women tried to rip the crucifix from around the neck of a Christian friend, Diana recalls as the sound of the muezzin calling the faithful to prayer rings out in the background.

In another incident during the same period, Mariam adds, somebody threw an egg at her sister in the Old City because she was wearing a cross.

"For sure these things don't happen every day and not everybody sees it, but in our daily life it does happen," Diana says. "We are a minority and we feel threatened. If my children weren't here I certainly wouldn't stay."

Young Christian women talk about being unable to dress as they please. Some Christian men lament the fact that they don't always feel free to drink alcohol or eat during Ramadan, and they recall that during the intifadah, liquor stores in the Old City that are owned by Christians were torched. Even the Christian Quarter is now Christian in name only, since most of the shops have been bought by Muslims from their Christian owners, many of whom have emigrated.

Anxious to present a united front against a common enemy, many Palestinian Christians – especially those in leadership positions – are defensive, viewing with suspicion as politically motivated any media attempts to separate them along religious lines. Arab society in general does not like to air its dirty laundry in public, and interfaith relations are no exception.

"Christians and Muslims in Jerusalem have no animosity toward each other," says Ibrahim Kandalaft, Palestinian Authority (PA) deputy minister for Christian religious affairs and a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. "On the contrary, we believe we are one nation with the same destiny and the same aspirations." If there are disputes, they "are on an individual basis, not on a wide scale."

One young Palestinian Christian says with annoyance that asking questions about Christian-Muslim relations is "provocative," because it labels people and creates an issue where none exists. "We are trying to distance ourselves from these labels," he says. "The West comes and reinforces these ideas of Christian and Muslim, and the idea that the Christians are oppressed by the Muslims, but this is not true."

"There is more sexual tension here than religious tension," interjects his friend, a Christian businessman.

According to an Armenian resident of the Old City, only outsiders see the disputes as related to religion, when in fact they are between family clans.

"I never heard of a case in the Old City where Christians and Muslims began fighting because of religion," he insists. He recalls with nostalgia the period when he was growing up, when relations among the various groups were closer.

"I had Muslim friends, Christian friends, Jewish friends and Armenian friends. We would go to each other's houses. I knew which mother made which food the best. I miss these things even now."

But if there is any unity among Palestinians, it is only because they have a common enemy, the Israelis, Wahbieh says. If that enemy didn't exist, the problems between the Muslims and Christians would be even worse than they already are.

[Cont'd. on page B 64]

Celebrating youth aliyah

Larry & Pam Shapiro
Jodi & Robyn
Mark, Lori & Jordan Shapiro
Annie Okun, Syd Shapiro

Wish their relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Nathan & Helen Shiff
Martin, Michelle, Mitchell & Jaimie Shiff
Jeffrey, Aviva, David & Tatum Shiff
Adam, Barbara & Matthew Altberg

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy & healthy New Year.

David & Luba Smuschkowitz and Family

Wish all their relatives & friends a year of peace, good health and happiness

Anne & Joe Steinberg
Bella, Elliot, Jason, Adam & Daniel Sinukoff
Wendy, Stuart, Zachary, Cory, Matthew & Michael Himmel
Evy, Elliot, Hailey & Carly Sugar

Wish their relatives, machatunim & friends a happy & healthy New Year.

52 Green Acres Road

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

MINKA SMITH
IAN & TOBE TWEYMAN
SHELDON, KAREN & AUBREY

Derek & Jill Stern

100 MacArthur Drive
Thornhill

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year

Best wishes for a Happy & Healthy New Year to all our relatives, clients & friends

Mr. & Mrs. Milton Snow
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Snow & family
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Schwartz & family
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Cohen & family
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Snow

Zanvel & Sylvia Stern and Corinne

37 Steele Valley Road
Thornhill

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year

Leon & Bela Sniatowski

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Max & Dorothy Stern

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Nachum & Lea Shore

23 Fanshawe Dr., Richmond Hill

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Isaac and Mary Szames

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Harold Sayles

471 Coldstream Avenue

Wish my relatives, friends and neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Jack, Lola, Rose-Mary Sylman
Sid, Evelyn, Madison & Tyler Rochwerg

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Mrs. Pauline Sporn

Rosita & David Salomon

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Alter & Helen Steinfeld

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year

Rachelle, Lisa, Mindy & Jessica Salamon

Wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Dorice & David Silverman & Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Oscar & Florence Shainhouse

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Morris & Yetta Sternberg and Family

90 Overbrook Pl.

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Szmeiser
Leora, Steven, Robyn & Justin Hazan
David, Shelley & Tabitha Star

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

The Steinman Family

6 Barclay Court

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr. & Mrs. Louis Szikla & family
Fay Kolinsky

Mr. & Mrs. Jack Stork and Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Laury & Evy Snow

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year

Mr. & Mrs. Sigmund Schmidt
3900 Yonge St., PH. #3

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

David Scheer & Naomi Weinfeld and their children

T's . . .

Mr. & Mrs. G. Thaler and Family

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Wishing all our family and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Morris Teper & family

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Tenenbaum
Sid, Judy, Ari-Lev, Elie & Avichai
Gary, Louise & Josh
Uli & Tamara Friedman

Wish their relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year.

Norm & Ruth Trachter

Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Neighbors have become more fanatical over time

[Cont'd. from page B 63]

"There is a threat for sure because of the [growing Muslim] fundamentalist movements," he says. "We read what they write and it is threatening. They don't understand about 'the other' living in this country."

Rim, a Christian woman who lives with her husband, Aimad, and their child in a largely Muslim neighborhood, says that over the past 10 years her neighbors have become "more fanatical. The [women] started wearing the long Islamic dress and hair covering. Now when Muslim men see a Christian girl, they think she is the same as an American or European girl," that is, sexually and socially liberated.

When Rim and Aimad come home from work, they lock the door to their house and close out the Muslim world surrounding them. They feel truly comfortable only with their Christian neighbor, Aimad says, and most Christians would rather live under Israeli authority than risk living under another Muslim regime. But Israel has yet to take notice of the Palestinian Christians living in its midst.

"When Arafat talks about the Christians here, he is just doing it to win over the United States and Europe," Aimad says.

In fact, according to Aimad, because the political situation between Israel and the Palestinians is so bad, Christians are afraid to speak openly. And even if they speak freely on condition of anonymity, once their complaints are published and Muslims demand proof of their claims, they will retract their statements to avoid trouble. "They will say, 'We are Arabs. We like Islam and we live in peace with you.'"

Moreover, he adds, many of the incidents between Christians and Muslims are never reported to the police. The Christians fear that if they turn to the Israeli authorities they will be labeled by the Muslims as collaborators.

Even when Christians do turn to the Israeli police, their problems are not dealt with in the same manner as a dispute in western Jerusalem would be handled, they say. In fact, they claim, the Israelis seem to want to keep the embers of dispute among the Palestinians burning, as part of a divide-and-rule policy.

In the most recent confrontation involving Christian and Muslim holy sites, two rooms in the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate were taken over in April by the neighboring Hanke Mosque. This incident illustrates how Muslims are trying to do everything in their power to push the Christians out of Jerusalem, says Father William (not his real name), a member of one of the smaller Christian denominations.

But Greek Orthodox Metropolitan Timothy phrases his comments diplomatically, careful not to offend anyone.

"This incident is one of the numerous problems of different kinds that the Christian community is facing every day in their lives. Similar incidents take place everywhere, not excluding the Christian states, but we are stressing that in Jerusalem, in the Holy Land which is the birthplace of Christ, Christians should have secure rights."

Such incidents always "cause tension," he says, but he prefers to consider the takeover as the ill-advised act of "the sheikh and his advisers in this specific mosque," rather than as a matter of Muslim policy.

The infraction, though serious, is a result, not of Christian-Muslim strife, but of political frustration, says Father Naim Ateek, canon of St. George's Episcopal Cathedral.

"It is wrong and we must address it," he says, "but I believe it is a reflection of the general mood of injustice [and] we can't conclude that Islam is the enemy or that the Christian community is being

[Cont'd. on page B 65]

Menachem Begin hiding under the alias of Rabbi Israel Sassover. Pictured here with his wife Aliza and their son.

Extremist Muslims not only source of trouble

[Cont'd. from page B 64]

threatened by Islam, because many Muslims are with us in fighting these trends of extremism."

Israel would like to see the problems taken out of context by the media and other observers, to avoid facing its own responsibility to address the deeper issues in the conflict, he maintains.

Meanwhile, the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate has turned to every authority possible – Israeli, Palestinian, Jordanian and even Greek – in an attempt to have the rooms returned, but more than four months later they remain in the hands of the mosque. The patriarchate, along with the Armenians and the Franciscan Custodians of the Holy Land, also view with trepidation the building of bathrooms on the roof of the mosque overlooking the Franciscan monastery adjacent to the church.

In an incident last year, PA security forces kidnapped Abed Salem Hirbawi, a Muslim businessman in the Old City, and took him to Ramallah, where he was pressured to drop a lawsuit against the Coptic Church over a property claim. In response, Israel imposed a curfew on Ramallah, lifting it only when Hirbawi was released, Wahbieh notes. The case is now awaiting trial.

Extremist Muslims are not the only source of trouble for Palestinian Christians. They have also had confrontations with Jewish extremists. Besides arson attempts at Jerusalem churches by Muslims, there have been torchings by Jews, including a series of church fires in eastern Jerusalem some two years ago set by an IDF soldier also convicted of shooting up a Catholic church in Jaffa.

One priest says that sometimes Jewish children spit at him and his colleagues as they walk by in the Old City, and that the situation has worsened in the almost 17 years since he first came to Jerusalem.

"Fanatic Jews throw eggs and yogurt at our houses which have the signs of the cross on their doorways," says John, 38, a member of the Syrian Orthodox community, whose neighborhood in the Old City borders the Jewish Quarter.

But he is troubled most by the relationship between Christians and Muslims, which he says "is in critical jeopardy."

As Father William puts it, the situation is "getting worse and worse."

Despite all this, friendships among members of the two faiths flourish, neighbors visit and gossip with one another, children study in the same classrooms and they share in each other's lives.

In the neighborhood of Shuafat, 26-year-old Tania Nahhas, a Catholic, and her best friend, Jumana Abu Zayyad, 27, a Muslim, chat on the phone making plans to go out with a group of their friends – young Muslims and Christians. Nahhas and Abu Zayyad, who lives in Isawiya, have been fast friends since they studied together at the Hebrew University six years ago.

The issue of religion never came up as their friendship grew, Nahhas says. "We are so close because we deal with each other as friends. I am invited to her house on Ramadan. We celebrate our holidays together. I have another good friend who wears a veil," says Nahhas, who is the office administrator of an organization that runs social programs for Palestinians in Jerusalem and in the territories. "On Christmas the [Muslim] children in my neighborhood come to our house to give us gifts."

The older generation of both religions tends to be more insular and fanatic, says Nahhas, but there are also young people who are becoming fanatical in their religious beliefs, especially among the Muslims. In certain areas of Jerusalem like E-Ram near Ramallah, the few

[Cont'd. on page B 66]

The Kieselstein family of Hebron following the riots in 1929

Mrs. Rose Tenenbaum

Best wishes to my children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Norm & Sandra Turk and Family

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Dina & Willie Tenenbaum

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

U's . . .

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of israel

Harry & Yetta Ungerman

W's . . .

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.

Victor & Klara Wise

Mr. & Mrs. Hy Weinrib Marla, Risa, Shane, Lauren & Jamie Fine

Wish their relatives, friends& neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

Leonard, Gloria & Barbara Wiseberg Azriel & Sigal Har Lavan

and recent arrivals

Nitzan and Dafna

wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and muchatonim friends, and the people of Israel.

Harry & Rose Wolfe

43 Kennard Avenue

Harry & Ida Weisleder & Marsha Mark, Jodi & Hillary Louis, Marlene & Joshua Anne & Sam Himelfarb Adam & Eric

wish their relatives, friends and neighbours a peaceful happy and healthy New Year.

Sylvia & Henry Waks

Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Ted & Perlan Waxman & Family

83 Stonedene Blvd.

Wish all their relatives, friends & neighbors a happy and healthy New Year.

David & Ruth Warsh Family

Wish their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Blanche & Sidney Wolbrom

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Sarah & Abe Wertman

Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, friends and relatives for a happy holiday and a healthy and Peaceful New Year.

Leslie & Miriam Wise

38 Nevada Ave.
Willowdale, Ont. M2M 3N6

Wish their relatives, friends and customers a happy and healthy New Year

Zionism after 100 years

Lou & Helen Wronzberg
Rick, Debbie, Alexis & Danielle
Larry, Darlene, Lynsey & Tarah
Randy, Debbie, Jordan, Ashley, Dustin & Melissa
Donna, Jonah, Nechama, Chaim & Shmuel
Wish all their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Norman & Sonia Wagner and Family
344 Hillhurst Blvd.
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Weinstock
David, Moss, Mark & Daniel
Wish their relatives, friends & neighbours a happy and healthy New Year

Jack & Anne Weinbaum & Family
Wish all their relatives and friends a peaceful, happy and healthy New Year.

Albert & Helen Waisglass
Best wishes to our children, grandchildren, relatives and friends for a happy, healthy & peaceful New Year.

Ted, Annette
Madison & Eden Wine
wish their relatives and friends a happy and healthy New Year.

Y's . . .

Best wishes for a year of peace and serenity, health and happiness to our relatives and friends and the people of Israel.
The Yermus Family

Hy & Ruth Young
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The Canadian Jewish news

Please Note: The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days:

Thursday, October 2nd
Friday, October 3rd
Monday, October 13th
(Thanksgiving)
Thursday, October 16th
Friday, October 17th
Thursday, October 23rd
Friday, October 24th

Palestinain society is not an idyllic one

[Cont'd. from page B 65]

Christian families are uncomfortable because of the growing population of Muslim fundamentalists, she says.

On the other hand, in Sheikh Jarrah, where she used to live, relations between the Muslim majority and the Christians are extremely friendly. Her family now rents a house in Shuafat from another Muslim who was more than happy to rent to Christians, she says.

"There is some friction [between Christians and Muslims]. I am not denying it and sometimes it is severe, but that goes on all over Jerusalem, west and east," she says, noting that even in western Jerusalem where the vast majority of the residents share the same religion, there are nevertheless conflicts between secular and religious Jews. "It's something you find everywhere...sometimes you have clashes and sometimes you find very good friends."

Palestinian society is not an idyllic one, says Father Rafiq Khoury of the Latin Patriarchate, and so while there are occasional differences between the religions, it should not be the focus of attention when looking at Palestinian society or used as a basis for saying the Christian presence is under threat in the Holy Land.

"Naturally we have differences which exist between minorities and majorities, but...we have our own oriental way of meeting together and trying to resolve all questions," Khoury says. "You cannot judge Arab society according to the frame of Western society."

But for Father William, this type of complacency and apologetic attitude on the part of many of the Christian church leaders must be corrected. The church leaders are trying to dabble in politics, he says, when "as Christians they should first deal with the problems the Christians are having and then after that they can also help the Muslims."

Some lay Christians say the clergy's view of the issue is clouded by the simple fact that they don't live in daily contact with Muslim neighbors. They interact mainly with the Islamic religious leaders, and on that level, the relations between Christians and Muslims are amicable.

"But we are living [with the Muslims], so we see a lot of discrimination," says John, the Syrian Orthodox Palestinian.

Some church leaders quite simply fear for the safety of their flocks and so feel compelled not to speak out about problems, Aimad adds.

The main challenge, Khoury counters, is to keep religious fanaticism – Muslim, Christian and Jewish – in perspective and not allow it to take over the society.

"It is the same problem in France, in Israel," he says. "We are a real society with some tensions in politics, economics and even religious life, but you have to look at it in the framework of the evolution of Palestinian society and not isolate it. That is not fair to our Palestinian society."

An infant boy – the only survivor of the Slonim family in Hebron, 1929. Arab mobs killed 66 Jews with knives and hatchets.

Zionism after 100 years

The new front line volunteers

By NECHEMIA MEYERS
Special to The CJN

The admission fee for immigrant groups entering Israel society is apt to be paid in blood. For newcomers are more readily accepted by veteran Israelis once their fellow immigrants are numbered among the dead and wounded in this country's unending battle for survival.

By this token, both the Ethiopian and the Russian immigrants have paid their admission fee, over and over again. For example, two of the five soldiers of an elite Golani unit who were burned to death several weeks ago in Lebanon had come here from Ethiopia as children. And shortly thereafter, when two young men from the same unit were killed by a roadside bomb laid by the Hezbollah, one of them, media reports revealed, was born in the former Soviet Union.

The situation is no different when terrorism strikes in the city. One of the five young people killed by the suicide bombers in the Ben Yehuda mall was a newcomer from what was once the USSR, and there were several such immigrants among the victims of the Machane Yehuda bombing.

There is, of course, a difference between the people who just happen to be around when a bomb goes off and those who volunteer to serve in continuously dangerous front-line units. And many immigrants are to be found among the latter.

If olim in the miliary were looking for excuses to avoid volunteering, they could easily find those excuses. The Russian immigrants could argue that they have no reason to put their lives in jeopardy at a time when many of their fellow Israelis see them as a collection of crooks, prostitutes and non-Jews. And the Ethiopians' image suffers from color-linked prejudice and from the prevalence of serious diseases among them.

Nevertheless, a disproportionate number of young people from both immigrant groups volunteer to serve where the bullets are flying.

Also worthy of note is the fact that most Ethiopian boys come from poor families and could ask for an exemption from military service in order to help support their parents and siblings. But the overwhelming majority refuse to make such a request.

The reason was given in a recent *Ma'ariv* interview by Barkan, a Golani infantryman: "I couldn't do that without losing my self-respect," he said. "Moreover, I know that being a 'fighter' will help me to gain acceptance in Israeli society."

Barkan admitted that some of the boys in his neighborhood, outraged at the fact that Ethiopian blood donations were discarded because of the relatively high incidence of AIDS among immigrants from Ethiopia, told him: "They don't want us here. If our blood isn't good enough for them, why should we join their army?"

"Yet strange as it may sound," said Barkan, "there were a lot of us who decided to volunteer for front-line service just because of that disgusting incident. We wanted to prove to them that our blood is just as good as theirs."

That they have done!

Youngsters from Ethiopia and the flag of their new country. [UIA photo]

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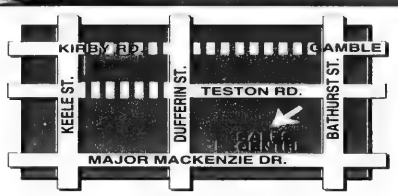

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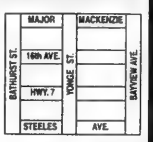

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NCSY trip brings teen closer to his Jewish roots

By ADAM EISNER
Young People's Press

TORONTO — When my grandparents told me that they had arranged for me to go to Washington, D.C. with the National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY), I was indifferent.

Guest Voices

It was a tense beginning. After being on the road for half an hour, one of the trip's senior advisers announced we would be saying a prayer for a safe journey. As everyone began reciting the prayer in Hebrew, I hadn't the faintest idea what they were saying.

As the trip continued, I felt more and more like an outsider. Although my family had been somewhat religious when I was younger, I only had a vague idea what to say during the prayers. People around me traded "remember when?" stories of previous trips this group had been on. I stayed quiet most of the time.

My unwillingness to learn and my bad attitude did not get me very far. I refused to attend our optional daily prayers, wore my kippah as little as possible and avoided as many of the religious aspects of the trip as I could.

Yes, I was being stubborn but I was afraid of being embarrassed. I was sure I would get peculiar looks for not knowing what I was doing during prayers and ever more frightened to be caught doing something ridiculous in my attempt to "fit in."

Most of the advisers were university students or recent graduates, and all were religious. The females wore long skirts, and the males always wore their kippot and their tzitzit (fringed prayer garment). They led the prayers and made sure that we didn't break any rules. The advisers made an effort to get the secular Jews like myself to take part in the discussions, the prayers and more of the activities. After a while, I concluded I should at least listen to what they had to say.

I began attending prayers, which were held three times a day, and turned to one adviser in particular for advice. We discussed my viewpoints on Judaism and my feelings toward religion. It turned out the woman I became closest with hadn't even begun to get involved with Judaism until university. "I had spiked hair in high school," she said.

The two of us chatted about religious and non-religious lifestyles, dating, marriage, NCSY and more. If I had a question regarding the Jewish faith she could answer it, or could point me in the direction of someone who could. I found her journey back to religion inspiring.

When we learned about the persecutions during the Holocaust, I felt as if I had suffered that same pain. It was a very strong feeling. Toward the end of the trip, an activity was arranged where we burned thousands of matches, each representing one Jewish life. It was a powerful experience.

Before the trip, I had convinced myself that I would regret going and would be wasting my time. In retrospect, I would do it again. Because of the depth of the advisers' knowledge, because of the incredible history of the Jewish people, I gained insight into both my history and myself.

When the trip ended, I realized how involved in Judaism I had become. My skepticism toward my religion had disappeared, and for the first time I gave religious involvement some thought. I returned to Toronto with the knowledge that I had opened new doors.

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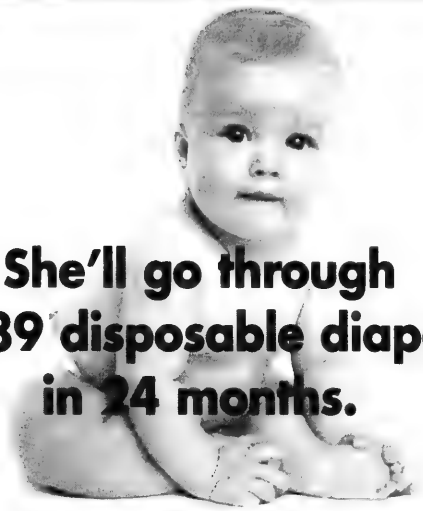

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Rosh Hashanah 5758

Celebrating High Holy Days with the celebrities

By JOYCE SINGER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — At this time of year, we wondered how the celebrities observe the High Holy Days, and discovered that they are just as diverse as the rest of us.

Sara Waxman, chair of the 1997 Opera Ball (Oct. 4), says that while her husband actor/director **Al Waxman** is currently wowing audiences at Stratford in *Death of a Salesman*, it's in his contract that he gets to come home for the holidays. Not so for their son Adam, who is far away, teaching in Japan.

"We go to the Kiever Shul in Kensington Market. I think it's where Al had his bar mitzvah," she says. "And every year, we've been invited to our friends Valerie and

Sara and Al Waxman

Jack Fine. This year is very sad for us, as she was killed in an automobile accident recently. He owns Bowlerama. She was on the board of Mt. Sinai Hospital and many charitable organizations.

"This year we are invited to the home of Senator Jerry Grafstein and his wife Carole. They are very observant, with the honey, challah and apples to break the fast. It's a lovely traditional closing [to the Yom Kippur] service."

For the second year in a row, **Simcha Jacobovici** and his partner Elliot Halpern have won an Emmy for their extraordinary documentaries. This year's award was for their production of *The Selling of Innocents*.

Jacobovici is the president of his shul Beit Yosef, which is named after his late father, at the Riverdale Community Centre.

"I would call it modern Orthodox," he says. "We've been running it for three years. First it started in

Simcha Jacobovici

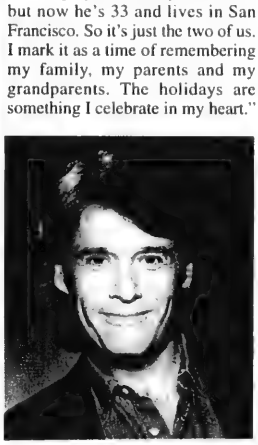
my living-room; then we were in a Greek Restaurant for the High Holy Days; now we have our permanent site at 179 Danforth Ave.

"There are a lot of people from the arts in this area. And as we're far away from the mainstream community, we get some people who haven't been to a shul in their lives. We're very non-threatening... we're in a former Tai Chi studio!"

Lois Lilienstein, of Sharon, Lois and Bram, says, "I'm from Chicago. When my grandparents were alive, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kipper were *the* holidays of the year. My grandmother did the cooking for when you broke the fast. My grandfather was an elder of the shul, which was right across the street from us. And everything was as it should be in Jewish family life. But when my grandfather died, my grandmother came to live with us and all the customs fell away.

Lois Lilienstein

"While our son David was growing up it was a special time, but now he's 33 and lives in San Francisco. So it's just the two of us. I mark it as a time of remembering my family, my parents and my grandparents. The holidays are something I celebrate in my heart."



Ralph Benmergui

Ralph Benmergui of *Benmergui Live/Newsworld*, jokes that he's always wondered what would happen if he wore his kippah on television. "What will they do?

"One day, I think that's how my career will end. I'll just put my kippah on, and that will be that."

As for the holidays, "We, my wife Catherine Beet and my kids Jonah and Chas, belong to the First Narayever Congregation egalitarian shul. It's a good shul. It's very funky. For the High Holy Days, they take over the Bloor JCC downtown. I like to go there with my family, so that we can see our 'High Holiday' Jewish friends, who only show up three times a year. So we end up going to 'the big show.'"

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Iran missile program said near completion

By STEVE RODAN and ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — With massive aid from Russia, Iran is on the verge of completing its development of ballistic missiles that can strike any part of Israel, according to Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

But the United States and Israel disagree over how to pressure Russia to immediately stop its aid to Tehran before the Islamic republic achieves the ability to independently manufacture such missiles. The Clinton administration wants to concentrate on quiet diplomatic efforts, while Israel is lobbying Congress to cut off U.S. aid to Moscow.

In an interview with the *Jerusalem Post*, Mordechai said the United States and Israel have received intelligence information over the past few months that has led both countries to conclude that Tehran has progressed faster than previously thought in both its medium-range ballistic missile and its nuclear weapons programs. The most impressive progress was in Iran's missile program.

"Iran is on the verge of achieving capability of producing long-range missiles that have strategic dangers to Israel, as well as to U.S. interests in the region," he said.

Mordechai said that, at Iran's current pace of development, Tehran will be able to manufacture missiles that can hit Israel, the Gulf states, Asia and parts of Europe by 1999. He said Iran also wants to increase its chemical weapons and produce biological and nuclear weapons.

Western intelligence officials say Iran has embarked on three missile programs. One has a range of 1,500 kilometres, which can hit Israel, the Gulf states and Asia. Another has a range of 3,000 km, which can hit much of Western Europe. A third is a program to develop a missile of 5,500 km., believed to be largely aimed at striking U.S. targets in the Pacific.

Mordechai said U.S. intelligence officials now have a more alarming assessment than that of their Israeli colleagues of how close Iran is to achieving its goal.

The new intelligence, Mordechai said, shows that Russia has violated months of pledges to stop aid to Iran's missile and non-conventional weapons programs.

"We tried all ways – through the Americans and also directly to the Russians," Mordechai said. "There were [Russian] people, including ministers, who promised to stop [sending] technology and capability to Iran. They promised that to the president of the United States, [to U.S. Vice-President] Al Gore, to the prime minister [Benjamin Netanyahu] and to others who visited Russia.

"We were surprised to learn that the opposite took place: that Russia and Russian companies have accelerated the process; that Iran can achieve independent capability in these areas as fast as possible."

Mordechai said Israel has concluded that it must increase diplomatic efforts to stop the Iranian effort. As a result, officials have lobbied their colleagues in Europe, Russia and the United States to stop the transfer of technology to the Islamic republic.

But the Clinton administration opposes the use of U.S. economic aid as a lever to stop Russian aid programs to Tehran. Mordechai acknowledged that U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is opposed to a cutoff of American aid to Russia.

Russia received $95 million in U.S. economic aid in 1997. The Clinton administration is asking Congress for $225 million for 1998.

The U.S. House Appropriations Committee, however, has pressed for a $12.3-billion foreign operations bill for 1998 that ends all aid to Russia unless Clinton specifies that Moscow is not aiding Iran's missile and nuclear weapons programs.

Russia, however, continues to deny that it is helping Iran's ballistic missile program and says its aid to Tehran is limited to building a civilian nuclear reactor.

IDF trains for war with PA

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israeli troops reportedly staged a series of military exercises near Jenin last week aimed at reconquering Palestinian-controlled areas and battling PLO fighters assaulting Jewish settlements.

According to Israel Radio, soldiers practised recapturing a Jewish settlement that had been overrun by the Palestinian Police. In the drill, the IDF succeeded in its mission, but suffered a great number of casualties, the radio said. Other units carried out manoeuvres, including operations in Palestinian areas, the radio said.

The exercise took place one year after the bloody riots that followed the opening of an exit to the Western Wall Tunnel. It was seen as sending a message to the Palestinian Authority that the IDF has learned the lessons of last year and is preparing for the possibility of an all-out war with the Palestinians.

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Israel resumes talks with Palestinian Authority

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) have decided to resume direct talks in the framework of the Oslo accords, the Prime Minister's Office indicated last Sunday.

An official announcement of the resumption of the working group sessions was expected at the meeting in New York of Foreign Minister David Levy, PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's deputy Mahmoud Abbas and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at last Sunday's cabinet meeting that the resumption of talks, which have been stalled since February, was made possible by the discussions held in Washington between an Israeli delegation headed by Cabinet Secretary Dan Naveh and the PA, and by the security steps taken by the Palestinian authorities.

"The main thing is to make clear to the other side that we want to go forward with the process, but that they must fight terror," Netanyahu told Channel 1. "There is a change in the past few days. I think that finally something has sunk in."

Netanyahu also said he had given instructions to transfer to the PA half of the funds which Israel has withheld since the Machane Yehuda attack. The Finance Ministry said that NIS 59 million would be handed over. That represents about half the original sum withheld. One-third, NIS 40 million, was transferred last month.

Netanyahu noted that he made the decision to release the funds after receiving reports of the PA's first measures against terrorism, stressing that these steps must be continuous, systematic and consistent.

Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky suggested the funds not be transferred to Arafat's personal account, due to PA financial corruption. But his motion was rejected because the deal with the PA stipulates the funds be deposited directly into Arafat's account.

The IDF also announced another easing of the closure. An additional 8,000 Palestinians will be allowed to enter Israel, bringing the total number of workers allowed in to 29,000.

The Palestinian welcomed the government's decisions to release funds and resume negotiations.

The issues before the committees include the opening of Gaza air and sea ports, a "safe passage" between the West Bank and Gaza, and the release of Palestinian prisoners held by Israel.

At the opening of the cabinet session, General Security Service head Ami Ayalon briefed the ministers on security issues and reported on the investigation that led to the identification of four out of the five suicide bombers responsible for recent attacks in Jerusalem. Ayalon said there are indications that the PA has begun taking steps against the terror infrastructure.

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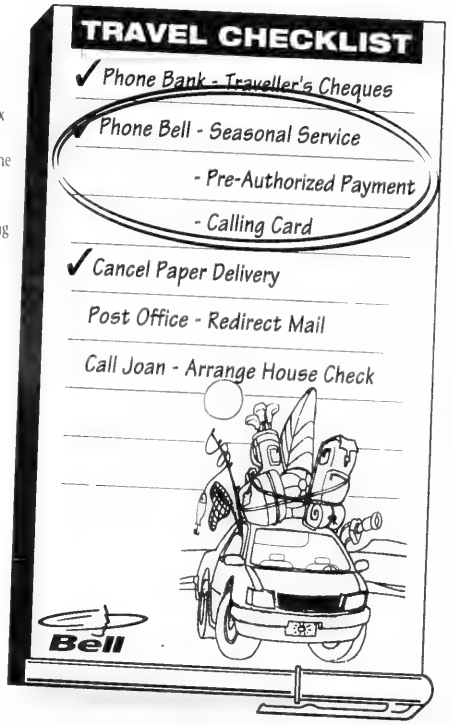
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Two bearers of Canadian passports held in Jordan

OTTAWA — Canada's Foreign Affairs Department has confirmed that two individuals "bearing Canadian passports" are being held in jail in Jordan after "an altercation" with at least one Jordanian national.

Monday's confirmation came on the heels of reports that two Canadians are in custody in Amman in connection with a mysterious attack on a senior leader of Hamas.

The Jordanian government said two Canadians were captured recently by the bodyguards of Khaled Meshal, who was attacked in broad daylight while strolling with his children in Amman.

Meshal, 41, head of Hamas' political bureau, is in hospital with a neurological ailment that hampers his breathing, Jordanian media reported.

Hamas said Meshal's assailants aimed a device at his head.

In published media reports, Hamas leaders accused Canadian Jews of collaborating with the Israeli government and its secret service, the Mossad.

A Hamas statement said the alleged Canadian attackers are "terrorists" sent by Israel.

Rodney Moore, a spokesperson for Foreign Affairs, told *The CJN* that Canada's embassy in Amman is in contact with the Canadians, and has offered consular aid.

Moore said the two turned down the offer of help, and have insisted their names not be released.

He said the embassy is in touch with "senior Jordanian officials" in an effort to unravel the mystery.

The reports said that security has been stepped up at the Canadian embassy and at the Intercontinental Hotel, where the Canadians checked in about two weeks ago.

Jordan's information ministry said the Canadians were arrested after they were found scuffling with Meshal's bodyguards.

The story has received wide coverage in Jordanian media. One theory said the Canadians may be the victims of mistaken identity, who were confused with Meshal's real attackers.

Hamas said it would exact revenge for the attack, but did not specify whether it would be against Israel or Canada.

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Amos Oz

An Open Letter To Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat

Dear Sirs,

We, the undersigned, write to you as Canadian Jews in support of the many Israelis who fear for the future of the Oslo peace process. US Ambassador to Israel, Martin Indyk, has said:"The core-bargain of Oslo has broken down. Israelis were promised security; Palestinians were promised self-government and a credible pathway to negotiating their rights in a final status agreement." Neither of you has followed through satisfactorily on your fundamental Oslo obligations.

Mr Arafat: The Palestinian Authority (PA) has created a permissive atmosphere for terrorism inside Israel as well as violence on the West Bank. The PA has failed to disarm and dismantle extremist Palestinian military organizations responsible for the suicide bombings. It has released known terrorists from jail and has contributed to the incitement to violence against Israelis. Israelis need to see the fullest commitment by you to consistent security co-operation before they can have confidence in the peace process.

Mr Netanyahu: You are right when you say that violence and terrorism are never excusable. But Oslo also means negotiating in good faith. Palestinians do not have any confidence that your government will ever accept a demilitarized Palestinian state in a viable bloc of territory in the West Bank and Gaza. Your minimal redeployment concessions reinforce this perception. Unilateral actions such as the construction in Har Homa, while technically legal, are provocative and undermine Oslo.

Sirs: The future is in your hands. Israelis and Palestinians are destined to live side by side forever. There is no alternative to good faith negotiations. Oslo struck a "core-bargain" which obligates both of you to negotiate a reasonable and secure peace. This must be respected. The alternative is chaos and probably, catastrophe. We look forward to better days.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Barak apologizes for party's treatment of Sephardim

By HERB KEINON
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Labor party leader Ehud Barak seemed the uncertain groom on Sunday, as he again extended his hand in an offer of union to a long sought-after but reluctant bride — the country's Sephardim.

For the second time in four days, Barak — speaking in Netivot to a special session of the Labor party convention — apologized in the name of the party for indignities caused to the Sephardim during the early years of the state.

This time he answered directly those critics who questioned his sincerity.

"There was a never a government in the history of the state that did more for the poor neighborhoods or the development towns then the government of Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres," said Barak.

Despite that, he said, 85 percent of the votes cast in Netivot in last year's election went to Netanyahu, and only 11 percent went to Peres.

"What does this say? It says that actions are not enough when there's a deep emotional divide that reaches down into the stomach and into the chambers of the heart. Without the ability to touch this, talk about it, discuss it and tell the truth, there is no way to move forward, even with all the best actions."

Ehud Barak

Barak told the delegates that he's been saying this for months, even before his election as party chair in June, but only now is it coming to the attention of the media.

"An honest look at the past will give us the strength to link arms and move forward in the future," he said.

Barak's apology was similar to what he had already said except that this time he stressed the positive aspects of the early days of the state — apparently internalizing criticism that he had focused too much on the "sins" without due appreciation of what was achieved.

"We are all proud of the Labor movement's great achievements in building the yishuv, establishing the state, ingathering the exiles, and building up the people of Israel in the Land of Israel. This is a great achievement, fills us with pride and could not have happened without the activities of thousands of veterans.

"In the process, complete communities were uprooted, and were directed to development towns, moshavim and tent cities. Tradition was broken. The internal fabric of the community and the family was broken, and caused real suffering that remains in the hearts of people and their children and even their grandchildren," Barak said.

"We know it was done unintentionally, but suffering was caused. And it is in identification with the suffering and the pain, and those who carry it, that I ask forgiveness in my name and in the name of the Labor party."

The hall emptied out after Barak's speech, and only filled up again partially when Shimon Peres took the podium, amid anticipation that he would take issue with Barak's recent pronouncements. He didn't.

At the very outset of his speech, Peres said, "I didn't come here to scuttle the attempt to get back into the government or back on the path of peace.

"But with that," he said, "I want to do a personal reckoning."

His personal reckoning was to speak of the achievements of the state over the past 50 years, and included his recollections of what Ashdod — which was established together with Netivot in 1956 — was like back then, and what it is today.

Peres, in his 15-minute address, neither apologized nor related to Barak's apology.

But Yehuda Aloush, a community activist from Beersheba, held up a sign at the entrance to the hall that read "Barak, we forgive you."

Aloush said "It doesn't matter if you're saying these things because you need our votes, because in the final analysis, someone who says he needs you is also saying you are equal."

700,000 Israelis strike to protest gov't policy

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Some 700,000 Israelis went on strike for eight hours last Sunday to protest privatization plans and pension cuts. The action was called for by the Histadrut Trade Union.

Israel's National Labor Court gave permission for the strike, which was called after negotiations between Histadrut and Finance Ministry officials failed to reach an agreement on a dispute over pension plans.

Too costly to finance

The previous Labor government had approved a pension plan some three weeks before last year's national election, but the current government has maintained that it cannot finance a plan that would cost more than $570 million annually over the next 20 years.

Histadrut officials said the strike was also called to protest the government's ongoing privatization process.

The strike paralyzed all major public services, closing down Israeli schools, Ben-Gurion Airport, banks and utilities.

More than one million students enjoyed an unexpected holiday, but like other Israelis, they were forced to deal with unpleasant odors, because garbage workers were also on strike.

After the strike ended, Histadrut chair Amir Peretz met again with Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman. Histadrut officials then said they would give the government another chance to resolve the differences.

They said they would not consider another strike until the end of the High Holy Days.

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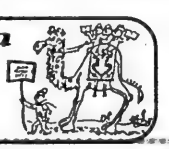

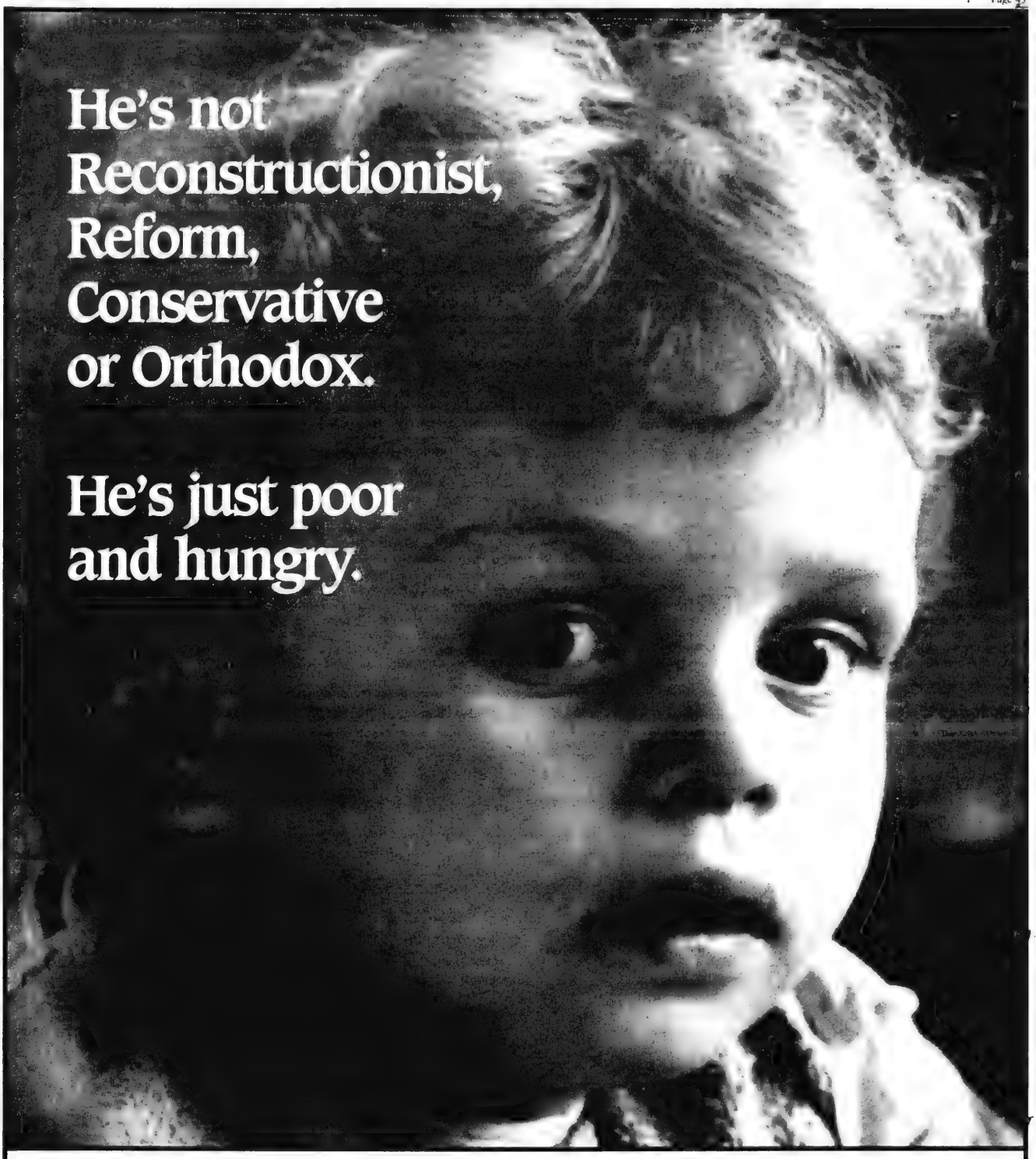

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Israel & the Jewish World

Israeli president makes plea for alleged espionage agent

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — President Ezer Weizman is looking to succeed where Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has failed.

During a visit last Sunday to Egypt, Weizman obtained a promise from President Hosni Mubarak that he would look into "constitutional ways" to pardon an Israeli citizen recently sentenced by a Cairo court on charges of espionage.

At a joint news conference, Mubarak said he would examine whether he could pardon Azam Azam as part of general amnesty granted to other prisoners.

Weizman told reporters that extensive coverage of the case, which has strained Israeli-Egyptian relations, had not helped resolve the problem.

Netanyahu said earlier this month that he expected Mubarak to pardon the 35-year-old Druze man.

Mubarak later rebuffed the request, saying that Netanyahu had insulted the Egyptian judicial system when he called the verdict in the case "twisted."

In a seven-page letter to Netanyahu, Mubarak said that Netanyahu's high-profile efforts made it virtually impossible for Mubarak to do anything on Azam's behalf.

Azam, a mechanic at an Israeli-Egyptian textile plant in Cairo, was convicted Aug. 31 of spying for Israel and sentenced to 15 years in prison with hard labor.

Azam, who was arrested last November in Cairo, was charged with giving women's underwear soaked with invisible ink to an Egyptian national, Emad Abdel-Hamid Ismail, who then used the ink to write messages to Israel about the state of Egyptian factories.

The Cairo court sentenced Ismail to life imprisonment for being an accomplice.

Israeli officials have insisted that Azam was not a government agent.

Olmert cleared of fraud charges

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — A court decision this week may have left Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with a strong contender for leadership of the Likud party.

Soon after the Tel Aviv District Court cleared Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert of charges of campaign finance fraud, Israeli analysts were speculating that Olmert would begin his quest to replace Netanyahu as the Likud candidate for prime minister in the national elections scheduled for the year 2000.

Olmert, 51, has attempted to portray himself as a more hardline defender than Netanyahu of Israel's claim to Jerusalem.

A year ago, Olmert was on hand at the opening of a new entrance to an archeological tunnel near the Western Wall. The move sparked three days of Palestinian rioting that left 15 Israelis and 61 Palestinians dead.

Olmert, who was elected Jerusalem's mayor in 1993, has also been a staunch defender of Israel's right to build a new Jewish neighborhood at Har Choma in southeastern Jerusalem.

The start of that construction in March led the Palestinian Authority to suspend all negotiations with Israel.

In last Sunday's decision, the court found Olmert innocent of charges that he had engaged in financial irregularities in the 1988 election campaign, when Olmert was treasurer of the Likud party.

Olmert said his only mistake was that he signed financial reports without double-checking them.

The Wexner Foundation

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Michelle Fisher	Jewish Theological Seminary	Rabbinate
John Fishman	Hebrew Union College–JIR	Rabbinate
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The Wexner Foundation was created by Leslie H. Wexner, the founder and chairman of The Limited Inc., and his mother, Mrs. Bella Wexner. The Foundation is committed to the recruitment and enhancement of Jewish leadership.

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A Message to CJN Snowbirds

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Although religious freedom is flourishing throughout the world, the government of Israel still recognizes only one form of Judaism. Orthodoxy. The State recognizes only those marriages and conversions in Israel that are performed by Orthodox rabbis. Conservative and Reform rabbis in Israel, whose Judaism represents the vast majority of world Jewry, have no legal right to officiate in these capacities.

And now, the religious parties in Israel are demanding new laws to further limit the religious freedoms of non-Orthodox Jews in Israel. Their goal is to overturn key Supreme Court decisions that had begun to open the way for diverse expressions of Judaism in the Jewish State. Laws like these will only encourage Israel's religious extremists, alienate hundreds of thousands of Israelis from Judaism, and drive a wedge between Diaspora Jews and Israel.

Some religious extremists are already taking matters into their own hands, in ways that desecrate Jewish tradition. On Shavuot and again on Tisha B'Av, hundreds of Reform and Conservative Jews, including many North Americans, were violently evicted from the Western Wall plaza in the midst of prayer. The "provocation?" Men and women were praying together, contrary to Orthodox ritual.

Such actions poison Judaism for Israel's non-Orthodox majority. They also strike at the core of fundamental civil rights upon which democracy is based. They challenge basic freedoms, while forcing Israelis to choose between submitting to Orthodox authority or turning their backs on Judaism altogether.

The struggle for religious freedom in Israel is an uphill battle, but if you care about its outcome, then you should know about the New Israel Fund. The New Israel Fund is a partnership between Israel and the Diaspora. In the 18 years since the Fund was established, it has become the preeminent source of support for democracy, pluralism, tolerance, and social justice in Israel. For further information on these issues, please contact us for our free brochure, "The Struggle for Pluralism and Religious Freedom."

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Arafat under attack

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

These are not the best of times for Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestinian Authority (PA) and chairman of the PLO.

Mideast Analysis

Three and a half years after arriving in the Gaza Strip from exile in Tunisia to preside over the fortunes of the newly created Palestinian autonomous areas, Arafat's administration is under attack. Critics, including Palestinians, describe his regime as corrupt, arbitrary, brutal and inefficient, a dictatorship in the making despite the trappings of a democratic system.

In addition to his domestic woes, Arafat faces a grave external challenge. Due to his dilatory approach in combatting terrorism carried out by Islamic fundamentalist forces opposed to the Oslo peace process, his relations with Israel and the United States have sharply deteriorated, compounding his problems at home.

With the signing of the Declaration of Principles four years ago last month, Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank could look forward to a new era of self-determination and freedom from Israeli military occupation.

But the idyll did not last long. In November 1994, six months after Arafat's triumphal arrival in Gaza, PA policemen opened fire on Islamic militants, killing 14 in an incident which shocked Palestinian sensibilities.

It has not gotten much better since then. The PA, bolstered by an array of intimidating security forces directly answerable to Arafat, has closed dissenting newspapers arbitrarily, detained journalists and human rights activists without charges and broken a teachers' strike. And 14 Palestinians have died in PA prisons, presumably having been tortured to death.

Corruption is rampant. In May, a PA committee reported that $326 million (US) of the PA's $800 million 1996 budget had been squandered through graft and mismanagement. This revelation prompted the democratically elected legislative council to call on Arafat to replace his tainted cabinet of political appointees with squeaky clean technocrats. There have been several resignations, but Arafat, who has managed to remain above the fray, has not instituted sweeping reforms.

As well, a rift has developed between the functionaries who accompanied Arafat to the autonomous territories and the mass of ordinary Palestinians who never left. The latter accuse the former of conspicuous consumption and of loose living at a time when per-capita income has declined and unemployment has risen. Such is the parlous state of the economy that the PA's deputy industry minister recently acknowledged that the Palestinians are worse off now than they were under Israeli rule.

The grim situation has been greatly exacerbated by Israeli actions taken in response to suicide bombings: closures, which cut off Palestinians from their jobs in Israel, and economic sanctions.

The spectre of terrorism, combined with Israel's unilateral building program in eastern Jerusalem and its expansion of settlements in the territories, has sown mutual mistrust and a crisis of confidence between Arafat and Benjamin Netanyahu. This, in turn, has led to a virtual collapse of the peace process, the only route through which the Palestinians can attain a real measure of sovereignty and independence.

As the impasse has deepened, the United States has strongly urged Arafat to deal with terrorism once and for all, lest U.S. assistance be severed. As a result of suicide bombings, there has been an upsurge of congressional support for suspending aid to the PA. The Middle East Peace Facilitation Act, which enables the United States to channel funds to the PA, recently expired, and its chances of renewal are slim if Arafat fails to crack down on terrorism.

Arafat has his work cut out.

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The Week in Israel

Sept. 22

• Two staff members of the Israeli Embassy in Jordan were shot and slightly injured near the embassy. Several arrests were made.

• A businessman, Ya'acov Schwartz, 63, who disappeared earlier in the month, admitted that he had fabricated the story of his kidnapping.

• Yad Mordechai, a kibbutz in southern Israel has developed a bumblebee 15 times the usual size. The super bee will be used for pollinating crops.

Sept. 23

• Czech President Vaclav Havel arrived in Israel on an official visit aimed at deepening trade ties between the two countries.

• Former Israeli prime minister Shimon Peres announced the establishment of a peace centre in his name which will work to advance regional cooperation and peace efforts.

Sept. 24

• Israel security forces identified four out of the five terrorists who were believed to have carried out the two suicide bombings in Jerusalem earlier in the month.

Sept. 25

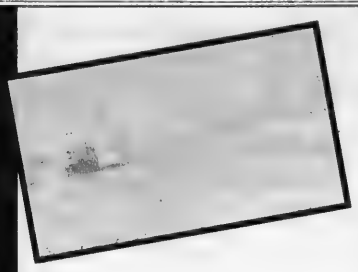
• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pledged to build 300 new homes in Efrat, one of the communities in Gush Etzion founded immediately after the Six Day War. Palestinian leaders warned that the announcement could trigger more suicide bomb attacks.

• Media reported that joint Israeli, Turkish and American naval exercises scheduled to take place in November have been postponed at Israel's request.

Sept. 26

• The committee investigating the failed commando raid in Lebanon that led to the deaths of 12 soldiers said that it would summon six naval officers for second questioning. The officers received warning letters that focused on the planning of the raid.

With files from the JTA



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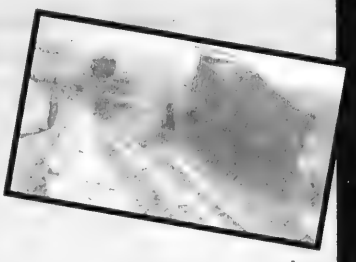

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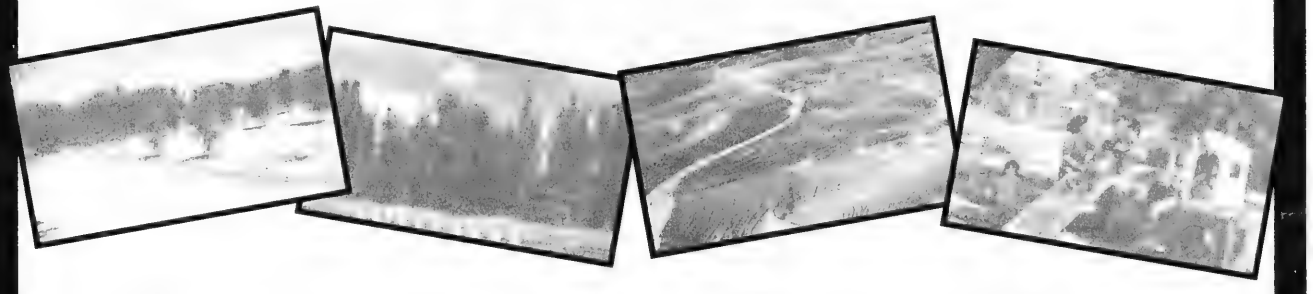

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No talks held with Hezbollah

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

CJN: *It seems that the Arabs think that if they protest loudly and long enough you will always capitulate. Is there a danger of setting a precedent?*

NETANYAHU: There is indeed such a danger. We are trying to work out something else that will satisfy our policies and avoid that predicament.

CJN: *Is there any progress in the negotiations to have the Hezbollah return the bodies of IDF soldiers?*

NETANYAHU: Not yet. We are not, by the way, negotiating with Hezbollah. We are dealing with the Lebanese government. We see them as the responsible party in Lebanon. I have been talking to several leaders including President Chirac and Madeleine Albright on this matter and I hope that there will be a satisfactory solution that means bringing the body of Sgt. Maj. Itamar Iliya (one of the 11 commandos killed in an abortive raid into Lebanon on Sept. 5) for a decent burial in Israel.

We also have good reason to believe that Ron Arad is alive. We have a good basis to believe that. Also as far as the other MiAs are concerned, we are not considering anything other that they are living. We are constantly seeking new information in all the cases.

CJN: *In your speech following your election victory, you said that you saw yourself as the prime minister of all the people. Today, Israeli society is very fragmented across political, religious and social lines. Do you still see yourself as the prime minister of all the people?*

NETANYAHU: I certainly view myself as the prime minister of the citizens of all of Israel. It is true that some on the left cannot forgive me for winning the election and they refuse to accept the democratic decision of the people of Israel. But that is their problem more than mine. I view this as unfortunate because I always regarded the democratically elected government as my government, even when I was in opposition or just a plain citizen. That is the standard I expect from everyone else. Indeed the standard of recrimination in Israeli society is high, too high, and we tend to focus on the things that divide us rather than the things that unite us across the board. I don't think that the divisions between secular and religious Jews, Ashkenazim and Sephardim, and between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, as the proverbial division has it, are nearly as great as the differences between us and the neighborhood we live in.

CJN: *Can we ever have a normal peace with security with our Arab neighbors?*

NETANYAHU: We should not delude ourselves as to the nature of the peace — it cannot be a western-style peace, because we are not facing western-style societies or democracies. They are not regimes that are daily and continually accountable to the population. If we understood that, we would foster greater unity among ourselves, because the expectations of some of us for peace are unrealistic. As a result, we vent our frustration on each other.

We must not give up hope. I believe that peace with security is achievable, but only if we insist on our right not to be killed; not to make impossible concessions as opposed to realistic ones for the sake of not being killed.

We have every right to expect our partners for peace to police their own areas against terrorism. That was the crux of the deal signed by the late Yitzhak Rabin and Arafat, and it has not been kept. The only way it will be kept is if we insist on it being kept. I think that these are principles we can unite by. With persistence and solidarity, we can achieve most of our goals. Weakened and divided we will achieve nothing.

CJN: *If it is not going to be a western-style peace what kind of peace will it be?*

NETANYAHU: I have just read a brilliant book by Prof. Samuel Huntingdon called *The Clash of Civilizations*. He describes the emergence of the post Cold War world into a world that has seven or eight main civilizations. We are clearly part of the western civilization, of course, enthused by our own unique Jewish values and Jewish heritage.

Most of the problems with our neighbors derive from deep cultural differences and we are the meeting ground of these two cultures — the western culture and the Muslim culture. We seem to think that if we will do only this, that we will have a western type of peace. We seem to blame one another for the structural problems of making peace.

One of the things we should do is tailor down our expectations of what peace can be like. For example, we have had peace for over 20 years with Egypt. It is not a western-style peace — it is a cold peace — a great deal better than a hot war. It is not the full- fledged exchanges that we dreamed about when we signed the Camp David accords.

I don't think the normalization is going to provide the rosy future we all talk about. Normalization between us and our Arab neighbors is always reversible. Witness what has happened with Azzam Azzam. It is reversible, malleable and fragile. One thing that has been kept in our peace agreement with Egypt is our durable security agreements; they have been the foundation of the peace agreement between the two countries. Therefore, I believe it is possible to achieve with our other neighbors as well, agreements that are built on solid security foundations.

CJN: *How do you see Iran and Iraq fitting into this equation of peace and normalization.*

NETANYAHU: Iran and Iraq are two radical regimes who have been feverishly trying to arm themselves over the last decade with ballistic missiles and unconventional warheads, with the aim of destroying us. A final peace settlement with the Palestinians and possibly with the Syrians and by extension the Lebanese as well, will not materially effect the danger that Iran poses to Israel; it also will not sway Iraq to become less radical. Indeed, if Iran acquires ballistic missiles with the unimpeded help of Russian technology, this will create a change in the power balance of the Middle East; it will begin to erode the existing and new peace agreements that we will sign.

Just remember how certain small countries that are friendly to Israel gravitated to Saddam Hussein's orbit when he loomed large before he was defeated in the Gulf War. Think of what enormous power and sway Iran would have so that it would affect countries that have signed peace treaties with us and those that will in the future. It will affect Hamas and Hezbollah and will embolden them.

This is something that has to be stopped now. We have turned to the United States to help us, to persuade the Russians to stop this flow of technology, which we believe is a danger to Russia as well. I think that these are realistic assessments of what the situation is like. Peace is achievable with our neighbors. I think it would be a durable peace. It will not be a peace of western Europe — we are not in western Europe.

The interview with Prime Minister Netanyahu will continue in next week's issue.

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The News in Brief

Orthodox Unite Against Pluralism

NEW YORK — In their strongest and most unified public stance to date about religious pluralism and Jewish unity, four major American Orthodox organizations have issued a joint High Holiday statement condemning those who have challenged Israel's religious status quo.

In the statement titled A Heartfelt Message to our Fellow Jews, the four groups — Agudath Israel of America, the National Council of Young Israel, the Rabbinical Council of America and the Orthodox Union — confirm their commitment to a single halachic standard in Israel and implore all Jews "to shun unworthy political posturing, as well as political, economic and social pressure."

Lithuanian Jews Compensation

MOSCOW — A German province is planning to compensate and lobby for Lithuania's Holocaust survivors.

The Brandenburg parliament has already earmarked several thousand dollars to compensate Jews living in the Baltic nation, and it intends to ask the German government to further compensate these survivors, according to Herbert Knoblich, chair of the province's parliament.

Knoblich made the comments in a meeting with the leadership of Lithuania's Jewish community in Vilnius, the country's capital.

Vandals Deface Tombstones

NEW YORK — Community leaders and elected officials are taking steps to improve security at a Jewish cemetery and counter bias on New York's Staten Island.

Some 150 headstones were overturned and about seven were defaced with swastikas between the evening of Sept. 13 and the afternoon of Sept. 14. It was the seventh apparent bias attack on the grounds since June, according to cemetery superintendent Raphael Bochbot.

New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani has issued a $10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest.

Five Million Tourists Expected in Year 2000

JERUSALEM — Although Pope John Paul II has said that celebrations for the year 2000 are to take place simultaneously in Rome and the Holy Land, Israel has been unable to obtain any schedule of events or plans for the year from the Roman Catholics, said tourism ministry Director-General David Litvak.

Litvak said that Israel had been in contact with many Christian bodies, including Protestants from the U.S. Bible belt and Russian Orthodox from the former Soviet Union. He added that despite the problems, the Roman Catholics were nonetheless the most organized of the Christian bodies involved in preparing for the Christian jubilee year, during which hundreds of thousands of Christian pilgrims are expected.

He said he hoped that as many as five million visitors would come during the year, compared to the present annual influx of about 2.5 million. If that number did come, he added, the country would be able to accommodate them.

As a Jewish state, Israel did not want to dictate to the Christians how they should organize their celebration, Litvak said. At the same time, he added, it was necessary to identify the bottlenecks and prepare for them so that the pilgrims would indeed be able to have a meaningful visit.

Peres Creating New Peace Institute

JERUSALEM — Former Prime Minister Shimon Peres has announced the creation of an institute aimed at advancing regional peace efforts.

The Peres Peace Centre, which will be inaugurated next month, plans to initiate regional projects focusing on economic, technological and educational cooperation.

The centre will work to identify strategies for regional agricultural development, and it plans to host dialogues between Israelis and Arabs.

Israelis Return Home From Jericho

JERUSALEM — Ten homeless families have returned to Israel after spending nearly a month in Jericho, where they had sought — and received — asylum from the Palestinian Authority.

The families had sought refuge in the Palestinian self-rule area after being evicted from the Jewish Agency's absorption centre in Mevasseret Zion, where they had illegally moved in with other families. Palestinian Preventive Security Service head Jibril Rajoub had welcomed them, and set the families up in a Jericho hotel.

However, the arrangement seemed unsuitable to Gesher Knesset member Maxim Levy, who, in the reconciliatory spirit of the upcoming holidays, urged the families to return to Israel.

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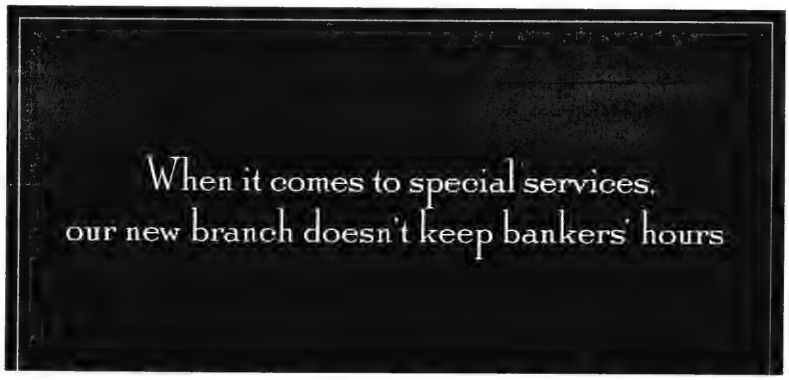

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The Year 5757 in Review

A difficult year for Israel...

Tishrei (Sept./Oct.)

EVENTS

• Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat, Jordan's King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak meet in Washington at President Bill Clinton's invitation to resume peace negotiations.

• The opening of an exit of the Western Wall Tunnel into the Muslim Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem triggers days of violent clashes in which dozens are killed and hundreds are wounded.

• Hundreds of Palestinian police and armed demonstrators storm Joseph's Tomb, killing six Israeli soldiers and wounding eight.

• The 137-year-old Dohany Street Synagogue in Hungary, the largest synagogue in Europe, reopens after extensive renovations.

• Holocaust survivors in New York file a $20-billion (US) class action lawsuit, claiming Swiss banks are refusing to return money and other assets belonging to victims.

PEOPLE

• Canadian Jewish filmmakers Simcha Jacobovici and Elliot Halpern win an Emmy Award for "outstanding investigative journalism" for their documentary, *The Plague Monkeys*.

• Jim Keegstra is fined $3,000 and ordered to perform 200 hours of community service as punishment for promoting hatred against Jews. Charges against him were laid in 1984.

• David Sultan, Israel's new ambassador to Canada, arrives in Ottawa.

• Nava Mizrachi, 17, of Vancouver, is elected international president of B'nai Brith Girls of B'nai Brith Youth Organization, the world's largest international Jewish youth organization.

• Rabbi Raphael Soloveitchik, leader of the Brisk community of Lithuanian Haredim, dies at age 70.

Cheshvan (Oct./Nov.)

EVENTS

• Israel and the world Jewish community mark the first yahrzeit of Yitzhak Rabin.

• Israel's High Court of Justice rules that women are entitled to equal worship at the Western Wall, allowing the group Women of the Wall to read from the Torah and wear tallitot while praying there.

• The Hungarian parliament approves a government plan to partially compensate Hungarian Jews for property confiscated during the Holocaust.

• Prime Minister Netanyahu calls for the resumption of peace talks with Syria and warns them against any further attacks.

PEOPLE

• Chen Ivri, chargé d'affaires, becomes counsellor at the Israeli Embassy in Ottawa on Oct. 17.

Kislev (Nov./Dec.)

• Canada's Supreme Court rules against public funding of Jewish day schools in Ontario after a 12-year fight by the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

• The High Court of Justice of Israel rules that rabbinical courts do not have the right to impose sanctions on religious Jews who refuse to accept the rulings of civil courts.

• The World Jewish Congress (WJC) plans a protest against the government of Poland regarding the Polish policy on restitution of properties of Holocaust victims.

The wreckage of the helicopter crash at Shaar Yishuv.

• An Ethiopian airliner crashes into the Indian Ocean after being hijacked; seven Israelis are reported missing.

• Israel and Turkey sign an accord to continue defence cooperation in 1997.

• The Chesed Avot Charity Centre, the largest Jewish relief centre for Holocaust survivors in the former Soviet Union, opens with proceeds from restituted property in Germany.

PEOPLE

• Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert is indicted for fraud offenses pertaining to the 1988 Knesset elections.

• Steve Rambam, an American investigator who interviewed 62 alleged Nazi war criminals living in Canada, plans to give his list to the CJC, who will forward it to Canadian law enforcement officials.

• Peter Bronfman, 67, dies the day before he is to be presented with the Order of Canada for patronage of the arts, charities, hospitals and universities in Toronto and Montreal. The award is presented posthumously.

• Irit Waidergorn is appointed Israeli consul to Toronto and Western Canada.

Tevet (Dec./Jan.)

EVENTS

• Montreal's Orthodox Jews get their own emergency medical response service, Hatzoloh.

• IDF reveals that a special forces unit known as Egoz has been operating against Hezbollah guerrillas in southern Lebanon for over a year.

• The Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement (CIFTA) is passed by Parliament. It takes effect on Jan. 1, 1997.

• The International Committee of the Red Cross releases documents from World War II showing they knew about the persecution of Jews in Nazi death camps, but claimed they didn't know what action to take.

PEOPLE

• Etta Tzur and her 12-year-old son Ephraim are killed in an ambush by three Palestinian terrorists near their home in Beit El. Her husband and her four daughters are wounded in the attack that comes on the 28th anniversary of the founding of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

• Rabbi M. Mitchell Serels, director of the Sephardi community programs at Yeshiva University, is the first rabbi to be knighted by Spain's King Juan Carlos I.

• Prof. Karl Skorecki, senior nephrologist at Rambam Hospital in Haifa, announces the results of a study showing that Jews of the priestly tribe (kohanim) share a variation of the Y chromosome.

Shvat (Jan./Feb.)

EVENTS

• Natan Sharansky, Israel's minister of industry and trade, visits Moscow for the first time since he was freed from a Russian jail in 1986.

• Two bombs explode near Tel Aviv's central bus station, injuring at least 13 people. No one claims responsibility.

• Israel signs an accord establishing IDF redeployment from Hebron and the next phases of redeployment from the West Bank. In three instalments, Israel will hand over all of Judea and Samaria, excluding the desert area. Arafat declares Hebron liberated and announces that Israel has made peace with the Palestinians and Palestinians should not confront Hebron's Jews.

• Israel's population hits 5.764 million, 80.8 percent Jewish and 14.6 percent Muslim.

• Switzerland agrees to establish a fund to compensate Holocaust victims and their heirs for assets that disappeared into the Swiss banking system during the war.

• Seventy-three Israeli soldiers were killed when two helicopters in which they were being transported, collided over Shaar Yishuv in northern Israel.

PEOPLE

• Jerusalem District Court Judge Elyakim Rubinstein becomes attorney-general.

Adar I (Feb./Mar.)

EVENTS

• Israel and Mexico sign an agreement to fight drug trafficking between the two countries.

• Israel and China agree to increase their trade and economic cooperation.

• Poland's parliament approves a bill that allows its surviving Jewish communities (estimated at 3,000 to 5,000 people) to recover property lost during and after the Holocaust.

• The Lubavitch movement seeks to reclaim documents and properties in Russia that once housed Lubavitch facilities and were associated with the Lubavitcher rebbes.

• Israel breaks ground for the construction of the Jewish neighborhood of Har Choma in south-east Jerusalem, despite worldwide opposition.

• Canadian federal authorities identify the ninth and 10th suspected Nazi war criminals in Canada who will face deportation proceedings.

• Seven hundred people, mainly women, convene in New York City for the first International Conference on Orthodoxy and Feminism.

PEOPLE

• David Tenenbaum, a Detroit Jew, is accused of spying for Israel.

• Maurice Lucow, former editor of *The CJN*, dies at age 78.

Adar II (Mar./Apr.)

EVENTS

• Seven Israeli schoolgirls are killed and five others and their teacher wounded, when a crazed Jordanian soldier opens fire at them as they tour the Island of Peace in the Jordanian Valley.

• A suicide bomber detonates a three-kilogram bomb packed with nails and pieces of metal in the packed Apropo cafe in Tel Aviv on March 21, Purim eve, killing three women and injuring 48.

• The Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada issues a formal ruling condemning the religious practices of Conservative and Reform Judaism, claiming that under Jewish law these branches are invalid.

• The Israeli cabinet bars the legal recognition of Conservative and Reform conversions performed in Israel.

• Israel's attorney general decides not to bring charges against Prime Minister Netanyahu in connection with allegations of improper conduct in the "Bar-On affair."

PEOPLE

• Prime Minister Netanyahu visits Russia for the first time since taking office. This is also his first meeting with Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Nissan (Apr./May)

EVENTS

• A poll reveals that most Palestinians favor bombings over the peace process.

• The Howard Johnson hotel chain comes to Israel.

• The High Court of Justice overturns the decision to close Rehov Bar Ilan to traffic during prayer times on Shabbat and holidays.

• Israel rejects Syria's offer to renew peace talks, because of the Syrian stipulation that Israel must agree beforehand to a full withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

• Two Israeli hikers, Hagit Zavitz and Liat Kastiel, are murdered in Wadi Kelt.

• Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, Israel's Ashkenazi chief rabbi, visits Vancouver.

PEOPLE

• Chaim Herzog, Israel's sixth president, dies in Tel Aviv. He was 79.

• Nechama Leibowitz, one of Israel's most revered teachers of Torah study, dies in Jerusalem. She was 92.

• Accused Nazi war criminal Joseph

[Cont'd on page 51]

...more terrorism and withering of peace process

[Cont'd from page 50]

Nemsila dies. Ottawa had been trying to deport him. He was 84.

Iyar (May/June)

EVENTS

• A coalition of Canadian religious leaders meets with Justice Minister Allan Rock to press for increased efforts in the pursuit of alleged Nazi war criminals.

• A combat pilot is the first Israeli chosen to train as an astronaut for a possible NASA shuttle mission.

• The trial of Wasily Bogutin, accused of war crimes in Ukraine, begins in Toronto.

Herb Gray becomes Canada's deputy prime minister.

• Sixteen Jewish federal civil servants lose their bid for paid leave to observe Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The Canadian Federal Court of Appeal rules that the government's policy of paid time off does not discriminate against Jewish employees by not giving these days off.

• Israel's Labor party formally endorses the Palestinians' right to a state with limited sovereignty.

• The $265-million (US) fund established by banks and businesses in Switzerland for Holocaust survivors becomes operational.

• Rehov Bar-Ilan closes for 7½ hours during prayer times and is open to traffic the rest of the day without incident, after a decision by the government to close the street during prayer times on Shabbat and Jewish holidays.

• Former Israeli Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman is acquitted of perjury and obstruction of justice charges.

• Farid Bashiti, an Arab real estate agent who sold land to Jews, is murdered and denied a Muslim burial after Arafat orders security forces to prevent land sales to Jews.

• Eduards Podins, 78, becomes the 11th man in Canada facing deportation for his war crimes in Latvia.

PEOPLE

• Kurt Rothschild receives the 1997 Jerusalem Prize for Jewish Education in the Diaspora.

Sivan (June/July)

EVENTS

• Violence erupts in Hebron when hundreds of Palestinians throw stones and firebombs at Israeli troops; Palestinian police do not intervene. This comes after the U.S. House of Representatives passes a resolution calling on President Clinton to reaffirm that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of Israel.

• The last existing children's house, a kibbutz home where all children are raised together, is closed on Kibbutz Baram.

• A thief averts a bomb attack on an Israeli beach by stealing the bag holding the bomb.

• Ehud Barak is elected leader of the Labor party.

PEOPLE

• Naomi Frankenberg is elected as president of the Jewish National Fund (JNF).

• Herb Gray is sworn in as Canada's first full-time deputy prime minister.

• Steven Rambam, who compiled a list of Nazi war criminals residing in Canada, ends his pursuit of suspected war criminals because, he says, he lacks the support of Canada's Jewish community.

Tammuz (July/Aug.)

EVENTS

• Violent clashes between Palestinian protesters and Israeli soldiers spread throughout Hebron after a Jerusalem woman distributes fliers depiciting the prophet Mohammed as a pig stomping on the Koran.

• The architecture faculty, students and alumni of University of Waterloo and Clark University in Massachusetts develop a proposal to reconstruct the state museum at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

• Italy announces it will return to Jews five sacks of valuables plundered by the Nazis. The sacks were recently discovered in a Treasury vault. In related developments, an Italian court gives reduced sentences to two former Nazis, SS Capt. Erich Priebke and SS maj. Karl Hass.

• A bridge collapses at the opening ceremonies of the 15th Maccabiah Games in Ramat Gan, Israel, killing five Australian team members and injuring over 60 other Australians and some Austrians.

• Canadian athletes bring home 80 medals from the Maccabiah games.

• Two Canadians are stabbed by a Palestinian in an attack in a sidewalk cafe in Jaffa.

Chaim Herzog passed away in Nissan.

• The Swiss Bankers Association publishes a list on the Internet and in a number of newspapers world-wide of 1,872 names linked to 1,756 dormant bank accounts from the World War II period.

• Fifteen people are killed and more than 150 wounded in a double suicide bombing in the Machane Yehuda marketplace in Jerusalem. As a result, Israel suspends peace talks with the Palestinians.

• Three people are arrested in a Brooklyn, N.Y., apartment for possessing bombs and explosives and planning an attack related to the bombings in Israel.

PEOPLE

• Ya'acov Ne'eman is appointed as finance minister by Prime Minister Netanyahu.

Nehama Leibowitz passed away in Nissan. ***Photo from the Jerusalem Report***

• Mamertas Rolland Maciukes, 73, is named as the 12th man facing deportation from Canada for his alleged participation in war crimes in Lithuania during World War II.

• Prime Minister Netanyahu announces that he is opposed to a proposed housing project in Ras al-Amud in east Jerusalem.

• Joel Kamnitzer, 18, of Toronto, wins a silver medal at the 28th International Physics Olympiad.

Av (Aug./Sept.)

EVENTS

• Israeli police disperse a crowd of egalitarian worshippers on Tisha b'Av from the plaza of the Western Wall, prompting outrage from the group, who had a permit to be there.

• Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy sends a letter to Arafat, urging him to act more forcefully in combatting terrorism.

• A genetic mutation that predisposes Ashkenazi Jews to colon cancer is discovered at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland.

• Four IDF soldiers are burned to death and six others wounded when caught in the middle of a brushfire, following a gun battle in southern Lebanon.

• Israeli soldiers and Palestinian police hold a first-ever joint exercise, simulating a car-bomb attack. The IDF praises its success.

PEOPLE

• An immigration tribunal rules that Konrad Kalejs is accountable for his wartime crimes. He is ordered deported immediately and leaves Canada within hours of the judgment's being rendered.

• Roelof Vis, who immigrated to Canada in 1981, is honored by Yad Vashem as a Righteous Person Among the Nations for his activities during World War II.

• Maj. Daniel Okev, an Israeli soldier, admits to murdering two British tourists, but offers no motive for his crime.

• Ladislaus Csizsik-Csatary, an alleged Nazi war criminal, is stripped of his Canadian citizenship, paving the way for his deportation.

Elul (Sept./Oct.)

EVENTS

• Five people are killed and more than 200 injured when three suicide bombers detonate themselves in the Ben Yehuda pedestrian mall in Jerusalem.

• David Levy, Israel's foreign minister attends the opening of North America's largest Sephardi centre in Vaughan, Ontario. The 93,000-square-foot Sephardic Kehila Centre houses the Or Haemet Sephardic School, the Abir Yaacov synagogue, a banquet hall, a swimming pool, underground parking, a mikvah, offices and other amenities.

• Madeleine Albright makes her first visit to the Middle East as U.S. secretary of state. She meets with Prime Minister Netanyahu and Chairman Arafat, urging them both to make the "hard" decisions necessary to get peace talks back on track. To Netanyahu she says Israel must avoid authorizing any new settlements; to Arafat she says the Palestinian Authority must pull out all stops to fight terror.

• A botched raid into south Lebanon by an elite squad of Israeli navy seal commandos leaves 11 dead and one missing, presumed to be dead. The IDF immediately sets up an inquiry into the failed raid.

• Calls are renewed for Israel to investigate allegations that babies from Yemenite immigrants were stolen in the late '40s and early '50s and given to survivors of the Shoah. The calls were prompted after a grave of an infant was opened and found to be empty.

• The 100th anniversary of the modern Zionist movement is celebrated in Basel, Switzerland, in the hotel where Theodor Herzl convened the founding conference.

• Archeologists near Caesarea find ruins of rooms probably used by the Roman secret police for torture of their prisoners.

PEOPLE

• Vancouver dentist, Sherri Wise, 27, is one of the hundreds of people injured by the suicide bombers on Ben Yehuda Street.

• Canadian filmmakers Simcha Jacobovici and Elliot Halpern win an Emmy Award for the second year in a row for excellence in investigative journalism. The Emmy is awarded for *The Selling of Innocents*, a film about the sexual exploitation of young girls in India.

The Year in Review was compiled by Reva Kaiser one of *The CJN*'s summertime student interns.

Travel, Arts & Business

Poor script makes espionage 'thriller' a bore

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

You'd think a feature film about one of the world's most notorious terrorists, Carlos (The Jackal) Sanchez, would make one's adrenaline run. But *The Assignment*, which is loosely inspired by the manhunt for Carlos, is strangely flat.

In theory, *The Assignment*, now playing in theatres here, should engender a mounting sense of excitement. The story line is full of twists and turns. Bombs go off. Car chases and shootouts fill the screen. The locales — Paris, Jerusalem and Tripoli — are colorful, if not exotic. There is a stellar cast.

And yet this film, starring Aidan Quinn, Donald Sutherland and Ben Kingsley, falters.

Directed by Christian Duguay, *The Assignment* turns on a clever conceit: the physical resemblance between Carlos and Annibal Ramirez, an American naval officer. If Ramirez can be recruited by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Israeli Mossad, Carlos' days may be numbered.

The movie opens as a terrorist bomb, planted by Carlos, explodes in a Paris cafe. The scene then shifts to Vienna, where Carlos and his cohorts kidnap ministers attending a meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Having established Carlos' credentials as a ruthless terrorist, Duguay cuts to an Arab neighborhood in Jerusalem. Ramirez (Quinn) is enjoying the sights when, suddenly, several swarthy men start chasing him. He is caught, taken to a safe house and interrogated by a Mossad agent named Amos (Kingsley), who has clearly mistaken him for Carlos.

With profuse apologies, Amos releases Ramirez. Enter Jack Shaw (Sutherland), a manipulative CIA counter-intelligence specialist. "You are the only one who can get The Jackal," he says, trying to flatter him. Reluctantly, Ramirez — a fine family man — signs on to impersonate Carlos (Quinn) and to draw him out of hiding and into a trap.

Before he embarks on this quest, he is put through a series of harrowing exercises to test his mettle. Passing these with flying colors, he is sent to Libya to abduct Carlos, a man who has a weakness for the pleasures of the flesh, as several steamy and exploitive scenes suggest.

The plan does not unfold as expected, and Ramirez fails to snare Carlos. This is followed by a tragic incident in London and a bit of gun play in East Berlin.

The cast is acceptably good, though Sutherland's smirk is hardly endearing. The trouble lies with the script, which is less than compelling, and with the pacing, which is uneven. Consequently, this espionage thriller tends to be more boring than gripping.

Ben Kingsley

It's really a pity. What could have been a scintillating movie is lost in the telling.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

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Karen Shaw and Debora & Nahum Watkin happily announce the engagement of Maria to Ori. Proud grandparents are Helen & Saul Kravetz, Pnina & Baruch Watkin.

Mazel tov to Edward Disenhouse, son of Sid & Regina Disenhouse, on his recent bar mitzvah in Toronto.

Mazel tov on the birth of Max Dakota Lee to Evan Lee & Debra Snider, grandparents Marilyn Snider, Gary Snider, Patti & Jerry Starr and Marvin Lee.

Mazel tov to Tara & Gidon from parents Sybil & Barry Berenstein, Pnina & Uri Lenga, grandparents Leah Berenstein, Annette & Eric Exton and Bella Rochwerg.

Mazel tov Elisa & Mark on your engagement. Proud family are Sam and the late Helen Feig, Ronald & Lil Jacobson, Zaydes Sam Krone and Sam Leibovici.

Congratulations to Karen & Bill Faith on your 25th anniversary from Andrew, Jessica, Sheryl, Lucille & Manny Faith, Sam Salsberg and Molly – and Sunny.

Congratulations to Lucille & Manny Faith on your 50th wedding anniversary from Bill & Karen, Terri & David, Andrew, Jessica, Sheryl, Sam Salsberg and Molly Walker.

Mazel tov to Ibi & Sandor Weiss on your 50th wedding anniversary. Many more in good health. Love, Joel, Sophie, Robyn and Jeffrey.

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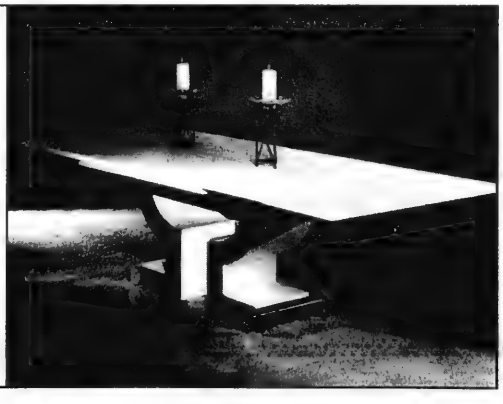

Travel, Arts & Business

Documentary focuses on teacher's unique fight against prejudice

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Jane Elliott is a brusque, outwardly mean and controversial figure. She's an American educator who has been fighting prejudice for the past 30 years through the medium of "diversity training."

Elliott, a former Grade 3 teacher in a small insular town where discrimination against blacks was the norm, developed the concept for her students after the assassination of black civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. She wanted them to understand the implications of King's crusade and death.

Arbitrarily dividing her class into two groups – "blue-eyed" and "brown-eyed" – Elliott drove home the point that prejudice is ugly and based on ignorance.

Her courageous efforts caused an immediate backlash, resulting in her social ostracism (she was branded a "nigger lover"), in her family's financial ruin and in her ultimate banishment from a community in which she had been raised.

Elliott, a true subversive, persisted, and today her methods are widely considered enlightened. Indeed, some of her students have been profoundly influenced by diversity training, which inspires tolerance and empathy.

On Oct. 8 at 10 p.m., she will be the focus of *Blue-Eyed*, a German documentary that kicks off TV-Ontario's Human Edge series.

Elliott claims that the U.S. education system is culturally biased in favor of whites, and that racism is perpetuated by well-meaning people who do nothing about it.

In the spirit of turning the tables on the smug majority, Elliott divides a class into "haves" (brown-eyed) and "have-nots" (blue-eyed). Her objective is to make whites feel what it is like to be black, gay or disabled in America.

"I want them to be uncomfortable," she says, hardly mincing her words.

Jews are excluded from Elliott's broad category of the oppressed. But she recalls that a Jewish student once observed that her workshop reminded her of what it was like to be a Jew in Nazi Germany.

As Bertram Verhaag's film illustrates beyond any doubt, Elliott is a hard-eyed taskmaster who occasionally reduces her students to tears. But Elliott knows exactly what she is doing – breaking down barriers that cause divisions in society.

Women of Reform calendar

Let the New Year and its Blessings Begin (right) is the name of a tapestry designed by Czech-born artist and Holocaust survivor Marta Hauer, now living in Toronto.

The painting is on the cover of the newest calendar put out by the Women of Reform Judaism.

The title of the painting comes from a medieval poem written by Rabbi Abraham Chazan recited on the first day of Rosh Hashanah.

It is one of seven paintings by the artist in the pocket-size calendar for 5758.

The calendar lists weekly Torah and Haftorah portions, Jewish, American and Canadian holidays, and provides space for appointments.

Other paintings in the calendar include a ceremonial Passover matzah pouch with a pomegranate design; an abstract ink-embossed collage called *Beresheet* and a silk collage challah cover depicting a dramatic Shabbat night sky.

Hauer survived the Teresienstadt concentration camp and moved to Israel after the war. After living in California, she moved to Toronto where she became well-known among Canadian and U.S. interior decorators for her hand-painted wallpapers and hangings. She has published two books with illustrations of her designs.

For information on the calendar call 212-650-4050.

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Travel Talk

by Bill Gladstone

JEWISH MONTREAL A FLAVORFUL EXPERIENCE

Having once lived briefly in Montreal, I still feel a special attachment to the city's European ambience, its old quarter, its staid park on Mount Royal, its historic architecture – and yes, its churches.

With its twin bell towers and magnificent interior, the Notre Dame Basilica (designed 1829) draws more visitors than any other site in Montreal.

From the 626-foot inclined Olympic Tower, one may easily study the Montreal skyline, referring to the labelled photographs and diagrams to identify major buildings and bridges. During the same outing, one might also visit the nearby Biodome, a vast environmental museum housing four distinct ecosystems; and the Insectarium, with its multitudes of assorted bugs.

For culture, the Museum of Fine Arts is celebrated; for history, the Point-A-Callière Museum deserves equal fame. Situated in the old city, Point-A-Callière illuminates Monfreal's past on the very ground where it was founded in 1642, and shows a short but brilliant multi-media presentation into the city's history.

Although the downtown Jews have largely departed to suburbs like Snowdon, Hampstead and Côte Saint-Luc, signs of their former presence are evident in the neighborhood around St. Laurent north of Sherbrooke, now populated by a mix of Portuguese, Greeks, Italians and Asians.

St. Laurent, the central boulevard also known as The Main, still roughly divides Montreal into two solitudes, French to the east and English to the west.

But smoked meat speaks its own language, which explains the popularity of Schwartz's, the famous deli at 3895 St. Laurent.

Another famous eatery, Moishe's Steakhouse, is a few doors north at 3961. "This neighborhood is traditionally where immigrants first settled in Montreal," says Moishe's co-owner, Leonard Lighter.

"This is where the Jewish immigrants arrived in the early part of the century. Then they moved uptown."

At St. Laurent near Sherbrooke, the Just For Laughs Museum occupies a former brewery once owned by the Jewish Ekers family, while the gray mansion at Clark and Sherbrooke is the former home of William Notman, a 19th-century Jewish photographer who was the Yousuf Karsh of his day.

Designated an architectural monument, the row of buildings at 3660 St. Laurent once held a Yiddish theatre, while Theatre Quatsous at Pine and Coloniale occupies a former synagogue.

Beth Shlomo, a small Orthodox synagogue at Clark and Bagg, dates from the 1920s and is the last operational shul in the neighborhood; services are still held on Saturday mornings.

At 4251 St. Urbain is Baron Byng, the former high school whose alumnae include David Lewis, A.M. Klein, Irving Layton and Mordecai Richler.

Wilensky's (34 Fairmount Ave.) is the unreconstructed restaurant featured in Richler's *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*.

Famed for their distinctive taste, Montreal's bagels owe their renown largely to the ovens of two modest bagel bakeries, the Bagel Shop at 263 St. Viateur W. and Fairmount Bagels at 74 Fairmount W.

"We use the old style of baking to produce about 25 dozen an hour, up to 1,000 dozen a day," says Fairmount proprietor Irwin Shlafman.

An extraordinary community of chassidic Jews – Orthodox followers of the 18th-century Baal Shem Tov and his spiritual heirs – is centred in the Fairmount area and neighboring Outremont. The largest groups are the Satmar and the Belz; the Lubavitchers are centred in Snowdon.

All told, there are some 12,000 Yiddish-speaking chassidic Jews in the area – including a group of more than 100 families, followers of the Tosher Rebbe, who live in outlying Boisbriand near St. Jerome.

The Cummings Building at 5151 Côte Ste-Catherine, across from the Saidye Bronfman Theatre, houses several important organizations and institutions of the present-day community. Here you'll find the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre and the Jewish Public Library, whose 100,000-volume Judaic collection is one of the best of its kind in Canada.

Before your next visit to Montreal, contact the Jewish Information Referral Service (514-737-2221) for a free list of synagogues, kosher restaurants, Jewish bookshops and other points of Jewish interest.

On my numerous business trips to Montreal, I've travelled from Toronto by Via Rail and stayed at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, adjacent to the train station in Montreal. I've found it a convenient combination, getting me comfortably from one downtown to the other in as little as four hours.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

As we turn the page into the New Year of 5758, Eye On Arts presents its annual survey of what some people in the literary community are reading

Matt Cohen as he was last seen by *The CJN* in 1988.

Toronto writer **Matt Cohen**, whose latest novel *Last Seen* is now out in paperback, has been reading *The Projectionist* by **Michael Helms** (Douglas & McIntyre), which, he says, "is quite dazzling. I think it'll redefine Prairie writing just as **Sinclair Ross** and **Rudy Wiebe** did in the 1950s and the 1970s.

"It's about a man at the crossroads of his life in various ways, someone who lives in a small town almost being forced out of it by his own behavior. I'm in the middle of reading it and pretty curious to know how it will end. It's a first novel and very impressive."

Ellen Seligman, editorial director of fiction at McClelland & Stewart, doesn't always have time for the luxury of reading published works, so she cites a book still in manuscript form: *Childhood*, a first novel by **Andre Alexis** that tells the life story of a southern Ontario man.

It's slated for publication by McClelland & Stewart next spring.

"It's a difficult love story with the past," says Seligman. "The fulcrum of the narrative comes when the estranged mother comes and takes the 10-year-old boy with her to Ottawa…The intelligence and lucidity of the prose and the subtle way that Alexis angles into things is quite extraordinary. It's really a remarkable journey."

The Tunnel by **William H. Gass** (Knopf) is "a high modernist novel, a stream of consciousness kind of thing without any straight-line plot," says playwright-humorist **Michael Wex**, who finds it "extremely hard reading but very good."

The book centres upon an academic in the American Midwest who has written a "vast rambling meditation on guilt and innocence in Hitler's Germany. He's one of these academics with a love affair with German culture who can't quite figure out how all these terrible things happened."

Writer **Libby Scheier**, director of the Toronto Writing Workshop, is reading "two books, both of which are associated with the Jewish Renewal movement – with a capital 'R,'"

The first is *The Jew in The Lotus*, by **Rodger Kamenetz** (HarperCollins). "a wonderful book about a group of Jews, ranging from Orthodox to Reform, who go to visit the Dalai Lama. It's a non-fiction travel book full of spiritual beauty."

The second is *On Being A Jewish Feminist*, a collection of essays edited by **Susannah Heschel**. "She's the daughter of **Abram Heschel**, the great spiritual thinker. So it's interesting to see someone who grew up in that environment putting it together in a feminist framework."

Phillip Roth's *American Pastoral* (Houghton Mifflin) "is Roth's best novel in years," according to publisher **Malcolm Lester**, head of the recently launched Malcolm Lester Books.

"The writing is exceptionally powerful and the theme is also quite compelling; namely, how an ordinary virtuous man has been betrayed by the values that he tried to live up to. In a way it's an indictment of the '60s counterculture."

Lester also mentioned *The Secret Book of Grazia dei Rossi* by **Jacqueline Park** (Simon & Schuster), "a new book that deals with the Jewish community in Renaissance Italy in the 16th century. It's for anyone who likes historical fiction. Park is a Canadian who lives in New York. She's in her 70s and this is her first novel."

Translator-writer **Hindy Nosek-Abelson** is currently reading two Canadian bestsellers, *Fall Down On Your Knees* by **Ann-Marie MacDonald** (Vintage) and *Fugitive Pieces* by **Anne Michaels** (McClelland & Stewart).

MacDonald's book "is really interesting, it's kind of like [**John Irving**'s] *The World According to Garp*" while Michaels' "is a great work of poetry – I'm hanging onto every word."

However, they are, in a way, "opposite" to each other, Nosek-Abelson notes: "Michaels is lyrically magnificent in an uplifting way and MacDonald is lyrically magnificent in a very dark way."

Reached in Fredericton, where he recently started teaching creative writing and literature at the University of New Brunswick, writer **Norman Ravvin** praised *The Simple Truth*, a book of poems by **Philip Levine** (Knopf).

"He tells totally crafted stories and does beautiful character portraits of more or less average people."

Ravvin is also reading *Sleeping Weather*, a new novel by Toronto writer **Cary Fagan** (Porcupine's Quill). "It's a good Toronto story with a haunting, suspenseful power to it. Again, it's about very average lives. It's a very private story about a family's life together on a Toronto street."

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Business Profile

The Prince Arthur — Minto's $100 million venture

Greenberg's Yorkville condos promise luxury

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Social-trend mavens these days are telling us that after years of penny-pinching, restraint and belt-tightening, it may be time to kick back and pamper ourselves.

Alan Greenberg is banking on that, and his project in the heart of Yorkville will be a monument to the good life.

The Prince Arthur, a $100-million luxury condominium complex, is the latest offering from Minto Developments, the Ottawa-based real estate company headed by the Greenberg family, who are among the Ottawa Jewish community's leading fundraisers and activists.

The first condo project to be built in trendy Yorkville in a decade, the Prince Arthur hopes to epitomize urban elegance with its 161 luxury units, ranging from just under 800-square-foot pied-à-terres, to sumptuous, 4,000-square-foot penthouses.

The ambitious project will sit on one of the last developable sites in the area, and will stretch for a city block, from Prince Arthur to Lowther avenues, on the west side of Avenue Road. It will doubtless contribute to the rejuvenation of Yorkville.

"It's quite a large project, even by Toronto standards," says the 36-year-old Greenberg, Minto's vice-president. "And we've been thrilled with the response."

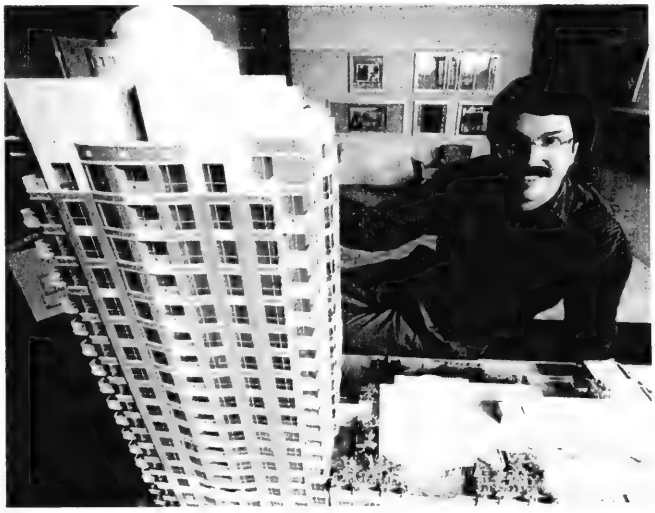
Even though groundbreaking is months away and the whole project won't be finished for another two years, about 40 percent of the units are already pre-sold, most of them in the $550,000 to $900,000 range.

Other units are being snapped up. The penthouses, which go for between $1.4 million and $1.9 million, are selling well, as are the pied-à-terres, which start in the mid-$200,000 range. Four of the 11 Prince Arthur Collection units, which feature the best appointments and finishes, have been sold.

The project is geared toward empty-nesters, Greenberg says, especially those coming from large homes.

Although it's a condo, all units are airy and will make maximum use of space, with standard nine-foot ceilings and outsized 6 foot 8 inch tall windows. It's all designed to accommodate large-scale furniture.

"What we're saying to people is, 'You can move your furniture here from your home. You don't have to get apartment furniture,'" Greenberg says.



Alan Greenberg and a model of The Prince Arthur: Forty percent of units are sold.

Focus groups conducted by Minto last winter concluded that high-end condo buyers these days want quality, value and services. The accent will be on all three at the Prince Arthur, Greenberg promises.

A major luxury feature will be direct access elevators. Fifteen elevator shafts will carry people from the lobby directly to their front door. Eighty percent of the units will be served by them. "It's just like coming right home," says Greenberg.

A three-storey arch will serve as the main entrance. A circular driveway will lead to a hidden garden and private lobby entrance to several units. Valet parking and 350 underground parking spots will take care of most vehicular needs. Other concerns can be handled by a 24-hour concierge and door attendants.

In the meantime, buyers will deal with a manager of client services, who will serve as the single point of contact for purchasers from the time they buy until after they move in.

Once inside, the choices the buyer faces are dizzying. Picking a floor finish alone can take hours. Will it be granite, marble, limestone, slate or one of a dozen hardwoods? Perhaps an ankle-deep carpet? Kitchens will be more or less standard: European cabinetry and top-of-the-line appliances all around.

Suite designs include conservatories, multi-media and family rooms, breakfast rooms with bay windows, and his and her master baths. Extra thick windows will shut out the hub-bub. His and her walk-in closets will feature built-in shelving. Balconies with planter urns, French doors and roof-garden terraces have been incorporated into the design.

The ultra-posh West Penthouse promises to be the project's high-water mark. It will take up a half a floor of space and will offer a stunning wraparound view of the city.

The "dusk to dawn" suites will feature both eastern and western exposures. Living space will face Avenue Road, while sleeping quarters will overlook the more quiet Annex.

There will be a fully equipped health club and two entertainment suites, including a 30-person dining room.

"We listened very carefully to the buyer," Greenberg says.

Founded by four Greenberg brothers in 1955 (Alan is the son of Gilbert, one of the founders), Minto has built over 43,000 homes, mainly in the Ottawa-Carleton region. The company came to Toronto during the real estate boom in the mid-'80s, and hasn't looked back.

Local Minto projects include Optima on the Park in Scarborough, Bayview Hills on the Rouge in Richmond Hill and Legacy in Markham. Minto has teamed up with IBM to redevelop country clubs in Richmond Hill and Markham. In downtown Toronto, the company developed and manages 38 Elm Street (the Minto Plaza), a 434-unit small suite luxury condo.

In Ottawa, Minto owns and operates the well-known Minto Suites Hotel.

And in the capital, the Greenberg name is synonymous with philanthropy and activism. Alan's cousin Lawrence is past president of the Vaad Hair, the Jewish community's umbrella organization. An uncle, Lorry, was Ottawa's first Jewish mayor. And Alan's brother Roger has raised millions for Ottawa's new central Jewish Community Campus.

How did Minto acquire, a year ago, one of the most desirable pieces of land in Toronto?

"We listened," Greenberg says, especially to four local ratepayer groups, who were uncomfortable with large, looming towers in the neighborhood. Thus, after negotiations with local politicians and residents, final plans call for the Prince Arthur to cascade from a 24-storey tower down to nine floors, and then eight, seven and six. "We were able to satisfy all concerns," Greenberg says.

The area fronting Avenue Road has not been forgotten. The ground floor will feature 9,500 square feet of retail space for upscale service and fashion shops.

Enthuses Greenberg, "the location, the attention to detail, the services...this is going to be a very desirable place to live."

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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Researchers discover gene in familial Mediterranean fever

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Two competing research consortia — one based in the United States and the other in France, both including Israeli teams — have announced the discovery of the defective gene that causes familial Mediterranean fever (FMF). The hereditary disease affects tens of thousands of people around the world, especially Jews of North African (most commonly Libyan) origin, and to a lesser extent Arabs, Turks, Armenians, and Druse.

There are 4,000 to 5,000 FMF patients in Israel — the largest concentration of the disorder anywhere.

Inheriting the gene from one parent makes the child a symptomless carrier, but if one has the double gene, the disorder is characterized by recurrent and severe attacks of fever, abdominal pains, and pains of the joints and the pleura covering the lungs, usually lasting from one to four days.

Untreated, it can cause amyloidosis, in which proteins called amyloids concentrate in the kidneys and cause them to fail, requiring dialysis and shortening life expectancy.

But 25 years ago, a Boston physician, Dr. S.E. Goldfinger, discovered by chance that an anti-gout drug called colchicine cuts the attacks short, but does not eliminate the trigger for them and failed to help five percent of FMF patients.

In a recent press conference Prof. Mordechai Pras of Sheba Hospital said that he and his colleagues at the U.S. National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (in Bethesda, Md.) were the first to discover the defective gene, which they dubbed Pyrin (the Greek word for fire). A scientific article describing the discovery was published in the August 22 issue of Cell.

Simultaneously, Prof. Eldad Ben-Chetrit and Prof. Micha Levy of the internal medicine department at Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Centre in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, who worked with a French team, claimed to have made the discovery "first."

Although that consortium, which named the defective gene marenostrin ("Our Sea," a Roman phrase for the Mediterranean), had discovered only half the base pairs in the gene, Ben-Chetrit said that "the remaining pairs are not significant and we were first." His team's article is appearing in Nature Genetics.

Ben-Chetrit said that the disease has even affected some Ashkenazi Jews.

"When they married only Ashkenazi Jews, some were carriers but it was very unusual for two carriers to marry. However, when in Israel they began to marry Jews of North African origin, it was more common for offspring to inherit two defective genes," he explained.

Pras said it will now be possible to conduct a blood test and know for certain whether a person suffers from FMF or is a carrier. Since the symptoms of the disease are not always clear from the outset, colchicine treatment can begin immediately.

Touro College heads West with new medical school

By LORI EPPSTEIN
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO — Determined to remedy a shortage of primary-care physicians in rural and disadvantaged areas, the Orthodox Jewish group that operates Touro College in New York has opened its first osteopathic medical school.

The nonsectarian San Francisco College of Osteopathic Medicine opened this week with a class of 66 students.

From obstetrics and gynecology to orthopedics and surgery, doctors of osteopathy practice in the same areas of medicine as allopathic doctors and receive the same medical training.

However, osteopaths are most often primary-care physicians who place an emphasis on holistic disease prevention and manipulation of the spine and joints.

Chiropractors also align the spine and joints, but they do not enjoy the same medical privileges as osteopaths, who prescribe medication and have greater access to hospitals.

The New York-based Touro College opened the school to expand the practice of osteopathy on the West Coast, where it is not widely recognized, said the dean, Dr. Bernard Zeliger.

Across the United States, osteopaths, who number about 45,000, comprise little more than five percent of all physicians.

The practice was developed by a frontier doctor in Missouri late in the 19th century.

But until it was recognized by American medical associations, the military and the courts in the 1950s and 1960s, osteopaths struggled to become legitimate in the eyes of hospital administrators and other medical groups, Zeliger explained.

Osteopathy once thrived in California, but when the California Osteopathic Association merged with the California Medical Association in 1962, all osteopaths became medical doctors.

A small group of loyal osteopaths eventually won back their osteopathic licenses in a 1974 California Supreme Court ruling, but osteopathy never really bounced back here, Zeliger said.

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L'Shana Tova

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By Barry Grossman & Stan Goldberg

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Circle the best answer!

1. Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur are known as:
   a. fun days off from school
   b. difficult words to spell
   c. The High Holy Days

2. On the Jewish New Year, we:
   a. go to Time's Square
   b. ask G-D to forgive our sins
   c. get extra allowance

3. When people say, "L'Shana Tova," they are saying:
   a. turn your clock back an hour
   b. don't swim after eating a big meal
   c. have a happy and healthy New Year

4. When we hear the Shofar blow, it reminds us:
   a. not to snooze in Temple
   b. that we are hungry
   c. of the Holiness of the season

5. On Yom Kippur we must:
   a. not do any work
   b. fast (only if you are 13 years or older)
   c. pray real hard
   d. A, B, & C

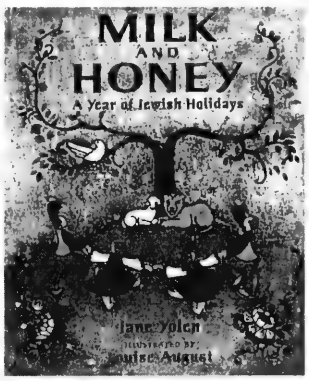
EXCITED ABOUT THE NEW YEAR!
Netivot Hatorah preschoolers went apple picking in preparation for Rosh Hashanah.

CJ Kids

Cycle of Holidays celebrated

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

The cycle of Jewish holidays will be starting this week with Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and Sukkot is not far behind. This is a great time to read a book that talks about all the holidays Jews celebrate during the year.



You are sure to enjoy *Milk and Honey; a year of Jewish holidays*, by Jane Yolen (Putnam, 1996). It is full of interesting and useful information about the holidays, from Rosh Hashanah to Shavuot. The last chapter talks about Shabbat, which is, Yolen explains, a holiday we enjoy every week.

What is especially enjoyable about *Milk and Honey* is that each chapter includes stories and legends about the holiday, songs and poems. The chapter about Purim even has a play that you can put on telling the story of Mordechai, Esther and Haman.

I liked the Yom Kippur story of the rabbi who was late for the service, because he stopped to comfort a crying baby. "It is right," he said "that on the day of repentance adults should weep when they think of their sins. But children, who have not sinned at all, should not be left to cry."

A poem called *Sounding the Shofar* teaches that even the shofar must wait until one is sure that one's animals are properly fed.

The illustrations are beautiful. Louise August uses bright, cheerful and lavish colors to show Biblical stories or to explain a point. She even uses humor – in the picture of Moses leading the Jewish people through the Red Sea, the crowd is led by baby chicks, supervised by their anxious mother chicken.

Milk and Honey is not just fun to read, but is great for those times mothers and fathers take the time to read to their children.

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FRIEDMAN GOLDBERG

GRAPHIC DESIGN BY ERIC L. GROSSMAN

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SOLD! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
46 Bowring Walk • 202 Lauder • 178 Upper Canada
277 Cortleigh • 400 Brooke • 3555 Bathurst #307
247 Patricia • 45 Riderwood • 132 Glenvale Blvd.
333 Glengrove • 39 Kilbarry • 162 Hillhurst Blvd.

FOREST HILL RD./HEATH
Very special home in wonderful location! 40'x126' lot, 3+1 bdrm., 4 baths, mod. amenities. **J. Solomon***

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to "Turning Point Charity" supporting Homeless Youth.

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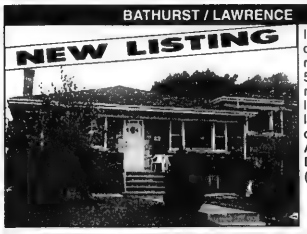
DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED

787-1712

Wishing You a Happy and Healthy New Year

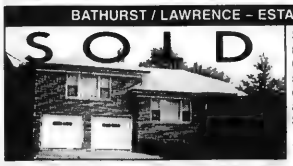
שנה טובה ומתוקה

BATHURST / LAWRENCE



Immaculate, spacious 3 + 1 bedroom bungalow, 50 ft. lot, separate entry to in-law suite, fabulous location, only $369,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / LAWRENCE – ESTATE SALE



Spacious 3 bdrm. ranch bungalow on 60 ft. lot, quiet street, fab. location, doubl SOLD rage above grade, only $379,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / HILLHURST

Spacious 5 bedroom side-split, 59 x 128 ft. lot, prestigious location, priced to sell at only $439,000. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / SHEPPARD — REDUCED
Charming 3+1 bedroom bungalow, huge 63' lot, renovated eat-in kitchen, separate entry to in-law suite, WON'T LAST at only $229,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / HILLMOUNT – REDUCED $70,000
3,700 sq. ft. (approx.) + finished basement. Bright open concept, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, hardwood floors, Jacuzzi, sauna, hot tub, only $429,000! ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — EXCLUSIVE
Luxurious 5 bedroom, custom-built, 4,000 sq. ft. (approx.) + finished basement, loaded with upgrades, main floor fam. room, library, asking $699,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

GLEN PARK — SPACIOUS EXECUTIVE HOME
4 + 2 bedrooms, modern family-style kitchen, family room, separate entry to in-law suite, double garage (above grade), asking $519,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

CLANTON PARK — REDUCED
Charming 3 bdrm. on 50 x 150 ft. lot, close to shuls, park, highly desirable location, family values. Great buy at only $289,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Custom built, stunning quality craftsmanship + finishes. 4200 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. 9 1/2 ft. ceilings on main floor, Neff designer kitchen. Live your dreams NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SHANA TOVA

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Benegbi, Sharon
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Berman, Howard
Bitton, Joseph
Braun, Hanita
Brownstein, Paul
Burg, Mordie
Byk, Lana
Cadeau, Michelle
Cass, Anna
Ching, Elizabeth**
Cohen, Harriet
Cohen, Mike
Dailey, Byron, W.
Drabik, Peter
Eastwood, Joseph
Friedman, Hazel
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Extends best wishes to all her clients, relatives and friends for a very healthy, prosperous and happy New Year.

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27 MCMORRAN CRES. – THORNHILL

Bathurst-Steeles area. - Detached, 2 storey all brick. 3 large bdr. 3 1/2 baths, prof. fin. bsmnt with bdr., rec. rm & wet bar. Parquet floor, new ceramics. Direct entry from gar. **$304,900.**

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REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

From my Family to your Family. Wishing all my clients, friends and family a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year! Thank you for your support throughout the year!

לשנה טובה תכתבו

Wishing all of our clients, family and friends
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Michael Harari
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To all our friends, customers and clients

May the promise of the New Year be bright with hope and blessed with peace and happiness.

Barbara Raber - Associate Broker/Manager

ALAN NEWTON

REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

Alan Newton & Staff
would like to
take this opportunity
to wish all their
Clients, Friends & Relatives
a Happy, Healthy
and Prosperous
New Year

HOMELIFE FIRST CHOICE

LOU SHAPIRO and LES SPELLMAN
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would like to wish their clients, families and friends a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year
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HOMELIFE/BAYVIEW REALTY INC.
STEVEN GREEN
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Happy Rosh Hashanah to all my clients, relatives & friends. Wishing all of you a very happy & healthy holiday & a year filled with much mazel & naches.

Susan MACARZ

Associate Broker

Wishing all my clients, friends and family a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Shana Tova.

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(416) 487-5731
P.O. Box 35528, 2528 Bayview Ave., North York, Ont. M2L 2Y4 • Fax: (416) 733-2778

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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Mollie Rothman

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I specialize in helping Singles & Families buy & sell homes

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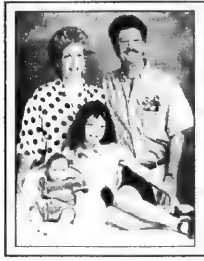
PROGRESSIVE REAL ESTATE INC REALTOR

Wishing all our clients & friends a Happy & Healthy New Year

CAROLYN FELDMAN, ELEANOR LONDON, BARBARA JACOBS, ELIZABETH BERNARD
Bridlepath Progressive Real Estate Inc. Realtor
449-0090



"The Waisglass family, Perry, Tina, Jenna & Noah would like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year."
PERRY WAISGLASS

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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Associate Broker, B.E.S.

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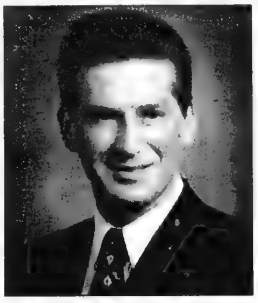

HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR
Celebrating our 40th Year!

A happy and healthy New Year

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Vice-President, Associate Broker
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• 5 bdrms. & baths, huge lot, classic beauty, child safe street **ONLY $489,900** ***Also Available:***
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• 5 bdrms. & baths ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS, very quiet street **ONLY $629,000**
• 3 bdrms., 2 baths, bungalow, marble & ceramics **ONLY $319,900**
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Bathurst/Glencairn - Gorgeous New Home!
$549,000 - Fab. 4 bdrm., 5 baths, 9' ceilings! 3100 sq. ft. plus fin. bsmt. with walk-out and nanny ste., beautiful deep lot, dble gar. - all the bells and whistles - best value in the area!

Avenue/Lawrence - Kimbark Otter area
Now $369,000 - Special family SOLD 5 bdrms., m.f. fam. rm., c/air, deep 150' lot. Won't last now!

Bayview/Sheppard - All the "I Wants"
$449,000 - Br. and new 4 BR, maples kit., with granite counters, fin. bsmt with walk-out, interlocked driveway, quiet street! SOLD

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FINCH WILMINGTON
Cust. built, 4 bdrm. split lvl., 3 bths, huge liv. & din. comb., fam. rm., w/out, rec. rm., ravine lot. dble. gar.

• • •

BATHURST STEELES
4 bdrm. bung., 3 bths., sep. liv. & din., mod. kit., fin.w/out bsmnt., steps to all.

• • •

ALLEN RD. SUBWAY
Tri-plex, fully rented, good income, balcs, bths ensuite, A-1 buy!

• • •

SHEPPARD WILMINGTON
Store + apt., well-maint. building, ideal for many uses.

• • •

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10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Lawr,55',spac lrg 3 bdrm bung,bright,upgrades,new deck & kit,fin bsmt. **Private**. 782-1984

24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY

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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

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(24 hrs.)

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Ask $219,900 - 3 bedroom, 3 baths, close to Promenade Mall, synagogue, schools.
BATHURST-TORRESDALE
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CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

THORNHILL
• 3+2 on pk., sauna, 4 baths, $339K
• 3 bdrms., new kit. brdlm., wdws., $234K
Call **David Burstyn,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, 739-7200

30 CONDOMIONIUM FOR SALE

DENISE ABRAHAM
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WISHING ALL MY CLIENTS A VERY HAPPY, PEACEFUL, HEALTHY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

I would like to thank you all for making 5757 the No. 1 Year in my real estate career. *HAPPY 5758.*

Lawrence W. Subway $285,000. Just Listed 3 Bdrm. Bung., In-law Apt., 50'x103' Lot. Call Denise Abraham.
Glencairn W. Subway 2-3 Bdrm. Condo, Fab View, Pool, Sauna, Parking, From $110,000 to $139,000. Call Denise Abraham.
Bathurst/Glencairn 2 Bdrm + Den, Security, From $174,900. Call Denise Abraham.

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Happy New Year to everyone

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

2 bdrm to share, Bath./Lg., pref. young prof/grad student, kosher. Jonathan, 783-5928.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

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Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

80 SHORT TERM RENTAL

Clark/Hilda, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, 2 pkg, rec. centre, Dec. 1-Mar. 31 (flexible). 905-889-4382.

82 ROOM FOR RENT

Bath./Steeles, for a male student, kitchen privileges, share bthrm. Call 416-661-3838.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

The Hemispheres. Beautiful 2 bdrm., fully furnished, completely renovated, on ocean, parking included. 416-488-0442.

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HOLLYWOOD BEACH - 2 oceanfront, furnished efficiencies, $38,000 U.S. each or $70,000 U.S. for 2 adjoining units. 1-888-907-2837.

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130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

QUADOMAIN, HOLLYWOOD, FLA. Spectacular oceanview, 2 bdrm. convertible on beach for rent, fully furnished, Kosher. 633-4141.

3 bdrm, 2 full bth condo in **Coconut Creek**,newly decorated, will sleep 8, rent for winter season. 410-484-0835, after 6pm.

Arlen House, facing south, 6th flr., 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bths,beautifully furn,min 3 mos,all you need is your clothes. 416-780-1551.

Delray Beach, beautiful condo., 2 bdrms., 2 baths, screened porch, garden, furn., 3 pools, tennis, close to shul., 3 mos., Million $$ Club. 905-886-4930.

Hallandale, 1 bdrm conv., 2 bths., for Dec.-March, on intercoastal, across the St. from ocean, highrise bldg., gorgeous view, fully furn. & equip. $1500./mo. U.S. + util. + taxes. 732-247-6744.

Highland Lakes area, beautif. furn. 1 bdrm. apt, att. to home, on a lake, gated comm., grnd flr. apt, pool, priv. entr., avail. Nov.-Mar. Robin, 305-935-6252

Palm Aire, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, newly furnished, main flr., 3 mos. min., beginning Jan. '98. Call 416-496-2900.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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North Miami Beach, Coastal Towers, 2 bdrms, 2 bath condo. $1,300/mo. U.S. or purchase $79.9K U.S., avail immed. 416-223-7147.

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140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Palm Aire or Boca, furn. 2 bdrm, Dec. 20-Feb. 20 (flexible), n/smkrs, n/pets, responsible couple. 905-771-1988.

175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED

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247 DAY CARE

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(416) 630-0674 or 224-9907

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Cleaning lady, exper, Polish, Russian, English speaking (refs. avail.) 416-239-8227,Aggi

Cleaning with pride at afford. prices.Res./Comm. **FREE** Est. Insured, Bonded. **905-507-9654**

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European cleaning lady looking to clean your home,exper., refs. Call 416-516-1730.

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barbara & Perry Bender and **Sheila & Harvey Leopold** are delighted to announce the engagement of their children, **Lisa** and **Andrew.** Proud great-grandmother is Anna Charloff, and happy grandparents are Vera and Barney Morrison, Frankie Bender, Ben & Ruth Sand, and Max and Dina Himmelfarb (Leopold).

WILSON-ELLIS. Frank & Judith Wilson and Don & Olive Ellis are delighted to announce the engagement and the upcoming marriage of their children, **Evan** and **Tracey**, on March 7, 1998. Proud grandparents are Jenny Wilson of Delray Beach, Florida, & Julius & Elizabeth Winter of Miami, Florida.

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Mailech Welcman is looking for **Emanuel Welcman**. Please call 905-882-1074, ask for Ted.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

I have a fine, considerate, reliable, indep. brother, 41, who has a slight learning disability & dreams of meeting a caring, sensitive woman for a long term relationship. 221-4714.

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Heimish mentsh, male, 54, n/smkr, tall, young, multi-talented, loves to dance, walk in the park, big band jazz, latin music, warm, sensitive, down-to-earth, funny, speaks Hebrew, Romanian, Yiddish & Hungarian, seeking slim, attr. lady, with all the above interests, for a meaningful relationship, possible marriage. Shana Tova. CJN Box 6970.

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GOODBAUM, Vivah - on Sept 11, 1997, late of 9 Purdon Dr.
HEIT, MURRAY - on Sept. 11, 1997, late of 270 Martin St.
SOREN, Rose - on Sept. 11, 1997, late of 400 Walmer Rd., #2125.
GOLDSTEIN, Maximilian - on Sept. 12, 1997, late of 21 Vaughan Rd., #904.
WEISBAUM, David - on Sept. 12, 1997, late of 135 Antibes Ave., #1704.
MILLER, Seymour - on Sept. 13, 1997, late of 128 Wentworth St.
CHARAD, Rose - on Sept. 14, 1997, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
KATZ, Frances - on Sept. 14, 1997, late of 7 Banquo Rd.
NAINUDEL, Julia - on Sept 14, 1997, late of 6250 Bathurst St., #1215.
SAX, Al - on Sept. 14, 1997, late of 531 Spadina Rd., #1.
SMITH, Abbott - on Sept. 15, 1997, late of 25 Glencedar Rd.
WEIL, Candy - on Sept. 15, 1997, late of 12 MacPherson Ave., #4.
LANDIS, Gloria - on Sept. 16, 1997, late of 448 Glencairn Ave.
KLEINBERG, Rose - on Sept. 17, 1997, late of 35 Canyon Ave., #1110.
SIEGEL (Hoffman), Joy - on Sept. 17, 1997, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W., #1101.
SILVER, Anjou - on Sept. 18, 1997, late of 3000 Bathurst St., #1603.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

KORMAN, Harry - on Sept. 15, 1997.
SCHWARTZ, Grace Rachelle - on Sept. 15, 1997, late of 10 Senlac Rd.
SENDEROVICH, Herman - on Sept. 15, 1997, late of 105 Tanjoe Cres.
RISMAN, Pauline - on Sept. 16, 1997, late of 35 Cedarcroft Blvd.
KROVBLIT, Sofia - on Sept 17, 1997.
SIMONS, Julia - on Sept.18. 1997.
LEVINE, Nellie - on Sept. 19. 1997, late of 569 Sheppard Ave. W.
ZARETSKY, David - on Sept 19, 1997, late of 4455 Bathurst St.
ZILBERMAN, Fanya - on Sept. 19, 1997, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W.
CHWAIEWSKY, Genia - on Sept. 20, 1997, late of 205 Hilda Ave.

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335 UNVEILINGS

Yad Vashem monuments
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UNVEILINGS for SUNDAY, OCT. 5

ANNE **PEARLSTONE** ע"נ	Mount Sinai Workmen's Circle 11:00 a.m.
SOLOMON (SAM) **PELC** ז"ל	Pardes Shalom Community (DDD) 11:00 a.m.
MURRAY **ZEIDENBERG** ז"ל	Bathurst Lawn Beth Torah (46) 12:30 p.m.

5758
*We pray that **finally** this year:*
"בלע המות לנצח
ומחה ה' דמעה מעל כל פנים..."
"May He swallow up death forever; may Hashem wipe away tears from every face..."
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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SARAH ELKIND ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 5th, 12:45 p.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
Linitzer Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Mary (Heiber) Lover ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 5th, 12:30 p.m.
Dawes Road Cemetery
First Narayever Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
LOUIS HERMALIN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, October 5th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
IRVING ROSEN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 12th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Court Topaz Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JULES UNGAR ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 5th, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
123 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
125 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
128 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
138 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
139 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
148 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY SALE
180 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
168 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
169 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
198 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
199 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
265 SOCIAL ANNOUNCMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
315 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO/VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
398 ELECTRICAL
399 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
408 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
458 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIDING
483 SKIING
484 SNOW REMOVAL
485 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
545 WORD PROCESSING
580 WORKSHOPS

Hamilton UJA campaign begins

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The stories of three women who immigrated to Israel from different corners of the world were the highlight of the recent 1997-98 Hamilton United Jewish Appeal (UJA) campaign launch at Beth Jacob Synagogue.

U.S.-born Shira Ozery made aliyah in 1973 and has since been involved in bringing Jews from Syria and Iran to Israel.

In addition to telling her own story, Ozery acted as interpreter for Yardena Fanta and Sarah Pachanec.

Fanta left her native village in Ethiopia when she was 12. She told of how she carried her 2-year-old sister on her back, and with her parents, 10 brothers and sisters, nephews, nieces and 100-year-old grandmother, walked at night for one month, until they reached Sudan.

They spent 11 months in a crowded refugee camp there. Conditions were so bad, Fanta said, that 4,000 people died, including the little sister she had carried and several other family members.

"We found courage for our journey only because we believed we would reach Jerusalem," she said.

Their arrival in Israel was very emotional, Fanta said. "I have no words to describe the feeling."

Today Fanta, who knew no Hebrew and had only one year of school when she came to Israel, has a BA in sociology and criminology from Bar-Ilan University, is working on a master's degree in educational counselling, and is a counsellor for young Ethiopian olim.

Pachanec's story began in Sarajevo during World War II, she said, "17 years before I was born." Her family was Muslim, but they had many Jewish friends.

As conditions for Jews worsened, her mother, Zaynaba, saved many Jews from deportation and death. Zaynaba is the only Muslim designated as Righteous Among the Nations ever to have had a tree planted in her honor at Yad Vashem.

Fifty years later, when fighting raged in Sarajevo and Pachanec's family needed help, the Jews remembered and arranged for them to join a refugee transport to Israel. Zaynaba, Sarah, her husband (who was Christian) and their daughter, arrived at Ozery's absorption camp.

Sarah, her husband and daughter became attracted to Judaism and converted, becoming Sarah, Moshe and Esther, instead of Aida, Vladimir and Stella.

In 1994, Yitzhak Rabin conferred honorary Israeli citizenship on the family, who are now proud members of the Jewish nation.

The evening concluded with remarks from general campaign chair Al Rams. Women's Division co-chair Sandy Morris opened the program. Bonnie Loewith, co-chair, thanked the guest speakers and reported on the United Israel Appeal mission to Azerbaijan, and the Chai community choir, under the direction of Leon Karan, entertained.

The Canadian Jewish news

CLASSIFIED/SERVICE DIRECTORY

PLEASE NOTE:
Early Deadlines for the following issues:

OCTOBER 15
Deadline Tuesday, Oct. 7th, 3pm

OCTOBER 22
Deadline Friday, Oct. 10th, 1pm

OCTOBER 30
Deadline Monday, Oct. 20th, 3pm

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Soccer pro looks ahead to sports promotion

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

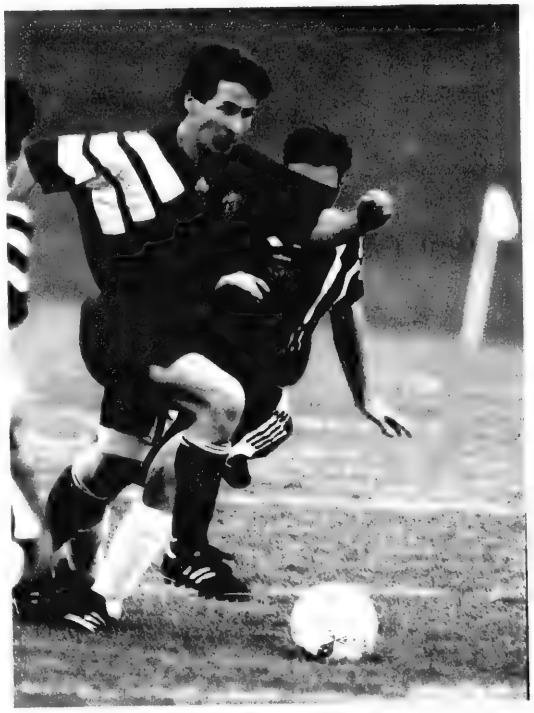
TORONTO — Irv Studin is pretty candid about his professional career with the Toronto Lynx Soccer Club. Though it's a great way to spend the summer, it isn't a lifelong dream come true.

Sure, he can make good money for the school year ahead and it can open doors among the movers and shakers in the corporate soccer world, but earning a living as a professional soccer player was never uppermost in his mind. A 21-year-old student, Studin is more interested in being the entrepreneur who brings the World Cup to Canada than in actually playing in it.

"My career goal after soccer is sports promotion" he says.

Studin is entering the third year of a business administration program at York University, which he combines with events promotion. Last April, he got his feet wet in his chosen field when he promoted the indoor three-on-three High School Soccer Classic.

A soccer player since he was five, Studin is no slouch when it comes to the fine art of passing and playmaking. He's a valuable member of the Lynx and the York Yeomen soccer team. In the late summer, their seasons overlap and recently Studin had the tiring task of practising with the Lynx in the morning before heading to an afternoon workout with the Yeomen.



Irv Studin of Toronto Lynx heads upfield as defenders close in.

Studin recently completed his first year with the Lynx in the A-League, a 24-team loop that includes teams in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. After racking up a 14-14 record, which included a 10-win mid-season hot streak, the Lynx cooled off towards the end of the summer. They were eliminated in the first round of the Northeast Division playoffs in early September, losing a home and away series with the Montreal Impact.

A midfielder, Studin's role on the team was to help coordinate offensive attacks and score some goals himself. "I'm a better playmaker actually, but I'm trying to get more into scoring. There's more glory there," he said.

In fact, it was his ability to bulge the twine that got him noticed by a professional team in the first place.

Two years ago, while Studin was visiting relatives in Israel, his cousin suggested they talk to his friend, the coach of Hapoel Ashkelon, a Premier Division club. Studin, who's won city championships in Toronto and was on teams that twice advanced to the Ontario Cup finals, was offered a tryout. He was inserted in the lineup of two exhibition games against a Second Division team, and scored twice in each game. He quickly turned the coach's skepticism into admiration.

Studin was offered a pro contract with the team, but, relying on the advice of his parents, who are both sports-minded, he turned it down and returned to Toronto to continued his education.

Back in Toronto, Studin played for the Spartacus Soccer Club in the Ontario Soccer League's Under-21 division. He scored 15 goals in 20 games and was named league MVP.

That got him noticed by the Lynx, who encouraged him to try out. For Studin, making the Lynx on his first attempt and playing in the premiere league in Canada was gratifying. His enjoyed the season, though he was somewhat embarrassed by the Lynx's quick exit from the playoffs.

The Lynx, who play at Varsity Stadium, permitted Studin to take a leave of absence in midseason and join the Canadian team that competed in indoor soccer at the Maccabiah Games in Israel. The Canucks finished sixth out of 16 teams behind Russia, Israel, Brazil, Mexico and Argentina. Studin says those squads are about as good as the Lynx, with the Canadian Maccabiah team at about the same level.

The Canadians should be even better in the years ahead with lots of good young talent coming up, Studin says.

Though he was born in Italy, Studin's family were originally from Odessa in the former Soviet Union. His parents, Yuri and Sima, are both athletically inclined. Yuri loves soccer (more than he does, Irv says) and serves as president of the Spartacus club. Sima obtained a master of sport in rhythmic gymnastics in the Soviet Union and both of Irv's sisters, Rebecca and Sophia, are avid participants in the sport. Rebecca, the older of the two, is nationally ranked, Irv says.

As for Irv, he figures he may return to Israel one day to again try his hand at the elite league. "I wouldn't mind going to Israel and playing there for a year or two. I think I could succeed." But he adds, "I'm a good Jewish boy so I'm not aspiring to be a pro athlete."

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The Stanley Cup, circa 1893.

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Israel out of World Cup

TORONTO — It was a good run while it lasted, but members of Israel's national soccer team will watch the 1998 World Cup from the comfort of their living room, just like the rest of us.

Israel was eliminated from contention in the prestigious international soccer extravaganza following a 1-0 lost to Bulgaria in a game played in Sofia. The loss drops Israel to third place Group 5 among World Cup qualifiers.

After playing eight games, Israel posted four wins, three losses and one tie, with nine goals for and seven against, good for 13 points. It has no games remaining.

Meanwhile, Bulgaria leads Group 5 with 15 points, followed by Russia, with 14. Only the top team qualifies for the World Cup, while the second place finisher has a chance to qualiiy as a wild card. Bulgaria and Russia will play each other twice in a home and away series.

Israel's fate was sealed following losses to Russia and Bulgaria during the summer. On June 8, Israel lost 2-0 to Russia in a game played in Moscow and then on Aug. 20, it lost to Bulgaria 1-0.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

J	P	S		M	R	S		A	S	A		F	E	D
A	L	E	F	B	E	T		R	E	D		A	L	A
M	A	R	R	A	N	O		M	A	L	A	M	U	D
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The Inside Back

הרב ישראל לנדא
רב קהילת הישראלים - חב"ד

Shanah Tovah

הימים נוראים ואנו מעמידים פנים?

יש אומרים שהנהירה המונית של עם ישראל לבתי הכנסת ביום הכיפורים יש בה משום העמדת פנים. ובאמת מה לו לאוכל טריפות לבוא להכות על חטא ביום הכיפורים? וההוא שבכל שבת מתעלם לגמרי מיום מנוחה הקדוש לעם ישראל, והנה פתאום מתעטף בטלית ועושה עצמו לצדיק וישר?

והנה פלוני שכל עסקיו מבוססים על הונאה ותרמית, גם הוא כאן בין הצדיקים? המתחזים?

אבל הם באים, יהודים מכל השכבות ומכל המעמדות מכל העיסוקים ואורחות החיים מכל ההשקפות ואמונות הפרטיות. כולם מתאספים בבתי הכנסת מתעטפים בטליתות ומתאחדים עם כלל ישראל השופך שיח לפני ריבון העולמים. ארשת פניהם רצינית ומיוסרת ואילו יכולנו רק להציץ במתרחש בתוך סגור לבם היינו מגלים שם הרבה היטהרות ואמונה.

למעשה ימים אלו ראש השנה ויום הכיפורים, חושפים את הצביעות ואת העמדת הפנים שבחיינו.

לא ההליכה לבית הכנסת ביום הכיפורים היא הצביעות.

האדישות שרבים מאתנו מגלים בכל ימות השנה לענייני יהדות ואמונה - **היא הצביעות והיא** העמדת פנים. האחד מגדיר עצמו חילוני, השני מצהיר "אני לא מאמין" שלישי קוצף נגד חוקי הדת, הנה **כאן** נמצאת העמדת פנים גדולה.

כשמגיע יום הכיפורים הוא מסיר את המסווה מעל כל ההצהרות המפוצצות הללו. היום הזה כאילו אומר לנו אל תתרגשו, אין זו אלא הצגה כלפי חוץ, סתם העמדת פנים. הביטו וראו את כל היהודים שמסביב, כל אלה שהפגינו את אדישותם וחוסר האכפתיות שלהם לענייני יהדות, ראו עכשיו איך הם משילים מעליהם את המסווה, מסירים את מעטה הציניות והלגלוג, ומגלים את הלב היהודי המאמין שבקרבם.

יום הכיפורים אינו יוצר שום דבר חדש, אלא מגלה את האמת הפנימית שבנו, זו שאולי נשכחת בימי החול האפורים. פתאום בלי כפייה, בלי חוקים ובלי אזהרות, שובת כל בית יהודי מפעילותו, שוממים הכבישים במדינתנו, המוני בית ישראל מתעניים וממלאים את בתי הכנסת. תחושה נפלאה של אחדות והיטהרות ממלאת את הלבבות, נראה שזה עם אחר אבל זהו העם האמיתי שלנו.

הלב היהודי משול לחבית חומר דליק. בימים רגילים היא עלולה להיראות כבדה ומסורבלת, ואולי אף חלודה במעט אבל רק נשלח בה ניצוץ אחד, ותראו איזו עוצמה אדירה גלומה בה, איזו להבה ענקית תפרוץ ממנה. כזה הוא הלב היהודי. פעמים מקיף את עצמו בשכבות של ציניות וקשיחות, אבל בפנימיותו הוא מלא אהבת ה', אהבת ישראל ואהבת התורה, רק תנו לו הזדמנות להתבטא.

הלב היהודי מתגלה בעתים מיוחדות, כולנו מכירים את תחושת האחדות שמפעמת בעת מלחמה.

וגם ביום הכיפורים אנו מגלים את האמונה שבלבנו ואת התחושה היהודית החזקה של כולנו. זו בעצם האמת האמיתית שלנו.

האתגר הגדול הוא לשאוב מן הרוח שמתגלה ביום הכיפורים על כל ימות השנה. לתת ביטוי לאמונה שבלבנו גם בימים רגילים ואפורים. לא להסתפק בכך שהלב מלא ונדוש אמונה ואהבת ה' אלא ליישם את האמונה בחיי היום יום השיגרתיים. אולי יום הכיפורים הזה יתן לרבים מאתנו את העוז להתנער לגמרי מן המסיכות הקשוחות של כל השנה ולהצהיר בגאון - כן אני יהודי מאמין!

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About jobs

Dear Lisa,

I have had several interviews, but no job offers yet. I'm starting to think the reason has something to do with how I act in the interviews. Can you think of any tips that might help me?

Dear Reader,

Be sure to dress for success. Clothing should be clean and wrinkle-free. Hair and nails should be well-groomed. Teeth should be checked for a crumb that may be stuck in a spot sure to capture an interviewer's attention.

Maintain a distance of at least three-quarters of a metre away from your interviewer. Research indicates that in North American society, we require this amount of "personal" space.

When you take a seat, sit upright. Use your body to emphasize your words. Maintain eye contact, yet shift your eyes occasionally, maybe when you are thinking about an answer. This will make you look thoughtful. Tilt your head sideways to convey interest. Smile to indicate warmth.

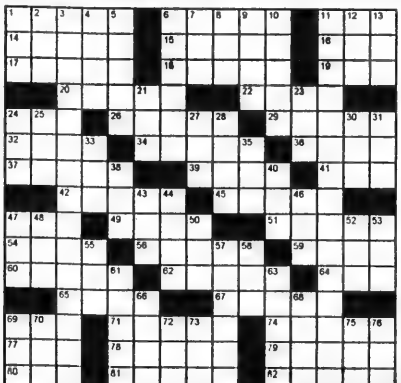
The trickiest part of the interview is what to say. Personal history questions are easier to answer. Opinion questions require tact and thought. If you are asked about your age or health, the question is trying to establish your ability to perform the work.

If you are asked about marital status, the interviewer may be asking if your social status resembles that of other employees, or if your spouse is transferred, whether you will go too.

Yes, these types of questions are illegal; however, some of the time the interviewer wants to see how you react to questions, rather than hear what you have to say.

Job Search is a monthly column by career educator Lisa Galet Klug. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. "__Pass" (Uris)
6. Sound of Kristallnacht
11. Existed
14. Jacob's boy
15. First minor prophet
16. Literary initials
17. Nazarite no no
18. David's boy
19. Cobb or Grant
20. Shmatah (Eng)
22. Comic Mort
24. Tay-Sachs carrier
26. Schmutz (Eng)
29. Grogger emanation
32. Uzis
34. Dangerfield's hope
36. Jerusalem entry
37. Rosenbergs?
39. "High tref"
41. Damage
42. Imitates Moses
45. Teva offering
47. Golfer Alcott
49. Israeli judge
51. Prepare for rituals
54. Isaac's stand in?
56. Fang
59. Moses' camouflage
60. Methuselah's dad
62. Asherites or Gadites
64. Taxmen
65. Appear
67. The Heights
69. Noodge (Eng)
71. "Bonanza" dad
74. Make Aliyah
77. Literary initials
78. Gompers' cause
79. Give a tenth
80. Shamsky was one
81. Death notices
82. Ted Key comic strip

Down

1. Matriarchs
2. Sort of? (ending)
3. Singer novel
4. Producer Norman
5. Dart
6. She's no Jew
7. Group for Bugsy Siegal
8. Biblical sign of mourning
9. Dead and Red
10. Abram's brother
11. Chess champion
12. Fortas, casually
13. Haifa to Hebron (dir)
21. White Sox' Abrams
23. Chazzer (Eng)
24. "__Kapital" Marx work
25. Political Party
27. Mikveh
28. Freud inventions
30. Depot (abbr)
31. Ever to Bialik
33. Prophesize
35. Laughing sound
38. Pouch
40. Act the gonif
43. Makes a "fey" a "pey"
44. End like Rabin
46. Hamantasch?
47. Shikker's choice?
48. Sixth day creation
50. Neither's partner
52. That one
53. Cantor and Goldman
55. Prior to Christians
57. Greenberg's team
58. Movie channel
61. American shalom
63. First Israeli ambassador to USA
66. Lot's son-in-law
68. Roberta Peters' solo
69. Belief: comb. form
70. Pastrami on ___
72. Sid Gordon's stat
73. Never
75. That woman
76. Wiggling tref fish

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 66.)

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L'SHANA TOVA

This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Iran's quest for non-conventional weapons endangers Israel's existence, former Mossad head tells *CJN*. **Page 3**

Jewish Vocational Service has gone through many changes over its 50 years. **Page 14**

Kosher FoodFest offers plenty to sink your teeth into. **Page 20**

National

Ontario court rejects appeal by synagogue to refer a lawsuit to beit din. **Page 23**

Arts

Folk-rocker David Broza takes time out from his busy schedule to talk to *The CJN*. **Page 34**

New documentary chronicles the critical years prior to Israel's independence. **Page 36**

Index

GTA	3
Editorials and Letters	8
Perspectives	9
Opinions	10
The Kirshner File	11
Jewish Life	12
Yiddish Corner	19
On Campus	22
What's New	24
Coast to Coast	26
International	27
Travel, Arts & Business	34
Health	37
Classified	38
Sports	42
Ask Ella	43
Crossword	43

Shabbat: Yom Kippur
Candlelighting: 6:26
Tishrei 9, 5758
Fast ends: 7:31

Levy promises passport inquiry

Israel expressed 'very deep regret': Axworthy

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Israel has promised Canada that it will hold an inquiry into how Israeli security agents obtained forged Canadian passports in the bungled assassination attempt of a Hamas leader, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy said on Monday.

Axworthy, with Canada's recalled ambassador to Israel, David Berger, standing next to him at a packed news conference, said he spoke to Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy last Sunday, and that Levy agreed to hold a "full inquiry" into the forged passport affair, as well as to cooperate with Ottawa's own probe.

Axworthy said Levy "expressed his very deep regret" at the fact that two alleged Mossad agents who botched an assassination attempt against Hamas leader Khaled Meshal in Amman held faked and doctored Canadian passports.

Axworthy said his Israeli counterpart is "prepared to undertake a full examination" of the affair, and "is prepared to work with us on ours" in an effort "to put an end to this practice."

He said Canada "is still very much concerned" over the events and has expressed those concerns to Israel, "but we also want to get some practical results out of it. The practical results are that it won't happen again."

He said Levy's remarks were "an indication that the Israeli government is treating this matter very seriously."

Canada "will wait to see whether commitments made will be lived up to. That's what we will be determining over the next several days. I think actions will speak louder than words."

Axworthy said the inquiry's terms of reference have to yet to be determined.

"It's the beginning of dialogue. That's all it is, and that's what we want to maintain," he stated. "I don't think that you want to rush to judgment. I think we should take [Israel's] willingness to cooperate with us as a useful step. And we'll determine whether engaging in a dialogue on broader consular passport issues can also result in positive steps. The important thing is to get results."

He said Levy admitted no official responsibility in the affair. The discussion, he said, did not extend to guarantees that using Canadian passports would not happen again.

Continued on page 2

Even in the midst of the current tension in relations between Israel and Jordan caused by the events of the Meshal Affair, there was time for Israel's new ambassador Oded Eran to formally present his credentials to King Hussein at the royal palace in Amman on Oct. 5. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Yassin back in Gaza

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the founder of Hamas, returned this week to the Gaza Strip after eight years in an Israeli prison.

Jordanian officials flew Yassin to Gaza in King Hussein's helicopter. Upon his arrival in Gaza, Yassin said that Hamas will not stop its attacks on Israel until Palestinians have their own country.

His return to Gaza was accompanied simultaneously by the release from Jordan of the two alleged Israeli agents involved in the attempt two weeks ago on the life of Hamas organizer Khaled Meshal.

At the same time, Israel also released 22 Palestinian Hamas prisoners held in its jails.

The 61-year-old Yassin had been serving a life term for issuing orders to kill Israeli soldiers and Palestinians who collaborated with Israel.

Yassin was freed in response to an appeal from King Hussein last week, amid widespread speculation that the release was aimed at appeasing the monarch after the botched attempt to assassinate Hamas official Meshal.

Yassin was taken directly to Jordan, where he was hospitalized. Hamas and Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat, who had appeared embarrassed to have been caught unaware by the release, had been demanding Yassin be allowed to return to Gaza.

Israeli security sources, meanwhile, said they will not allow the PA to take advantage of Yassin's release by reopening Hamas institutions shut down last month on Arafat's orders.

Continued on page 2

INSIDE

For a chronology of the events in the "Meshal Affair" please see page 28.

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Israel's prestige damaged: former ambassador — please see page 27

Israel & the Jewish World

Israel to hold passport inquiry

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Axworthy said Canada "went to substantial effort to clarify that there was no Canadian complicity" in the assassination attempt.

Canada received the facts surrounding the case just last weekend, and is sifting through them, the minister indicated. He said the Canadian embassy in Tel Aviv "has been in contact" with the two Canadians whose names appeared on the passports, Shawn Kendal and Barry Bitnun. Kendal works at the United Israel Appeal office in Jerusalem.

Axworthy said the two passports are back in Ottawa undergoing forensic tests.

He played down the fact that the whole affair has hurt the peace process.

"We want to keep the peace process going and we also want to raise concerns with a country we've had very good relations with for half a century.

"Everybody recognizes that the volatility in that region will create sometimes very serious bumps or glitches. But we shouldn't lose sight of [our] long-term interest, which is to get a peaceful agreement in the Middle East."

He said the three-way release of prisoners on Monday between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority — triggered by the passport affair — speaks for itself.

It's not known when Berger will return to Israel. He was recalled by Ottawa in protest over Israel's use of the forged Canadian passports.

Commentators observe that the entire affair has plunged Canada-Israel relations into one of their frostiest periods in recent memory.

And the resulting political storm in Israel has reached the highest levels, embarrassing the Mossad, as well as the governments of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority.

In this country, the matter has brought about one of the most serious crises in relations between Israel and Canada in years, given Berger's recall.

And last week, David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada, was called in by senior foreign affairs officials to express this country's anger at Israel's use of forged Canadian passports.

Prime Minister Jean Chretien denounced Israel's use of the passports as "completely unacceptable," while the opposition Reform party is calling for sanctions against Israel.

Rob Ritter, national executive director of the Canada-Israel Committee, said the whole affair was made worse by the fact that the two countries were unable to communicate because of the High Holidays.

Ritter said Canada-Israel relations have been "very profound" in the past and that the two nations will weather this latest storm.

"In the long run, it will be okay."

Israel's embassy in Ottawa was tight-lipped. A statement read to *The CJN* said "Canada and Israel are working on this matter to find a solution [to] all aspects. So far, contacts between the two foreign ministers and others have been very constructive."

In the wake of the affair, Ottawa has issued warnings to Canadian travellers in Israel and several Mideast countries to be extra careful and not to travel late at night or in dangerous areas.

David Viveash, acting charge d'affaires at the Canadian embassy in Tel Aviv, said there had been incidents in the past which "had been linked to the government of Israel," in which Canadian passports had been used.

"We've protested this in the past," Viveash said, noting that Canadian officials had made it clear to their Israeli counterparts "that we take great exception" to such use of Canadian passports.

Yassin back in Gaza

[Cont'd. from page 1]

"Arafat started out well and Hamas is nervous," a senior security source said. "If Arafat continues, this will be good. He has completed the arrests and is now investigating the suspects. We are following this up to ensure that the pressure on Hamas continues."

Meanwhile, U.S. peace coordinator Dennis Ross arrived in Israel on Monday and was scheduled to confer in Ramallah with Yasser Arafat and in Jerusalem with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Netanyahu briefed cabinet ministers last Sunday about the Meshal Affair, amid reports of mutual recriminations among the heads of the security services. Officially, the government refrained from commenting on the media reports concerning the affair.

At the cabinet meeting after the special meeting of the security cabinet, Netanyahu blasted the opposition for attacking the government over the Meshal Affair for partisan political reasons.

A statement issued by cabinet secretary Dan Naveh denied the *Sunday Times* report.

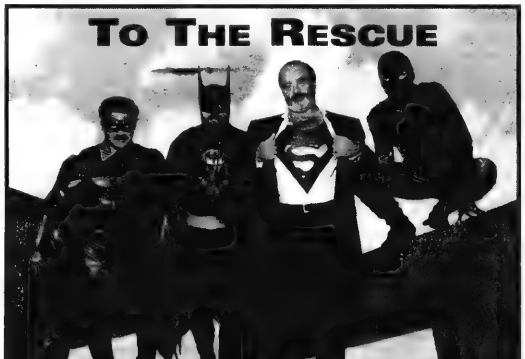
"It must be known that the decision-making process in Israel is such that the relevant security and intelligence branches bring their recommendations to the forum of their heads and then the recommendation is brought for the prime minister's approval, and on no account is there a reverse process of coercion," Naveh said.

"It is the government's duty to protect its citizens and fight against terrorism," Netanyahu reportedly said at the cabinet meeting. "We are witnessing irresponsible attacks on the government from within, a large part of which derives from base partisan political motives, while spreading lies and distorting the facts and endangering vital interests of the State of Israel."

The statement issued by Naveh after the session names Meshal as the No. 1 figure in Hamas, responsible for the murder of innocent Israelis.

Referring to "the irresponsible attacks from within on the government," Naveh said: "False charges are being published, cynically exploiting the fact that the government is refraining from comment at present."

MK Dalia Itzik, who heads the Labor party's response team, joined MK Shimon Peres in demanding that Netanyahu resign, stating that if even half of what was published is true, he must go.



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Iran's quest for weapons said to endanger Israel

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Iran's quest for non-conventional weapons endangers Israel's security and very existence, warns the former director of the Mossad, Israel's foreign intelligence agency.

"Iran is pursuing non-conventional military capabilities — nuclear, chemical, biological and long-range, surface-to-surface missiles," said Shabtai Shavit in an interview.

"If this problem is not taken care of, in a few years Iran will be a major threat to the security and even the survival of Israel."

Iran is also a potential menace to neighboring Arab countries and foreign nations dependent on Persian Gulf oil, warned Shavit, who headed the Mossad from 1989 until 1996 and who now directs the Maccabi Health Fund, Israel's second largest health insurance company.

He called on the United States, western Europe and Japan to exert influence on Iran to change its national priorities. Iran, he said, should divert its resources away from a non-conventional military buildup and toward the resolution of its internal problems.

Here to deliver lectures on the current situation in the Middle East on behalf of State of Israel Bonds, Shavit said that Iran's conventional forces do not pose a danger to Israel.

Shavit said he saw no possibility of a rapprochement between Israel and Iran as long as it is governed by Islamic fundamentalist clerics.

Shavit, 58, said that Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestine Authority (PA), can deal with terrorism "if he wishes to do so."

But, he added, "fighting terrorism is not like buying an insurance policy. No one can give you a 100 percent assurance that it can be eliminated completely."

Shavit believes it is possible for Israel and the PA to renew security cooperation at the highest levels. But Israel's security should not hinge on Palestinian promises. "Israel does not have to depend on the PA and Arafat. It would be a mistake to depend only on them. This is not the answer."

He disagreed with assessments that Israel's intelligence-gathering capabilities have been eroded by the Oslo peace process.

"Israel has always been able to gather intelligence, and we're doing it now. It's correct to say that Oslo created a new situation. Our security services have had to adjust. But we're doing pretty well."

He is "cautiously optimistic" that Israel and the Palestinians will revive their stalled peace negotiations. "What is the alternative?"

Shavit does not rule out the possibility of a limited war pitting Israel against Syria. Syria, he said, may initiate hostilities to break the present political impasse over the fate of the Golan Heights, much like Egypt did in 1973 when it launched an offensive to recapture the Sinai Peninsula. "One must be prepared at all times for any eventuality."

Syria, however, labors under two disadvantages: its army is inefficient and it is burdened with old equipment.

Shavit said Syria's often tense relationship with Iraq has improved of late. But, as regional and ideological rivals, Damascus and Baghdad remain deeply suspicious of each other. "I don't expect more than a brief marriage of convenience, let alone a military alliance."

Turning to Iraq, Shavit said that its military capabilities have been "drastically curtailed" since the 1991 Gulf War and the imposition of Western economic sanctions. But Iraq will be in a position to rebuild its armed forces once the sanctions are lifted.

He said that Israel was wise not to have become embroiled in the Gulf War, even after Iraq fired Scud missiles at Israeli cities. "It was the smartest decision for Israel not to be involved." The anti-Iraqi coalition might well have collapsed had Israel retaliated in response to Iraqi aggression.

On southern Lebanon, he observed: "Either we stay there and continue to fight Hezbollah on Lebanese territory, or we withdraw back across the border into a defensive mode. This is our dilemma. I believe that our decision should be determined purely by military and not political considerations."

Shavit said Hezbollah's own leaders have acknowledged that Israel's destruction is their ultimate objective.

Shifting to Israeli domestic politics, Shavit expressed concern about the secular/religious divide.

"This split has already caused a lot of harm to Israeli society," he said. And if fundamental changes are made to the so-called status quo, the unwritten compromise governing the bounds of religious observance in the country, Shavit fears that the consequences could be disastrous.

"It could drive a wedge between Israel and the Diaspora."

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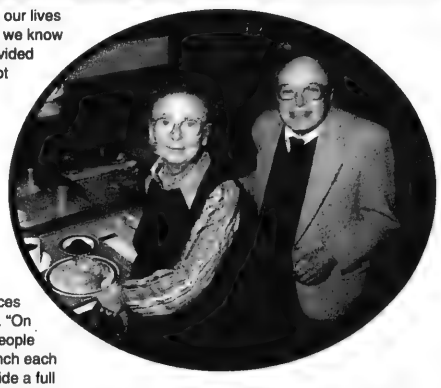

Photo Zephyr Studios Inc.

Several studies indicate that well nourished seniors enjoy better health and a better quality of life than those who are poorly nourished. The Hot Kosher Lunch Program, committed to maximizing the quality of life for seniors in the community, is another example of UJA Federation Funding in Action.

Greater Toronto Area

Guest Voices

Iron Guard left a bloody imprint in history

By SORIN FINCHELSTEIN

A tiny – and likely to go unnoticed – piece of news in a recent Saturday edition of the *Globe & Mail* brings back agonizing memories of the war period. The reader learns that in one of Romania's sea resorts, followers of the Iron Guard, "a Romanian group that killed tens of thousands of people during the Second World War, have built a monument to fascism."

For anyone who knows the European political scene before and during World War II, the information as published by the *Globe* is vague, to say the least. For it does not mention an essential detail: Who were these "thousands of people" and why were they killed? Some historical facts should be remembered.

To describe the Iron Guard as merely a "group" can induce the average reader into thinking of Bonnie and Clyde or of the Jessie James bunch. It must be said here that the Iron Guard was neither a "group" nor a gang. For almost two decades, the Legionnaires – as they liked to call themselves – were a Romanian political organization of national standing. Their beginnings, in the early '20s, even predated Hitler's Beer Hall Putsch of 1923.

The Iron Guard's political doctrine and message, while neither novel nor original, were clear, unequivocal, steadily professed and, at that time, appealing to many: Romania had to be rid of the pest that infested its culture, political and economic climate – the dirty Jew.

The "kamarades," as they would address each other, were not only politicians but also men of action. Through anti-Semitic agitation in newspapers, in schools and on campuses, through "punitive" raids into Jewish neighborhoods across the country, and through heinous crimes against the Jewish population and "Judeo-masonic conspirators" of Romanian origin, the "Legion" left its indelibly shameful and bloody imprint on Romania's history.

By employing sheer terror and racist demagoguery as political tools, the Iron Guard rose to prominence and in the summer of 1940, was called upon to be part of Marshal Ion Antonescu's government, thus gaining full political legitimacy. At that time, the "Legion" was one of the prominent fascist movements of Eastern Europe, along with the Croatian Ustasha, the Hungarian Arrowed Crosses and the Hlinka Guards in Slovakia.

Among the victims of the "green shirts," one can certainly mention the octogenarian professor Nicolae Iorga – a historian of European fame – dragged brutally from his home, taken to a nearby forest and pumped with bullets; or then-prime minister Armand Calinescu, executed Mafia-style, in broad daylight in downtown Bucharest.

Yet, the Guard's chief, obstinately pursued target was the Jewish segment of the population. Continuously harassed and abused, beaten savagely, thrown off moving trains or out of highrise windows and balconies, their dwellings and businesses pillaged, Romanian Jewry had nowhere to turn, as anti-Jewish legislation that mirrored the Nazi model was enacted increasingly on an almost daily basis.

Employed sheer terror and racist demagoguery

In January 1941, the Iron Guard felt strong enough to rebel against Antonescu, whom they accused of being "too soft" in dealing with those who opposed the "Legion." For three days and nights, the country faced acts of unthinkable atrocity. Gangs of green shirts armed with death lists prepared long in advance broke into houses and killed with a vengeance. Jewish quarters were looted and set ablaze while the inhabitants were viciously tortured, raped and murdered on the spot. Hundreds of Jews, including children and elderly people, were impaled and left hanging from meat-hooks at Bucharest's abattoirs. Soldiers were doused with gasoline and set aflame.

Finally, the rebellion was quashed by the army, while the German Embassy secured safe passage out of the country for the Iron Guard leaders. Of the rank and file who stayed behind, only a handful were brought to justice. However, the legionnaires' mission was far from finished. During the ensuing war, they were to play a major role in the little known, yet nonetheless abominable, Romanian Holocaust: the deportation to camps east of Nister (Transnistria) and the consequent slaughtering of half a million Romanian Jews.

Eventually, and most significantly the legionnaires' "political expertise" was largely used by the Communist party to ensure that they would "win" the first post-war elections. Later, during the early '50s, many "reformed" green shirts could be found acting as either tormentors or informers within many a Romanian political prison.

Back to the *Globe & Mail:* "The group was allowed to erect the monument after they built a stairway to the beach. 'From a civic point of view, I am delighted by their activity,' said the deputy mayor."

"From a civic point of view," I felt strongly compelled to let the truth be known. We owe this to the innocent victims of the Iron Guard. Yet the awareness is not important only from a historical perspective. Taking advantage of this country's traditional tolerance, or of our political naivete, some older or younger zealots have long been advocating the revival of the Legion's "spirit" on Canadian soil.

In conjunction with other disquieting developments, such as the worldwide resurrection of right-wing "nostalgia," the relative success of racist and xenophobic political platforms in France, Russia and Austria, or the gruesome ethnic cleansing in Bosnia, Rwanda and Zaire, these facts should increasingly drive us to study, understand and, most important, remember history, an undertaking in which the media must play a considerable and responsible role.

I am fully aware that the above piece of news as published by the *Globe*, or as relayed from Associated Press, could not have included all this information. I maintain, however, that the addition of two more pieces of information – who the victims were and why they were killed – would have helped the average reader to better grasp the issue, an issue which can be expressed by paraphrasing John Donne, "To whom are the monuments built?"

As for the stairway to the beach, I would rather be crawling through dirt, on all fours.

Sorin Finchelstein is a writer, mathematician, and engineer who lives in Toronto.

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Greater Toronto Area

Daf Yomi Siyum Hashas draws over 4,000

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Over 4,000 men, women and children at the Toronto Convention Centre joined people around the world last Sunday to celebrate the 10th Daf Yomi Siyum Hashas, the completion of a cycle of studying the entire Talmud.

They were joined by satellite hookup to similar celebrations in New York's Madison Square Gardens, Nassau Coliseum in Los Angeles, and Melbourne, Australia, where it was the next morning.

Programs were also held across the United States, in Montreal, Israel and Europe.

In the daf yomi program, which was begun by Rabbi Meir Shapiro in Lublin, Poland, in 1923, people undertake to study a page of Gemarah every day, for 2,711 days in a row.

There are at least 17 organized daf yomi classes in Toronto, as well as programs such as Dial-A-Daf, where participants can phone in for a daf yomi shiur.

Master of ceremonies Mordechai Mandlebaum noted that people from all segments of the Orthodox community took part in the experience. Participants might wear "black hats, payes or kippot sruga [the knitted kippah of the Central Orthodox], but they all study the same Torah," he said.

A young boy recites Tehillim, Psalms, during the 10th Siyum Hashas of Daf Yomi celebration at the Metro Convention Centre in Toronto. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Rabbi Baruch Taub, spiritual leader of Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation in Thornhill, had Hadran, the honor of the concluding portion and blessings of the previous cycle, and Rabbi Shlomo Miller of Kolel Avreichim began the new cycle, the honor called Haschasas Hashas.

Greetings were brought by Rabbi Mordechai Ochs, spiritual leader of Torath Emeth; Rabbi Yitzchok Kerzner of Clanton Park Congregation; Rabbi David Schochet of Lubavitch of Toronto, who offered special thanks to the wives of the participants; and Rabbi Yaakov Hirschman of Kolel Avreichim.

Greetings and addresses were presented via satellite from Rabbi Yaakov Weinberg, rosh yeshivah of Ner Israel of Baltimore; Rabbi Elya Svei, rosh yeshivah of the the Talmudical Yeshiva of Philadelphia; and Rabbi Avraham Pam, rosh yeshivah of Torah Vadaath, among others.

Prayers for the sick of Jewish communities everywhere were said, as were special prayers for those ill in Toronto. Kaddish and K'El Maleh Rachamim were recited for the victims of the Holocaust by Moshe Nussbaum and Rabbi Moshe Burak respectively.

In a dramatic turn of events, proceedings were stopped to say special Psalms for a young woman in the community badly hurt in an accident.

Guest speaker Rabbi Aaron Dovid Dunner of Kehilas Chareidim in London, England, urged the audience to dedicate themselves passionately to the study of Torah.

Musical interludes were presented by the Toronto Siyum Hashas Boys Choir, under the direction of Yehuda Gilden, and by Abie Rotenberg, Shlomo Simcha and the Toronto Adult Daf Yomi Ensemble.

Seven and a half years of daily study of Talmud ended that Sunday night. And Monday morning, in small groups all over the world, the cycle began again.

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Greater Toronto Area

ICJW president calls for women to help others

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Maybe it's the British accent, but June Jacobs sounds so refined that her activist advice not to be too polite can be disconcerting to a Canadian ear.

"Then it's a double whammy," noted the president of the International Council for Jewish Women (ICJW) in a recent interview here, not displeased with the effect.

Jacobs was in town as a keynote speaker at the 29th biennial convention of National Council of Jewish Women of Canada (NCJW), held at the Inn on the Park hotel.

"One of the important things for Jews to do in the world is to [help] and be seen to be helping communities less fortunate than ourselves, usually new immigrant communities," she told *The CJN*. "We know what it was like to be immigrants. We can help others and in so doing strengthen our own community."

She has been an executive ICJW member since 1977, when she became chair of its Soviet Jewry committee.

At the NCJW convention opening, she warned that members must not allow Israel to become a "patriarchal theocracy." Although ICJW, with almost 50 affiliates in

June Jacobs

44 member countries, doesn't have a policy on the issue, "many people are concerned that the religious right is becoming much too strong," she said in the interview.

In Israel, women face dress restrictions in certain areas of Jerusalem, and marriage and divorce are overseen by rabbinical courts in which only men can be judges, she noted.

Sporting two pins in her lapel – one an ICJW menorah, the other a dove of peace, she said the peace process would be "in much safer hands" if more women were involved. In a non-ICJW role, she has been involved in dialogue with Palestinian women in England for years.

Before her trip to Toronto, Jacobs attended an ICJW administrative committee meeting and European women's interfaith conference in Brussels. Her dream, she said is to have an ICJW world women's interfaith conference, hopefully in Jordan.

Now approaching the midpoint of her three-year term as president, Jacobs has travelled in her ICJW role – among other places – to South Africa and Australia, where local affiliates are involved in their own volunteer projects. In Johannesburg, with its recent rise in violence, Union of Jewish Women members are helping rape victims. In Australia, there is more emphasis on fundraising for Israeli institutions and help for the elderly.

In the United Kingdom, the community is preoccupied with the question of "Will our grandchildren be Jewish?" Jacobs said.

On a trip to Subotica on the Yugoslavian/Serbian border in 1995, she spoke with women from assimilated and intermarried families. "They're part of us," she said.

ICJW dates back to 1912, but faltered during the two World Wars before getting off the ground in 1948, when women from 12 countries met in Paris.

"We used to be an umbrella of like-minded affiliates doing social work and voluntary work, and supporting Israel as our centre," said Jacobs.

"Now I feel it's got to be more proactive, and it is." Among the ICJW committees established in the past 18 months are a committee on women's health and medical ethics and a lawyers' committee to fight on behalf of agunot.

The status of women in Jewish law merits a stronger response from the community, she believes. "I think the rabbis lack courage, lack will and unless they prove themselves otherwise, they lack ability." Almost 1,000 years ago, they were able to ban polygamy, she noted.

She advises women to become more informed about Jewish law. "The only women who can really fight for women's rights in Jewish law are learned."

City of David prompts town hall

VAUGHAN — The presence of the City of David Messianic Synagogue in a Thornhill mall is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to efforts to convert Jews to Christianity, a town hall meeting heard last week.

There are over 700 so-called messianic Jewish groups worldwide, with some 50 operating in southern Ontario, officials from Jews for Judaism told a large audience at the recently opened Sephardic Kehilla Centre.

The extent of Christian groups' proselytizing of Jews is "much bigger" than most people imagine, said Jews for Judaism director Julius Ciss.

The meeting was prompted by the recent controversy over City of David, which opened last month in the Main Exchange Plaza at Bathurst and Steeles. Jewish groups charged it would seek to convert Jews to Christianity by teaching that Jesus is the Jewish messiah.

At the meeting, Canadian Jewish Congress praised the owner of the plaza, Aetna Canada, for removing one large sign for the congregation, and changing another that described it as a synagogue.

Aetna VP Pat Smith said Aetna will "continue to explore various legal options" against the congregation, and welcomed Jews for Judaism to its new location, right next door to City of David.

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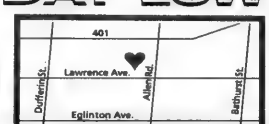

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Greater Toronto Area

Growth of religious, secular groups seen as leading to rift

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Any past agreements between religious and secular Israelis were based on misconceptions, says the chair of the department of Jewish Thought at Hebrew University.

Their biggest mistake, said Prof. Aviezer Ravitzky, was that each group believed the other would become weaker and eventually disappear.

Ravitzky was the keynote speaker at a recent Evening of Thanks, sponsored by Canadian Friends of Hebrew University. His topic was Religious and Secular Israelis: A Cultural War.

In the last few years, he told the capacity crowd at the Royal Ontario Museum, each group realized that the other was flourishing.

"This is the beginning of a new recognition that they have to live [with each other.] Tension is created in one group, when the other group flourishes."

Polarization exists, he said, when the status quo is not efficient any more. "When the situation and facts change, but the written words have not, there is tension."

When secular Israelis accepted the fact that yeshivah boys would be exempt from military service, there were only about 500 to 800 yeshivah students in Israel, said Ravitzky. "They did not foresee that a vast part of the population would be exempt. The reality did not fit their expectations."

On the other side, he said, when it was agreed that private cars could travel the roads on Shabbat, but buses could not, there were not many drivers in the country. "Today, about 60 percent of Israelis own cars. That is not what was expected about 40 years ago."

A third reason that classical agreements between religious and secular Jews are not efficient, he said, is that Israel was created right after the Holocaust when Jews were not as confident as they are now.

"Collectively, Jews today do not feel that they will [cease] to exist."

The danger of polarization is illustrated, said Ravitzky, by an interview he once had with an Israeli matzah baker:

"The baker said that each year, there was a two percent decrease in the amount of matzah sold. One percent, said the baker, was because of newly married couples who did not buy matzah for Passover. The other one percent was due to the young couples who would not buy matzah baked by machine. They were losing from both sides."

Hartman wants an end to Israel's Chief Rabbinate

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel's Chief Rabbinate should be abolished "because state religion is a total failure," says Rabbi David Hartman.

Speaking to 400 people recently at Holy Blossom Temple, Rabbi Hartman drew applause with his call for abolishing Israel's Chief Rabbinate.

A former Montreal rabbi, he is director of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem and is considered one of the world's leading Zionist thinkers.

Rabbi Hartman was the first of four speakers in the series Zionism on the Threshold of its Second Century, sponsored by Gerald Schwartz and Heather Reisman.

Israel has not reached its potential of giving a face to the Jewish people because religious Zionists are using the secular instrument of the Knesset to control society through a political coalition, Rabbi Hartman said.

"State religion is controlled by a bureaucracy," he said. "State religion is destroying Judaism."

On the issue of a Knesset bill that would make only Orthodox conversions legal in Israel, he said,: "You can't say that half the synagogues are *treif* in Israel and kosher in North America.

"The Conservative and Reform rabbis did not create the secular world. They did not create intermarriage. It was the open universities that did it," he said.

Rabbi Hartman said it was painful for him to take a negative view of events in Israel because, as a rabbi for 20 years and a teacher for 45, he believed Israel was on the way to fulfilling both its biblical and its talmudic legacies

"In Israel today there is a regression to the shtetl, an opposition to modernity. They say Jews can't survive without a ghetto. So far, we haven't proven that we can."

In the discussion period, Rabbi Hartman said the "conversion crisis" in Israel centres around 200,000 Russian immigrants who are not Jewish.

"Can we bring them into the Jewish fold? The Orthodox rabbinate is creating impossible conditions."

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The passport affair

There has been no official explicit confirmation from the government of Israel that the men who attempted to kill chief Hamas operative Khaled Meshal two weeks ago in Jordan were Israeli agents carrying phony Canadian passports. Nor will there be. But there has been implicit official confirmation.

The attempt failed. The two agents were caught. And thus was set in motion a scandalous spiral of intrigue, anger, accusation, denial, scandal and embarrassment.

The government of Canada was justifiably angered at the use of Canadian passports as part of the covert operation in Amman. The integrity of the passport's reputation was damaged and with it, the reliability of its use by Canadians travelling abroad, if only for a brief period of time. Moreover, in an area of the world known for its fanaticism, it is not overstating the matter to say that the use of Canadian passports in a plot against a powerful fanatic, may have even put Canadians at risk.

In the circumstances, therefore, the federal government was correct to act demonstrably and vocally, deploring the use of the passports, denying any involvement in their use, summoning Israel's ambassador in Ottawa, and recalling temporarily its ambassador in Israel. The government has demanded explanations from Jerusalem and according to reports, those explanations have been forthcoming.

But there are other circumstances in this affair, now cynically known as the passport affair, which also must be examined.

All democracies understand Israel's right to protect its citizens from terrorists and murderers. The democracies also understand that such a right must allow for taking all reasonable measures *in the circumstances* to strike at the planners and the perpetrators of terrorism before they strike at vulnerable, civilian populations.

Whether the Amman operation was, indeed, reasonable in the circumstances – having regard to the location of the action, the operational risks involved and the consequences of failure – is not for us to judge. The Israeli media have been scathing in their criticism of their government and of the security establishment for authorizing the Amman operation. Some have even referred to it as the worst blunder in the history of Israeli intelligence. Presumably, they are in a better position than we are, to judge.

We can judge, however, and fully support, Israel's right of operational freedom against the masterminds of grisly murder and wanton terror. Khaled Meshal is one such mastermind. He is not merely a political opponent or the leader of a competing faction or a "freedom fighter." He is rather, one of the acknowledged Hamas planners of suicide and other terror. And it must also be remembered that Hamas terror is not aimed exclusively at Israel. Israel is but the sovereign, political embodiment of their target. Their credo advocates "violence against Jews everywhere." *The day of judgment will not come about until Muslims fight Jews and kill them."* (Article 7 the Hamas Charter promulgated in 1988)

But if we support the right of Israel's operational freedom against terrorists, we do not support all manifestations of that freedom. Like all freedoms, even that one is qualified.

Israel has always prided itself, and rightfully so, on the "purity of arms" that it has employed since its birth, in its own defence. In addition, it has never asked any friendly country to send their nationals to fight its battles and help defend its borders. This has been an issue of high principle with Israel and a source, again rightfully so, of great pride for a small country that has been under siege since the day it was born.

In keeping with these standards and with this tradition of self-sufficiency, it is imperative therefore that Israel not jeopardize the nationals of a friendly country. The use of Canadian passports did precisely that. We imagine an apology to the government of Canada has already been extended. Certainly, one is warranted.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"We can know the time of our departure, but not of our arrival."
Yiddish proverb

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Born October 9, 1812, Dr. Aaron Hart David was the first Canadian-born Jew to practice medicine in Canada. He established his practice in Montreal in 1834.*(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

French helpful to Quebec immigrants

Re: the article on the theme of Citizenship Week, (*CJN*, Sept. 18 Montreal edition only), I want to clarify certain remarks attributed to me on Quebec immigration policy and notably the suggestion that I view as "legitimate" the favoring of French-speaking immigrants.

I maintain that allotting more points for immigrants who speak French as compared to those who speak English is not racist; however, I stated that there was a "legitimate" debate as to whether such provisions were discriminatory. In fact, one might conceivably argue that points offered for knowledge of any language represent a form of discrimination. Of course, there are many other aspects of immigration policy that might be considered discriminatory, for example, in the areas of economic and educational achievement.

Ideally, prior to immigrating to Quebec, potential candidates, independent of their origin, should be made aware of the language situation and be advised that among other things, the acquisition of French will enhance their ability to function in the Quebec marketplace. In that way, immigrants can make an informed decision about whether they wish to come to Quebec.

Jack Jedwab
Executive Director, Quebec Region
Canadian Jewish Congress

Our shuls are not strip malls

Can anything be done about the number of signs mushrooming outside every Jewish institution in town, invoking us to remember our roots, our bond, our oneness, our land, our future, our past. What an eyesore! Tzedakah is important, but enough signage already. Do we really want our shuls to resemble strip malls?

Donnie Friedman
Toronto

Israel asks: Where are the others?

During the recent United Jewish Appeal (UJA) Prime Minister's Mission, participants had the opportunity to perform the mitzvah of bikur cholim, visiting the sick, at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. In this case, the sick included several of the victims of the two recent bomb attacks at Machane Yehuda and Ben Yehuda Street. It was a very emotional visit, and very difficult – but one which each of us was proud to make as Jews, as individuals and as leaders of UJA.

Daniella, age 14, remains in critical condition in Hadassah's intensive care unit (ICU). Her mother stands by her bedside around the clock. However, when she heard that we had come to offer our support and our prayers, she came out of the ICU to greet us, to pray with us and to be comforted. It was the meaning of *Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh* — All of Israel is responsible for one another.

In the burn unit, we met with the mother of 16-year-old Noam, who also stepped away from her son's bedside. He is doing much better and his wounds will heal. However, the emotional scars will last a lifetime. She said that knowing we had come to visit will help Noam. She asked us to pray for his speedy recovery and for the other victims and their families.

Throughout our visit to Israel, everyone we met asked us the same question: Where are the others? They want to know why more Jews do not come to visit Israel. We tried to explain, but we all know that there is no satisfactory answer. We could only say that we were there and that we represented all of you who stand in unity and solidarity with the people of Israel.

The streets of Jerusalem are not what you would expect. They are not busy; they are not crowded. At night, as we passed by the hotels, we saw only a few lights, with many more rooms dark and empty.

This means that now, more than ever, we have to redouble our efforts to visit Israel. The people of Israel are looking to us for support in these trying times. We must show them that we care, not with hollow words of solidarity but with our feet. We must continue to come and visit!

Elliot Karp
Associate Vice-President
Major Donors, UJA
New York

Arafat's kiss is a wake-up call

Your editorial, "Death's straight line," forcefully condemns Yasser Arafat, not only for Israel's concern that he has a secret agenda, but for the company that he keeps in public and for all the world to see. The *Toronto Star*, Aug. 31, showed a most revealing and incriminating photograph of Arafat kissing Abdel Aziz Rantisi, co-founder of the militant Islamic opposition group Hamas.

That Yasser Arafat would form a partnership with someone who considers the very creation of the State of Israel as illegal is ominous and frightening in its implications. This is especially so when Rantisi calls for the liberation of Haifa, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. This kiss should act as a wake-up call to the Israeli government that the intention in the PLO Charter calling for the destruction of Israel is alive and well and there is no intention on the part of either Arafat or his cohorts to rescind or amend it. For its own survival, Israel must demand the disarmament of all terrorist groups and the imprisonment of their leaders as a condition precedent to any further implementation of the Oslo accords. To do otherwise, would be to commit national suicide.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

The pure sweet prayer

I know, of course, that there are very few entirely righteous people who never sin, whether it is a sin against a fellow human being personally or in monetary matters or by causing physical harm; whether by deed or by speech.

And my heart is pained.

Yom Kippur does not provide atonement for a sin committed against one's fellow human being until the injured individual forgives the one who committed the sin.

I am heartbroken; my bones ache, because even the day of one's death does not provide atonement.

Therefore dear God, to You do I direct my plea. Have mercy on me that You and everyone else may look upon me with favor, with kindness and with mercy.

I extend complete, total forgiveness to anyone who has ever sinned against me, whether in a physical manner or monetarily; to anyone who may have gossiped about me or may even have slandered me...

Let no one be punished on my account.

And even as I have forgiven all those who may have sinned against me, please enable them to look upon me favorably so that they, in turn, will find it in their hearts to grant me complete forgiveness.

Excerpted from the Tfillah Zakah the Pure, Sweet Prayer, a confessional recited before Kol Nidre on the eve of Yom Kippur. The prayer was written by Rabbi Avraham Danzig (1714 -1820).

Yom Kippur
Jacob Weinles (Polish, born 1880)

Opinions

Lack of judgment

By YOSEF GOELL
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

How should true patriots, public figures profoundly concerned with the security and well-being of their country, behave when it becomes evident that one or more of their top leaders has acted so irresponsibly as to endanger that country and that people?

I am referring to the Likud and their leader, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in the wake of the irresponsibly conceived and botched-up Khaled Meshal assassination affair.

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and lesser government spokespeople were correct last weekend in calling for restraint in public criticism, so as not to further prejudice attempts to free the two Mossad perpetrators from captivity in Jordan. Labor leader Ehud Barak, as opposed to some of the other party spokespeople, was indeed admirably restrained with that consideration in mind.

But such restraint can legitimately be demanded only if it is clear that there are concurrently at least a few courageous souls in the Likud itself who are determined to put country ahead of party.

Only a fortnight ago, Netanyahu was taking personal credit for the success of the General Security Services (GSS) in finally identifying the Palestinian perpetrators of the Machane Yehuda market and Ben Yehuda mall suicide-bombings. Whether he deserved the credit or not is a moot point. The fact remains that the prime minister is solely responsible for the operations of the GSS, as he is of the Mossad.

Netanyahu's irresponsibility does not lie in the determination to hunt down and kill as many political and operational heads of Palestinian terrorist gangs as possible. They fully deserve such treatment. Self-proclaimed terrorists must be given to understand that sooner or later they are dead men. All the more so when such pinpoint retribution is the clearly preferable alternative to collective punishment against large parts of the Palestinian public, even though some are knowing abettors of the terrorists among them.

The irresponsibility and abominable lack of judgment lie in the prime minister's failure to consider all the complex and dangerous implications, according to Jordanian reports, of killing Meshal in Jordan in the present circumstances and the price that Israel would have to pay, not only in the case of a botched-up job, which can never be ruled out, but even for success.

These considerations and the weighing of gains against irreparable harm to Israel have kept that arch-terrorist Yasser Arafat alive and immune from such Israeli actions.

Peace with Jordan has been Israel's greatest achievement in recent years. But it is no secret that peace is so far primarily with King Hussein, the Hashemite family and their immediate supporters. Large parts of the Jordanian public are opposed to peace with Israel and continue to wish our destruction and the disappearance of the king and his family.

The Hamas in Jordan is part of that very large opposition to the king and his relations with Israel. King Hussein tolerates Hamas because he feels he has no choice, realizing that opposing them head-on, rather than by subterfuge and guile, could deluge his country with Egyptian-style terrorism, or worse, reduce Jordan to another Algeria.

It is highly unlikely that King Hussein could weather such a terrorist storm as well as Egypt's Hosni Mubarak or even the Algerians. Any Israeli prime minister who does not understand that or who cannot resist the temptation of playing James Bond in Amman is the epitome of irresponsibility and does not deserve to remain in office.

In our half-century of confrontation with Arab enemies, our deservedly vaunted intelligence services have had their share of stinging failures and mishaps. In an 1954 security mishap, when an equally irresponsible action was mounted by IDF intelligence against American institutions in Cairo, a reputedly namby-pamby prime minister, Moshe Sharett, sacked the all-powerful defence minister, Pinhas Lavon and the head of IDF Intelligence, Benjamin Gibly.

In the mid-1980s then-premier Yitzhak Shamir, foreign minister Shimon Peres and defence minister Yitzhak Rabin refused to accept responsibility for the enormous lack of judgment and control behind the use of Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard in the heart of the American intelligence establishment.

By this collective shirking of responsibility they caused grievous harm to Israel's interests in the United States. Is it too much for us today to expect the patriots in the Likud to seek to emulate Sharett rather than the Pollard trio, who preferred to have Pollard languish in jail rather than accept supreme political responsibility?

Knesset reacts to "Meshal Affair"

By LIAT COLLINS AND MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Several parties — ranging from Moledet to Meretz — have gathered the necessary 30 signatures for a special recess session of the Knesset to discuss the Meshal affair. The session has been scheduled for next week.

However, Sunday night, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu cancelled the meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence committee scheduled for Monday. The decision was made together with committee chair Uzi Landau (Likud) apparently to avoid providing another focus for media attention.

The Knesset subcommittee on secret services did meet with the prime minister Sunday to receive a report on the affair. No details were released.

Moledet was first to ask for a special Knesset session with a motion titled "The war against Hamas," while Meretz filed a motion on "A profile of the prime minister as a decision-maker on fateful issues."

Meretz whip Haim Oron said he would ask speaker Dan Tichon to ensure that Netanyahu is present and that he addresses the Knesset at the session "to explain to the nation his decision on the action in Jordan."

Labor also asked for a special session on "the functioning of the prime minister."

Likud whip Meir Sheetrit accused the opposition of seeking political gain, even though details of the affair have not been fully investigated and said the country cannot stop fighting terror.

Landau said Sunday he does not support appointing a commission of inquiry to investigate the affair. He said such commissions have been over-used and their value has eroded.

The CJN's columnists will return next week.

"We [the Foreign Affairs and Defence committee] will demand a full report and after we have heard it, we will have to see what needs to be done. All the handling of the affair — and we have to remember it is not over yet — at this stage should be such that the media coverage will not hinder those who are trying to bring about its swiftest possible end."

Third Way MK Alex Lubotzky called on Netanyahu to establish a National Security Council, a clause in the Basic Law: The Government. He said his party had demanded the council be established as part of the conclusions drawn on decision-making processes after the Bar-On affair earlier this year. He said such a council would have been able to draw up proper plans and consider all the possible consequences of such an action.

Former prime minister Shimon Peres told Israel Radio that the premier is ultimately responsible for the affair, if the press reports are true.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid said the Knesset subcommittee for secret services, of which he is a member, should investigate "the prime minister's hasty and reckless decisions concerning the action in Jordan."

He recalled that the subcommittee had acted as a commission of inquiry under Abba Eban investigating the Jonathan Pollard affair.

Ran Cohen (Meretz), a former chair of the subcommittee, placed the responsibility fully on the prime minister and said Netanyahu had broken the rule that countries do not act in a way that could harm friendly states.

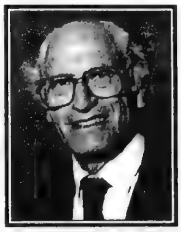
MK Avner Shaki (National Religious Party) called for restraint and unity, particularly since all the details are not known.

"It is an especially sensitive issue and it is our duty not to speak out against a person or institution until all the details are known, and they will be known," he said.

MK Dalia Itzik, who heads Labor's response team, said that even if only half the reports turn out to be true, Netanyahu should resign.

Too many seniors?

Increasingly, senior citizens are seen by many of their younger contemporaries as a drain on the public purse. Subconsciously the complaint reflects an idea rooted in ancient human history: the old should go away, and the sooner the better.



By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Some officials of the Canadian government apparently agree, probably subconsciously as well. Proof: social insurance cards for ordinary, "normal" people (i.e. those not yet ready for the ash heap) feature our Parliament buildings in bright, pleasant daylight. Old age cards are very similar, but with one great difference: the daylight is gone and Parliament is pictured in the dark, with but one light still shining.

I know of no other public document as explicit as this. Gone is all pretense. "Buzz off!" the plastic says to me: "Your lights are going out, but you insist on hanging around. You're costing us money; so, be a good citizen and oblige the public. Besides, we're trying to balance our budget and you and likes of you are making it difficult for us."

Anyway, that's the message I read, and I am not amused. It is true that in some respects I *am* a drain on the public purse, seeing that in Ontario my medical needs are generally met from taxpayers' moneys (though I too pay taxes and therefore share in the cost; but given the benefits I receive, I am way ahead).

I have long been of the opinion that social entitlements should at least to some degree be related to people's financial capacity, and those well-off should continue to carry their own weight. But successive governments have been loath to incur the displeasure of us older voters.

Meanwhile, the number of those feeding from the common trough gets larger every year. Putting off retirement and keeping the older citizens on the labor roster would alleviate some of the burden. Even so, and especially because of our low birth rate, Canada's population pyramid will become distorted or even inverted. The aged may some day become more numerous than the young, yet the latter will have to supply old-age benefits to the former if the present policies go unchallenged. Treating the pyramid as if all were well is bound to bring on a future national economic disaster, and even for this reason alone, the limit of 65 should be changed.

Benjamin Disraeli once said that youth is a blunder, manhood a struggle and old age a regret, and a medieval Jewish writer judged old age to be a natural illness. I have never felt that way, and in my mother I had a better model to emulate. Quite clearly, biological age and chronological age need not coincide.

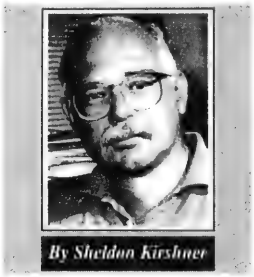
We cannot all be as lucky as she. We need the right kind of genes, a bit of luck and above all, the will to keep mind and body alert. Old is not always good, but it often is, and more often than people realize.

(The substance of this article was excerpted from Rabbi Plaut's new book, *More Unfinished Business* [a sequel to his earlier autobiography], to be published by University of Toronto Press on Nov. 5.)

The Kirshner File

Malcolm Lester is back with a vengeance

Malcolm Lester is back. The man known as the "phoenix of Canadian publishing" has embarked on yet another



By Sheldon Kirshner

venture as a publisher of quality books for serious readers. His Toronto-based firm, a limited partnership backed by 14 investors, is called Malcolm Lester Books.

Since 1973, when he established his first company, the former rabbinical student has presided over the fortunes of Lester & Orpen, Lester & Orpen Dennys and Lester Publishing.

And now, about a year after the demise of his last company, which he liquidated for personal reasons, Lester has returned to the fold.

"We have a very good shot at being successful," he said in an interview in his spartan office adjacent to a parking lot off Yonge Street.

A self-described "entrepreneur of ideas" who sincerely believes that reading is good for the soul, he is sanguine for two reasons. He believes that the books which bear his name will be on the intellectual cutting edge, and hence, appealing. And he is confident that his company, which has been funded to the tune of about $300,000, can break even within two years and turn a profit by the third, despite the new media technologies — the Internet and CD-ROMs — vying for the public's time and money.

"The marketplace remains viable and rich in opportunities," observed Lester, who has published approximately 400 works of non-fiction and fiction during his career.

Lester, 59, hews to the view that the publishing business may be on the cusp of a golden era, in which books are once again the focus of North American culture. As evidence of this, he cites the rise of the super bookstore.

Lester, who plans to publish his first volume in the spring of 1998, contends that the electronic media cannot replace books. Rather, they generate an interest which can only be fully satisfied by a book. "We are the people of the book, not of the CD-ROM," he said jocularly. "Technology notwithstanding, there will always be a substantial audience demanding serious books."

He plans to publish six books in his first operational year, leading off with *The Ghosts That Haunt Us*, a collection of Jason Schwartz's photographs of Holocaust survivors. It will be followed by the still-untitled memoirs of Arthur Schaller, who escaped from the Warsaw ghetto at the age of 13 and found refuge in the countryside.

Lester also intends to reprint two of Morley Torgov's prize-winning novels, *The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick* and *A Good Place to Come From.*

A stickler for fine prose, he hopes to publish upwards of 15 books annually in the not too distant future. In addition, Lester plans to publish "sponsored" books with corporate participation, without compromising his integrity, he claims.

To keep overhead costs as low as possible, Lester, the only permanent employee,will use freelance editors, designers and production coordinators. Raincoast Books in Vancouver will handle distribution and marketing,

By happenstance, all 14 of his investors are Jewish. "A lot of the publishing I do falls into the broad realm of Judaica, and they wanted to see that kind of publishing thrive."

Among the members of the consortium are Jerry Shapiro, a book and magazine wholesaler; Jerry Grafstein, a Canadian senator; Lionel Schipper, the former chair of the *Toronto Sun*; David Rothberg, a mutual fund executive; Malcolm Coven, founder of the Byway chain; Merle Kriss, a banker; Henry Campbell, a CD-ROM manufacturer; and Annette Cohen, a filmmaker.

In all probability, they supported Lester because they were impressed by his track record. He has doubtlessly brought out some of the finest books in the annals of Canadian publishing:

• *None is Too Many: Canada & the Jews of Europe, 1933-1948,* by Irving Abella and Harold Troper, changed the way in which Canadians perceived Canada's immigration policy. It sold 75,000 copies.

• *The Story of Canada,* by Janet Lunn and Christopher Moore, was probably the first illustrated book of its kind for young readers. It racked up sales of more than 100,000, a record for Lester.

• *The Illustrated History of Canada,* edited by Craig Brown, was one of the first popular books of the genre for adults.

• *Rites of Spring: The Great War and the Birth of the Modern Age,* by Modris Eksteins, explored the relationship between mass culture and armed conflict.

• *Chretien: The Will to Win,* by Lawrence Martin, was a seasoned reporter's biography of Canada's current prime minister.

• *In the Sleep Room: The Story of CIA Brainwashing Experiments in Canada,* by Anne Collins, won the Governor-General's award for non-fiction.

• *Vengeance,* by George Jonas, related Israel's efforts to track down and assassinate the Palestinian masterminds of the massacre of Israeli athletes at the 1972 summer Olympic Games in Munich, Germany.

In 24 years, Lester has published 50 Judaica titles. Apart from *None is Too Many,* those which immediately come to mind are *The Atlas of the Holocaust* by Martin Gilbert, *The End of Days: A Story of Tolerance, Tyranny and the Expulsion of the Jews from Spain* by Erna Paris and *A Coat of Many Colors: Two Centuries of Jewish Life in Canada* by Irving Abella.

In selecting a manuscript for publication, Lester must not only be drawn to the topic, but to its stylistic presentation. "Good writing," he said with a touch of regret, "is hard to come by."

A voracious consumer of books, magazines and newspapers, Lester was born in Toronto, the son of Zelma and Lionel, 20th Century Fox's sales representative in Ontario.

As an undergraduate, he majored in mathematics at the University of Toronto. Pursuing his MA at the U of T, Lester, a Reform Jew, studied philosophy, and was influenced by the likes of Martin Buber, Emil Fackenheim and Abraham Heschel.

"I decided to be a rabbi to understand my Jewish heritage from a philosophical perspective," explained Lester, an intense, small-L liberal wary of "absolute truths with a capital T.".

In his third year at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, a personal crisis loomed when he realized he had grave doubts about religion. "I felt I couldn't continue. It was pretty traumatic."

Emerging from the trauma after four months of soul searching, Lester resolved to find a vocation where ideas and business were in harmony.

"I knew nothing about publishing," he said of his plunge into it. "I went through the Yellow Pages."

Leafing through the phone book, he called Holt, Rinehart & Winston, which had an opening for a math editor. Lester was hired on the strength of his background in mathematics. He spent seven years there, rising to managing editor. In 1971, he became general manager of Coles Publishing.

Teaming up with Eve Orpen, a marketing and promotion specialist, he formed Lester & Orpen. "It was a very big step to open up your own company," he recalled. But he and Orpen hit it off, and their partnership ended only with her death.

Now, almost 20 years later, Lester has come full circle, ready and eager to meet the demands of discriminating readers who expect nothing but the highest editorial standards from the phoenix who has arisen from the ashes.

Spies galore

Spies can determine the fate of nations, as Ernest Volkman's illuminating book, *Spies* (John Wiley & Sons), attests. In this fascinating volume, he tells the stories of more than 40 top-drawer agents, some of whom were Jewish.

One of the greatest was Leopold Domb, a Polish Jew and a Communist who was recruited by Soviet intelligence after being deported to France by Poland in 1928.

From his base in Brussels, Domb built a top-flight espionage organization throughout Western Europe known as the Red Orchestra. In the spring of 1941, he warned the Soviet Union of an impending German invasion, but Josef Stalin disregarded the alarm. In post-war Poland, Domb grew disillusioned with communism. He settled in Israel in 1974, and died in Jerusalem nine years later.

Israel Beer was a Soviet mole in Israel. Born in Austria, he fought for the Loyalist side in the Spanish civil war. During Israel's War of Independence, he was the Haganah's chief of operations in the upper Galilee. Subsequently, he wrote an official history of the war for the Ministry of Defence.

By virtue of his friendship with David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, Beer was privy to state secrets. He was arrested in 1961, tried and convicted of espionage and sentenced to 10 years in prison. He died in jail in 1966.

Volkman also chronicles the careers of Gabor Peter, a Hungarian Jew who passed secrets to Moscow in the 1930s and 1940s, of Israeli spies Eli Cohen and Wolfgang Lotz, whose feats have been duly documented, and of master spy Markus Wolf, who headed East Germany's foreign intelligence agency for 34 years.

17TH ANNUAL

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

OCT. 30 - Nov. 9, 1997

If you missed the brochure detailing the full program in the September 25th issue of *The Canadian Jewish News*, please call (416) 631-5689 to order your copy or visit our web site at www.feduja.org

Opening Night

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Marking the 50th anniversary of the voyage of the Exodus, *the most famous of the Aliyah Bet ships attempting to bring Holocaust survivors to Palestine, the evening's program will feature:*

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• NAT NADLER, *one of the original crew of the* Exodus

• PROFESSOR MEIR SCHWARTZ, *an Israeli Haganah commander who accompanied the survivors to Palestine*

• several passengers of the *Exodus* now living in Canada

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Holocaust Education Week is coordinated by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation

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- Keeping kids out of the conflict
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6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
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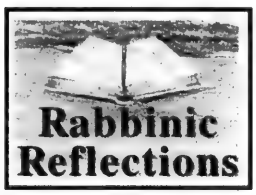
For fee information and registration call Pat Lieberman at Jewish Family and Child Service, 638-7800, ext. 215.



Judaism always offers us a Plan B

By RABBI LEIGH LERNER

The federal government's approach to national unity proceeds on two fronts. Plan A and Plan B. Plan A seemed to be "more of the same." Plan B, perhaps tougher, perhaps more realistic, was chosen after lack of positive results from the first.

Similarly, Yom Kippur comes to suggest that regardless of the Plan A we have chosen, there's a Plan B that might work better.

Judaism always offers Plan B. Judaism never stops suggesting that we move on to a better life, a superior ethic, a higher meaning, a deeper spirit. Judaism has never been "more of the same." It cries out for us to reach for Jerusalem, a city of holiness, a world of holiness. When we stop having Plan B, we'll stop being Jews.

Emotion is part of Judaism's Plan B. Synagogues can be places to hide emotion, a place to be cool, calm and collected. Mustn't become too joyous. Not cool. Mustn't sway with the music. Not calm. Mustn't shed a tear of sorrow or joy. Not collected.

Plan B gives permission to have emotion in synagogue. To weep at Yizkor, to bring fist to heart during *al chet*, to accept the shofar's blast at Neilah as a balm of comfort — these are ways to be more of a human being and to feel that we are accepted by others with forgiveness at the same time. Jewish life shapes and directs emotion toward holiness. If it's taboo to express emotions in a Jewish context, how can that happen?

Plan B also calls for devotion.

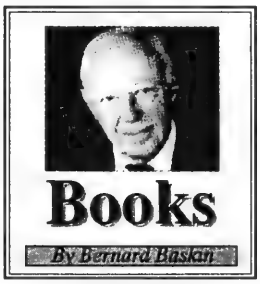
Rabbi Larry Hoffman points out that across North America, the ethnicity of Jewishness is wearing thin. If synagogues can no longer be temples of ethnicity, they must return to their original purpose, places of prayer and study, mitzvah and Torah, and Jews who want to remain Jewish must either devote themselves to developing their faith or lose purpose.

Yom Kippur, with its Torah readings, its recounting of worship in First Temple days, its martyrology of rabbis, points toward devotion. It calls us to restore the study of Jewish texts and their inspirational power to our personal agenda.

Plan B needs locomotion. It needs an engine in front to pull and power behind to push. These days, the engines that drive change in organizations are not committees: they are teams, people working hand in hand with unified purposes, depending on each other's strengths, knowledge, and commitment — trusting each other. Congregations and whole communities need each of us on the team, on side, working with other Jews toward great goals.

For sins against God, Yom Kippur atones. For sins against people, it does not atone until we have gone to them and asked forgiveness. Atonement requires a new plan of action, a changed life. Plan B calls us to love God with all our heart, our soul, and our might — with all our emotion, devotion and locomotion.

Rabbi Lerner is spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom in Montreal.



Countering some myths

***The Myth of Rescue*, by William D. Rubinstein (Routledge $25 US).**

In this revisionist and controversial book the author argues that the rescue of significant numbers of Jews during the war by the democratic countries was impossible. Those historians who argue otherwise, he states, have misconstrued the tragic situation faced by Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe.

Rubinstein, professor of history at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, attempts to counter what he considers to be widespread myths about the democracies: that they closed their doors to Jewish refugees prior and during the Holocaust; that they could have bombed Auschwitz or other death camps; that they failed to negotiate with the Nazis with the aim of bartering for Jewish lives; and that they turned their back on Jews because of anti-Semitism or anti-immigrant sentiment in the United States and Great Britain.

The author indicates that there were few barriers to the emigration of German Jews during the years 1933 to 1939. Over 70 percent of German Jewry, escaped, including 83 percent of German children and youth. When the war broke out 140,000 Jews still remained in Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia. Many of these failed to leave because they were sure the Nazi madness would pass.

Could the railway lines into Auschwitz, or the camp itself, have been bombed? The author asserts that David Ben-Gurion and other Jewish leaders opposed the idea which would have killed large numbers of prisoners and left the survivors to the retaliatory fury of the Nazis.

Moreover, the bombing of Auschwitz or any other camp in eastern Europe was impossible for Allied bombers before December 1943 when the Foggia airbase in Southern Italy was captured. Rubinstein asserts that advances in photography that can now reveal details such as victims being forced into gas chambers did not exist in the 1940s.

The various "negotiation" offers of the Nazis including the famous "blood for trucks" ransom proposal were not, suggests Rubinstein, serious or practical. The Nazis continued to murder Jews at the very time that Joel Brand was desperately trying to secure financial backing for the "offer." In any case the number of Jews saved would have been lamentably few.

It was necessary to concentrate all of the Allied resources in winning the war as quickly as possible. The historian Gerhard Weinberg, has written, "Consider how many more Jews would have survived had the war ended even a week earlier — and conversely, how many more would have died had the war gone on seven days longer. In each case, the answer is in the tens of thousands…We should realize with certainty that the number saved by winning the war as quickly as possible had to be vastly greater than the total number of Jews who could be saved by any rescue efforts proposed by anyone from 1941-45."

The author's conclusion is definite: "Neither the West's Jewish leaders in late 1942, or the American government, had the slightest power to stop Hitler's genocide, and knowledge of the Holocaust in the West did not — and could not — have halted or diminished the death toll, given Hitler's psychotic monomania…it cannot be emphasized too strongly that the responsibility for the Holocaust lies solely and wholly with Adolf Hitler, the SS, and their accomplices, and with no one else. In searching for a rational explanation of modern history's greatest crime, it is important that we not assign guilt to those who were innocent."

One of the book's significant revelations is that the much praised U.S. War Refugee Board did not save the lives of 200,000 Jews as often indicated. The actual number was closer to 20,000.

This well-researched book can be challenged on several grounds. Commonwealth countries were not eager to accept Jews. The author agrees that Canada was "subject to extreme nativist and even anti-Semitic pressure especially from Quebec."

Jewish Life

Diplomatically Speaking
By JEHUDI KINAR

Jewish community prepares for Israel's 50th

Of course the reader will have the same experience as I that the older you get the faster time seems to pass by. A couple of months ago I pointed out that in the coming year we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of Israel. We are now in the midst of our High Holidays which many of the readers spend at home and others in Israel or elsewhere. The next Jewish holiday will be Chanukah. It has been decreed that the night on which we shall light the first Chanukah candle (this year on Dec. 23) will also be the date to start the many celebrations around the world.

We plan to invite the different political leaders of the world to light the candle in their respective capitals. It would be wonderful if all the national organizations, as well as the local organizations of Canada's Jewish communities, could send their representatives to be present at the lighting of the chanukiah in Ottawa. At the same time, on the local level, the beginning of the 50th anniversary festivities will also be celebrated. "Israel at 50" celebration committees have been set up or are being set up all over the country.

The committee in Toronto, chaired by Julia Koschitzky, has met numerous times and is making tremendous progress. All ideas and suggestions are welcome and all are being considered. The preparatory work being done in Toronto is not for the benefit of that city alone but we hope that other cities can also enjoy the fruits of the efforts made there.

Nearly 100 organizations have joined the committees working with the central celebration committee and this body could be an example for other cities. The national "Israel at 50" committee will also meet soon and will give its recommendations to the different federations of the Jewish communities in Canada.

An important instrument for the success of the program will be the community calendar established by the organizing committees. This is needed so as to avoid duplication of events and to enable different organizations to join forces. All of us are, of course, looking forward to the events of December 23rd and of Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) which will be celebrated April 30, so keep these days free.

We as a consulate will only participate during the year of the 50th anniversary at those events which have been organized in coordination with the committees. This, of course, does not mean that members of the consulate will be able to attend every one of the many events which have already been planned for the occasion. We will, however, do our best to respond positively to all requests.

As a last point, I want to stress that a visit to Israel is a must during the coming months. At these times when there is again a small decline in tourism to Israel, the way to show one's solidarity is by going there. There are many Canadian Jews who have never even visited Israel. Do not wait for another 50 years to celebrate with us! Be with us here and in Israel.

G'mar Chatimah Tovah.

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Toronto Chapter

wishes to extend a Happy New Year's greeting and Mazal Tov to all those families celebrating a Bar or Bat Mitzvah this coming year.

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Yom Kippur's really a joyful day

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

We are now in the closing days of the Aseret Y'mei Tshuvah, which culminate with Yom Kippur on Friday night. Since Yom Kippur is the most famous date on the Jewish calendar, its traditions may seem very familiar. But a trip down the Jewish Highway can put some old rituals in a very new light.

Virtual Jerusalem's excellent summary of Yom Kippur customs starts by challenging us to rethink how we view "the most misunderstood day of the year." **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/yomkippur/]**. Yom Kippur's special observances might make you think it is oppressive. Actually it is a joyful day when G-d performs spiritual operations on us that prepare us for the year ahead.

For more Virtual Jerusalem links, see **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/rosh/yomkip.htm]**. There, you'll find The Yom Kippur Survival Guide, a Yom Kippur for Kids section and stories about the day.

Yom Kippur starts with the celebrated Kol Nidre. But Eliezer Siegel asks, "Why should a legal ritual for the annulment of vows be inserted into the beginning of what is supposed to be a day of intense prayer? Why, for that matter, should vows be annulled at all? Should they not simply be fulfilled?" For the answer see The Kol Nidre Controversy **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/Shokel/910906_Kol_Nidre.html**. More Eliezer Siegel essays on Yom Kippur can be found at **[http://www.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/ Shokel/Calendar_Index.html# YK]**.

Perhaps the focal prayer of the High Holy Day services is the extremely moving Unetaneh Tokef.

"On New Year's Day the decree is inscribed. And on the Day of Atonement it is sealed How many shall pass away and how many shall be born? Who shall live and who shall die?"

For a moving history of the prayer traditionally attributed to Rabbi Amnon of Mainz, see the Orthodox Union's Cyber Home of Torah **[http://www.ou.org/chagim/roshhashannah/unetaneh.html]**. This prayer gained popular status when it was adapted by Leonard Cohen as *Who by Fire* in 1974. You can find the lyrics and an audio excerpt at **[http://www.music.sony.com/Music/ArtistInfo/LeonardCohen/whobyb.html]**.

According to the singer/poet, Cohen volunteered to sing before the Israeli troops during the Yom Kippur War after which he was moved to write his version **[http://www.itsystem.se/guitar/who.by.fire.html]**.

For more traditional music and lectures about Yom Kippur, take a listen at 613.org **[http://www.613.org/roshyomkippursuccot.html#y]**. You'll find everything from a recital of the Book of Jonah Yom Kippur Haftorah to Rabbi Shalom Tendler on Love is Always Having to Say You're Sorry.

In Heroic & Humble: Our High Holy Days, Ourselves, Rabbi Harold M. Schulweis of Temple Valley Beth Shalom in Encino, Calif., looks at the dual nature of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and finds the essence of these holidays reflected in ourselves **[http://shamash.org/reform/uahc/rjmag/997hs.html]**.

Jewish Theological Seminary Chancellor Ismar Schorsch ponders just what we are praying for with such fervor on Yom Kippur. Surprisingly not eternal life, but just a slight extension **[http://www.jtsa.edu/pubs/parashah/5756/yomkippur.html]**.

Until next week when we look at the joyous festival of Sukkot, I'd like to wish all my readers and their families a Gmar Chatimah Tovah.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish Vocational Services reflects on 50 years

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Few aspects of Canadian society have changed as much over the past 50 years as employment, in its nature, purpose or even existence. So it follows that few Jewish organizations have changed as much as Jewish Vocational Service of Metro Toronto (JVS).

JVS had humble beginnings in 1947, with a makeshift office in the headquarters of Tip Top Tailors, at College and Spadina. It was established by leaders of the garment industry to help Jewish war veterans and Holocaust survivors find work, mainly in the needle trade. One of the agency's founders, the late clothing manufacturer Max Enkin, worked feverishly to get Ottawa to boost its quota of immigrant Jewish tailors.

He and the other founders probably wouldn't recognize today's JVS, now in a large building in the Dufferin-Lawrence area. Bristling with new programs and the latest in technology, the front-line service not only finds jobs for new arrivals, it trains, rehabilitates, counsels and works to boost self-esteem for anyone who needs its help.

That's one reason the agency has chosen the topic of emotional intelligence (EQ) as the theme for this, its 50th anniversary year.

In addition to events throughout 1997 and '98, JVS plans a day-long symposium on the topic, on Nov. 18. Slated to attend is Dr. Reuven Bar-On, the Israeli psychologist who developed the now world-famous test that can accurately gauge a person's emotional intelligence, or EQ.

Unlike conventional IQ test, the EQ quiz charts a wide range of attitudes, like happiness, optimism, empathy and ability to deal with stress. Bar-On's test has been used on soldiers in the Israeli army and is currently employed by several Fortune 500 companies on prospective employees.

Job placement rate of 85 percent

Results have found that people can have high IQs and still be poor navigators of their emotional selves, while those with lower IQ scores can be happy and even-keeled.

JVS plans to use the test one day, and another one currently being developed for children. Meanwhile, the agency offers nearly 30 programs and services to keep up with an employment situation that is fluid and, warn some, even imperiled.

One indicator of how key JVS has become in the community is its budget: In 1993, the agency ran on $3.4 million. Today, it needs $5 million a year, provided by governments, the United Way and United Jewish Appeal.

JVS serves about 12,000 clients a year, says agency president Michael Miller, including 4,000 students in Toronto's Jewish day school system who benefit from psycho-educational counselling. About 70 percent of clients are Jewish.

While career counselling, testing and job placement still form JVS' central core, services range from help with brushing up interviewing skills and a resume, to actually getting small businesses off the ground.

The Start Smart program, funded by Ottawa, hears ideas for new business start-ups, and helps create marketing plans. Over the past year, the program has helped some 120 individuals.

JVS also teams with other community organizations, such as Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, Reena and Jewish Family and Child Service, to help in such areas as English language training, working with the brain injured, and most recently, helping to train and place those whose welfare payments are supplemented by subsidies from the community.

JVS also runs a sheltered workshop at the Baycrest Centre.

Innovation has helped JVS keep up with the times. Its Women in New Roles (WINR) program helps women who have difficulty entering or re-entering the labor force, while the Health Sector Training and Adjustment Program helps those laid off or "downsized" from work in the health care system.

Overall, the agency boasts a job placement rate of 85 percent, not "McJobs," says Miller, but steady and well-paying work. And over the past year, the agency has helped 200 clients with developmental and physical disabilities find work.

The agency is doing outreach to large hotel chains seeking workers, as well as continuing to put out the word to all employers that JVS can function as an employment agency, at no cost. Employers can tap JVS to fill vacancies and co-op placements, and furthermore get a government subsidy.

The agency can look to the future with confidence, knowing that the Canadian economy's biggest growth lies in small and medium-sized businesses. JVS plans not only to supply them with workers, but to show businesses how to use the Internet to advertise and buy supplies.

It also plans to set up training programs to develop skills in computers and software, projected as a major growth area over the next 20 years.

To accommodate its growth, the agency is looking to move into a 27,000-square-foot facility in the Finch-Yonge area, and is hoping to open an office in York Region.

In all, it's come a long way from beating the bushes for jobs for tailors and seamstresses.

The 50th annual general meeting of JVS will take place Oct. 14 at 6 p.m. at Beth Tzedec Congregation. Guest speaker will be Elaine Todres, president of the Baycrest Foundation.

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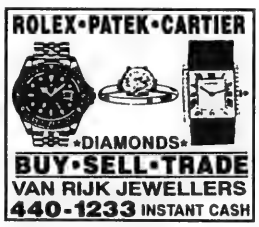

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Greater Toronto Area

Dorn was leader at Shaarei Shomayim

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Myer Dorn, former executive director of Toronto's Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue and a dedicated community leader, died recently after a lengthy illness. He was 79.

Obituary

Myer Dorn

Born in Montreal, Dorn attended McGill University. He joined the Israeli armed forces in 1947 and served for two years. On his return to Canada, he moved to Windsor, Ont., where he was active in many community organizations, including the Windsor Jewish Community Council and the city's Jewish Community Centre.

In Windsor, Dorn served as secretary of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim. He was a president of Windsor Lodge, B'nai Brith, and chair of the Bicentenary of Canadian Jewry. He was active in interfaith work, received the Brotherhood Humanitarian Award in 1962 from the Windsor Brotherhood Committee and was a member of the mayor's committee studying hospital bed shortages in Essex County.

In 1962, he became executive director of the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, which was then located on St. Clair Avenue West.

Dorn was involved with every facet of the synagogue during its period of major growth, including the negotiations and development of the current synagogue at 470 Glencairn Ave. He also headed the synagogue's endowments project.

The congregation's membership was 500 families when Dorn became executive director and grew to 1,300 families during his leadership. To accommodate the members, he listed his home phone number on the synagogue stationery so that he could be reached at any time, day or night.

Dorn, who was known for his kindness and caring, knew most synagogue members by name and congregants say that he made his work a labor of love. Although he could be found at the synagogue at 7 a.m. and often remained until midnight, he made it a rule to be at home with his family for meals.

He often said his goal in life was to save up mitzvahs. He could be found at simchahs, sad occasions, and helping a needy person or family.

He leaves his wife Laura Sharpe Dorn, children Judy Phillips of New York, Gilbert Sharpe of Toronto and Dr. Howard Sharpe of Houston, and grandchildren, Geoffrey, Daniella and David Phillips.

KOL NIDRE

From the postcard collection of the Jewish Theological Seminary Library.

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In saluting Edward Bronfman, the Jewish National Fund will assist Neot Semadar in reclaiming hundreds of dunams of land for agricultural use, help develop an Artists Centre, develop roads to the Kibbutz and within the Kibbutz, and assist the construction of a fifty thousand cubic metre reservoir. A resort area to promote tourism will also be developed. This undertaking will surely be a source of great pride to all who will have participated in this very worthy project. **Together, we can all help to make the *desert green*.**

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Prof. still committed to peace

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Last year Michael Keren was shaken by the death of one of his graduate students, the victim of a terrorist bomb in Dizengoff Square, but the Tel Aviv University (TAU) political science professor has refused to yield to pessimism about the Middle East peace process.

"The peace process has very profound roots which allow an optimistic note even at times when it seems the process is dead," said Keren in an interview.

The 53-year-old sabra was in Toronto recently to speak on New Politics: Between Populism and Democracy at the TAU North American conference held here. He has been in Canada since July as part of the Canada-Israel Foundation for Academic Exchange and is teaching at the University of Calgary for the year.

Keren is a past chair of TAU's political science department, with books on both politics and the media to his credit. He was recently named director of its Institute for Study of the Jewish Press.

He believes the peace process is contingent neither on daily occurrences nor on the leaders in power.

Both Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat are very much part of their respective communities' elites which have "a vested interest in the peace process," he said.

Both leaders have made crucial mistakes with respect to terrorism, Keren believes.

"Arafat's great mistake has been that he apparently did not understand enough the effect that Palestinian terrorism would have on the process, and I think that Netanyahu made a mistake in that he made terrorism the main strategic issue on the agenda...Two nations engaged in historic reconciliation cannot let terrorism dominate the agenda, neither by allowing it to occur nor by presenting it as the major constraint of the process."

It was clear from the beginning the process would have ups and downs, said Keren.

Although there are "always elements for whom reconciliation is a betrayal," Keren believes there is a global trend favoring "down-to-earth interests" over "maximalist views and desires. Ideology plays less of a role."

It is from this trend that he derives his optimism. Although it may seem that maximalists have the upper hand, he said, he thinks their victory is temporary. "I think in the long run compromise is going to be the name of the game, at least in our lifetime."

Although it's difficult for people to be patient when they're hungry or out of work, or when bombs are exploding, people need hope, he said.

What Keren finds disturbing is spokespeople on both sides who "in the name of some maximalist vision are willing to take away the hope of reconciliation" by denying that the other side must be considered.

When Israelis and Palestinians work together, the rest of the Middle East has to follow suit, he believes.

Michael Keren

"I don't think I'm a naive optimist, [but I do] think we're in one of the great moments of despair."

In his conference address, Keren discussed "new politics" as a global trend which has reached Israel.

The trend encompasses the declining influence of political parties, the increasing influence of the media, and the rise in power of an academic, military and business elite.

Netanyahu's "relative detachment from his own Likud party, and direct access to the media, made it relatively easy for him to yield to pragmatic considerations opposed to his supporters' preferences," Keren contended.

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גמר חתימה טובה

The Torah should be used to bring the Jewish people together.

Not pull us apart.

The Torah has been the great unifying force that has held us together as a people for centuries. In diverse communities throughout the world, we studied the Torah and often arrived at different meanings and insights. In Babylonia the rabbis created one Talmud, from the perspective of a Diaspora. In Jerusalem, other rabbis created a different Talmud, from the perspective of ancient Israel. In France, Rashi created one commentary. In Spain, Maimonides created another. And still today we delve into the raging controversies which took place between the great rabbis Hillel and Shammai, honoring their divergent views.

Deep belief and involvement with its words. Diversity of opinion. Multiple interpretations. Continued study and debate. This way of life has kept the Torah timeless and alive, inspiring us as a people to be vibrant, creative and connected until this day.

Or until recent times. When Israel placed unprecedented power in the hands of the ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) establishment, allowing them to coerce Jews into living a Jewish life according to a single interpretation of the Torah. Theirs.

As a result, the government of Israel recognizes only one form of Judaism. Orthodoxy.

Which means that Israel recognizes only marriages, divorces and conversions performed by Orthodox rabbis. Conservative and Reform rabbis in Israel, who represent the vast majority of world Jewry, have no legal rights to officiate in these capacities.

And now religious parties are demanding new laws that would in effect overturn Supreme Court decisions that have begun to open the way for diverse expressions of Judaism in the Jewish State. Laws like these will only encourage Israel's religious extremists, alienate hundreds of thousands of Israelis from Judaism, and drive a wedge between Diaspora Jews and Israel.

Ironically, these laws are not in the spirit of the Torah. They are being used to exclude large segments of our population, dividing us into opposing camps. They threaten the diversity of our people, which has been a key to Jewish survival for 2000 years. They stifle debate and open thinking, making the Torah seem archaic and authoritarian.

They also strike at the core of civil rights and democracy upon which Israeli society is based, threatening basic freedoms and fostering oppressive, religious rule.

All Jews own the Torah. Which makes the struggle for religious freedom in Israel a struggle for all concerned Jews everywhere in the world. That is why you should know about the New Israel Fund. The New Israel Fund is one of the most dynamic partnerships today between Israel and the Diaspora. In the 18 years since the Fund was established, it has taken the lead in support of democracy, pluralism, tolerance and social justice in Israel. For further information on these issues, please contact us for our free brochure, "The Struggle for Pluralism and Religious Freedom."

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New Israel Fund
הקרן החדשה לישראל

Greater Toronto Area

NCJW exhibit coincides with centennial

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "Don't you love these pictures?" asked a visitor at the recent opening of National Council of Jewish Women of Canada's (NCJW) archival exhibit.

"Not one woman would show up without a hat," she noted, inspecting a 1948 photo taken at a Vancouver luncheon.

The exhibit, entitled Faith & Humanity, coincides with NCJW's 100th anniversary and opened during the organization's recent biennial convention held here. It runs at the Multicultural History Society of Ontario, 43 Queen's Park Cres. E., until Oct. 28.

"We tried to get pictures from across the country and from different eras," said Merle Eisen of NCJW.

Noreen Kasman was surprised to see a group shot of "all the women I knew growing up" in Welland, Ont.

Former NCJW national president Lucille Lorie, now 93, is seen en route to a meeting in a photo from NCJW's current archival exhibit.

But probably the photo that attracted the most attention was a circa-1950s shot of a smiling Lucille Lorie about to descend the stairs from a Trans-Canada Air Lines plane en route to a meeting. Lorie, now 93 and a former national president, received NCJW's Centennial Member Award, honoring her as Volunteer of the Century. (Judge Andrée Ruffo of Montreal and Glenna Kay of Winnipeg received the Centennial Community Award and Centennial Young Leadership Award respectively.)

In 1897, the first section of what would become NCJW Canada was formed in Toronto. A portrait of its first president, Mrs. J.S. Cohen, seen with her bright-eyed daughter, and an 1897 photo of 12 young founding members are the oldest items in the exhibit.

"I'm always interested in social history, and there's not a lot about women in the community. It's phenomenal," said NCJW's new national president, Hinda Simkin of Vancouver.

Frances Mandell, who co-chaired NCJW's archives committee with Gita Arnold, said that "every day was another thrill" as they gathered and organized the material – mostly photographs – over the past two years. Gabriele Scardellato, head historian of the Multicultural History Society of Ontario, curated the exhibit.

Many of the 62 photos depict community service projects, for which NCJW has become known.

"Council's mandate was to start projects that were very important in the community," explained Eisen. Among those seen in the display are Toronto Section's 1964 junior kindergarten program, the forerunner of JK in public schools; a 1937 camp run by Montreal Section for underprivileged girls; London's "Call Police" banner project for drivers; Vancouver's mobile hearing clinic; and Winnipeg's English classes for immigrants.

Speakers at the exhibit opening included Mel Lastman, mayor of North York; Barbara Hall, mayor of Toronto; councillor Howard Moscoe; and Isabel Bassett, parliamentary assistant to the Ontario minister of finance.

"The entire community can celebrate and thank you," said Hall. "You influenced how the community responds to the vulnerable among us. [We can] take energy from what's been done in the past for the challenges that are still ahead of us."

Among the issues discussed at the convention were education, poverty and advocacy.

New member Lisa Boroditsky, 29, of Vancouver, found the meeting inspiring. "The devotion these women have towards each other and towards the continuity of Jewish education makes me feel stronger [about being] Jewish," she said.

New York-based Barbara Leslie, International Council of Jewish Women's representative to the United Nations and a keynote speaker at the convention, mentioned that the "anti-Israel process in the United Nations continues and is a matter of grave concern for us."

Most of her talk, however, focused on the status of women worldwide. "If women are healthy and educated, then families will flourish," she said. "And when families flourish, communities and nations will flourish."

Toronto Remembers

ISRAEL AT 50

Toronto Celebrates
Israel's 50th Anniversary

The Commemorative Book

Israel's 50th Anniversary Committee is creating a
Commemorative Photo-History Book
published by McClelland and Stewart Inc.
highlighting the personal and unusual stories that link Torontonians to Israel.

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- ☐ **Where were you on May 14, 1948?**
- ☐ **Did you volunteer in 1948, 1967 or 1973?**
- ☐ **Have you lived on a kibbutz? Worked in an Israeli hospital?**

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Have you had an Israeli experience that has touched your life?
We need your story, accompanied by photographs.

Please drop your photos and stories off at one of the following locations:

- Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Street – Reception Office
- Bathurst Community Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. – Reception Office
- Beth Tzedec Synagogue, 1700 Bathurst Street – Synagogue Office
- Beth Tikvah Synagogue, 3080 Bayview Avenue – Synagogue Office
- Shaar Shalom, 2 Simonston Boulevard – Synagogue Office

...or at any Jewish Day school office.

DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 10, 1997

Stories and photographs will be selected for publication.

Copies of all photographs will be added to the permanent collection of the Ontario Jewish Archives.

You will be contacted when the photographs are ready for pick-up.

For additional information please call the *ISRAEL AT 50* hotline: (416) 635-2883 ext. 705

We want to protect your photos!

- On the back of each photo write lightly in pencil only your name, address and phone number.
- Put your name, address and phone number on the top of your story.
- Put the story and photos in a self-addressed envelope

The Labour Zionist Alliance of Canada
extends good wishes to all our Chaverim and their families and the Jewish Community
for a Happy and Healthy New Year.

May this year find peace and prosperity in Israel and throughout the world.

Josef Krystal, National Chairman
Harry Froimovitch, Vice-Chairman (Montreal)

Yiddish Corner

ייִדיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. לִיפשִׁין

הונדערט יאָר „בונד" פון אהרון פיינער

די גרינדונגס פֿאַראַמלונג פון „אַלגעמיינעם ייִדישן אַרבעטער בונד פון רוסלאַנד, פּוילן און ליטע" איז אפֿגעהאַלטן בעוואַרן אין אַ בחדרם-שטיבל, אין דער ווילנער אַרעמער געגנט, לוקישאָק, אָקטאָבער 1897.

דרייצן דעלעגאַטן זייַנען אַנוועזנד געווען. דאָס זייַנען געווען פֿאַר-שטייערס פון די שוין דעמאָלט עקזיסטירנדיקע קליינע גרופּעס פון רעוואָ-לוציאָנערע, ייִדישע סאָציאַליסטיש-געשטימטע אַרבעטער פון ווילנע, בּיאַליסטאָק, וואַרשע, מינסק און ווִיטעבסק. די דעלעגאַטן פון אַנדערע שטעט האָבן נישט געקענט קומען, ווייל זיי זייַנען שוין געווען אַרעסטירט, אַדער זיך געמוזט אויסבאַהאַלטן פון דער צאַרישער פּאָליצייַ.

ווי האָט דאָן אויסגעזען דאָס ייִדישע לעבן אין צאַרישן רוסלאַנד? אַרייַנגעקוועטשט אין די ענגע ראַמען פון תּחום-המושב, רעכטלאָז און אונטערדריקט האָט דאָס ייִדישע לעבן וועגעטירט, סיי מאָטעריעל און סיי גייסטיק. די הויפּט דעה האָבן געהאַט די „שיגע יידן", גבירים און קהל־לשׂ „פֿאַרזאָרגטע", וואָס האָבן מיט ביטול געקוקט אויף דער אַרע-מער ייִדישער מאַסע.

אין ענער תקופה האָבן אויך די רוסישע סאָלדאַט־מאָסן געלעבט אין דחקות און נויט. די מאָדערנע אינדוסטריע האָט זיך ערשט אָנגעהויבן צו אַנטוויקלען. מער ווי אכציק פּראָצענט פון דער באַפֿעלקערונג האָט זיך פֿאַרנומען מיט לאַנדווירטשאַפט. די נויט אויפן דאָרף איז געווען גרויס, ווייל די ערד האָט געהערט צו די פּריצים. עס האָבן אָנגעהויבן צו אָנט-שטיין רעוואָלוציאָנערע באַוועגונגען, ווי די „נאַראָדניקעס" און די פּוילישע „פֿראָלעטאַריאַט", וואָס האָבן געקעמפט קעגן דער צאַרישער מאַכט. אויך ייִדישע יונגע מענטשן האָבן געהערט צו די באַוועגונגען, אָבער זיי האָבן זיך אָפּגעגרענעצט פון ייִדישן לעבן.

אויף דער ייִדישער גאַס האָבן זיך באַווירן גרופּעס און קרייזלעך פון ייִדישע אַרבעסט־מענטשן, וואָס האָבן זיך בענטמען אַרגאַניזירן און קעמפן פֿאַר בעסערע לעבנס־באַדינגונגן. עס זייַנען אָנגעשטאַנען „אַרבעטער ליט-קאָסעס", קרייזלעך פון „צער־בעלי־חיים־ניקעס" און „בונטאָווטשיקעס". זיי זייַנען געווען די פֿאָרגייערס פון „בונד".

די אָנגעשטיאונג פון „בונד" האָט פֿאַראייניקט די אַלע גרופּעס, פֿאַר-שטאַרקט זייער טעטיקייט און גההויבן זייער מוט. דער „בונד" האָט אַרייַנגעבראַכט אין די פֿאַרשפּאַרטע געסלעך פון תחום־המושב אַ ווייטע פון אַ פֿרייער וועלט, אַן אַנדערע אויר פֿון סאָציאַליזם. אַנטשולדיקונג, אַ סאָציאַליסטישע וועלט. פֿאַסיוויטעט איז פֿאַרוואַנדלט געוואָרן אין אַקטיוויזם, גליבעלטקייט — אין קאַמף פֿאַר אַ בעסער לעבן. די גרינ-דערס פון „בונד" זייַנען אויך געווען מיטגרינדערס פון דער רוסישער סאָציאַל־דעמאָקראַטישער אַרבעטער פּאַרטיי, אין וועלכער זיי האָבן גע-שפּילט אַ גרויסע ראָלע, ביז דער רוסישער רעוואָלוציע פון 1917. דער רוסישער „בונד" איז ליקווידירט געוואָרן דורך דעם באָלשעוויסטישן רע-זשים און די בונדישע טעטיקייט האָט זיך קאָנצענטרירט אין נייַע פּוילן.

דער בונדישער קאַמף פֿאַר ייִדישער גליכבאַרעכטיקונג און די פֿאַר-צווייגטע טעטיקייטן האָבן דערנענטערט דעם „בונד" צו דער ייִדישער שפּראַך און קולטור. די פֿאַרעורונג פֿאַר „נאַציאָנאַל קולטורעלער אויטא-נאָמיי" פֿאַר אַלע מיינדערהייטן איז אויך געוואָרן אַ טייל פון דעם בונדישן פּראָגראַם. דער אידעאַל, אַז אַ ייִדישע מלוכה וועט ליין אַלע פּראָבלעמען פון דעם צעזיינטן ייִדישן פֿאָלק איז זוכהן „בונד" אָפּגעוואָרפן געוואָרן צוליב צוויי סיבות: 1) דער סאָציאַליסטישער גענאָג פון אינטערנא-ציאָנאַליזם; 2) די אומאָפּיע וועגן דער מעגלעכקייט פון אַ ייִדישער מלוכה. די וויכטיקייט פון קלאַסן־קאַמף פֿאַרבינדט מער די ייִדישע אַרבעטער מאָסן מיט אַרבעטער פון אַנדערע נאַציאָנאַליטעטן, ווי מיטן ייִדישן בּיט-גערטום. דאָס איז געווען די סיבה פון קאַמף קעגן ציוניזם, וואָס דער „בונד" האָט געפּירט, ווייל די טעטיקייטן לטובת אַ ייִדישער מלוכה שוואַכן אָפּ דעם קלאַסן־קאַמף, וואָס די ייִדישע אַרבעטער מוזן פירן, האָבן זיי גע־סענה־יט.

די פֿראָפּאַגאַנדע אַרבעט פון „בונד" איז געפּירט געוואָרן אויף ייִדיש. די דאָזיקע אַרבעט האָט דערפּירט צו דער אָנטוויקלונג פון דער בונדי-שער באַוועגונג, און דעם וואוקס פון די קולטור אינסטיטוציעס, וואָס זייַנען געשאַפֿן געוואָרן. עס זייַנען אויפֿגעשטעלט געוואָרן פֿאָלקס־שולן, ביבליאָטעקן, ביכער פֿאַרלאַגן, כאָר, דראַמאַטישע קרייזן און קולטור ליגעס. צו די יונגע אַרגאַניזאַציעס פון „בונד", „צוקונפֿט" און „סקיף" האָבן געהערט טויזנטער יונגעלעכע, וואָס האָבן אויף זיי קרייזן זיך גע-לערנט און קולטורעל פֿאַרבעסערט. די זומער אָנשטאָלטן האָבן געשטאַרקט דעם באַוואוסטזיין פון די יונגעלעכע און זיי דערצויגן אין אַ שטאָלצן, קעמפֿעריש גייסט. דאָס איז געווען אין דער טראָדיציע פון דער בונדישער באַוועגונג זינט די יאָרן פון ערשטן ייִדישן אַרבעטער העלד הירש לעקערט, וועלכער האָט זיין לעבן אויפֿגעגעבן פֿאַרן כבוד פון ייִדישן אַרבעטער.

די בונדישע ועלבסטשוץ האָט פֿאַרטיידיקט די ייִדישע באַפֿעלקערונג פון די צאַרישע פּאָגראָמשטשיקעס. דער „בונד" איז פּונקט אַרגאַני-זירט דעם געגראָל־סטרייק פון דער ייִדישער באַפֿעלקערונג קעגן דער אַנטיסעמיטיש־פֿאַשיסטישער רעגירונג דעם 17־טן מערץ, 1936. די העל-דישע טעטיקייטן פון אונטערגרונדישן „בונד" איז די געפֿאָס פון פּוילן און איז די אימפּאָזאַנט אין וואַרשע, ווילנע און ביאַליסטאָק, און דער קרבן פון אַראָד זיגעלבוימען וועלן קיינמאָל נישט פֿאַרגעסן ווערן.

אין געפֿענגעטע באַוועגונגן, מיט אפֿגעשניטענע כוחות פירט דער „בונד" וויסער אָן מיט זיין טעטיקייט פֿאַרן קיום פון ייִדישן וועלט פֿאָלק.

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Greater Toronto Area

Kosher Foodfest offers plenty to sink your teeth into

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Frances Kraft has covered her share of serious stories during her years as a staff reporter at *The CJN*. She has written about street kids, victims of Arab terror and agunot. But she recently had a really tough assignment: food judge at Aish Hatorah's Jewish Life and Kosher Foodfest.

The event, the second in what is expected to become an annual event, was held at Centerpoint shopping mall in North York.

Activities included cooking demonstrations (with lots of sampling) and kashruth information; a sofer explaining how mezuzot and tfillin are made; arts and crafts and music for children; and a computer that traced Jewish names.

Booths ranged from Arisal Cosmetics, Chocolate Charm, Chocolate Moose and various caterers, to Jews for Judaism, Strubs, Levitts, and even Terrace Gardens Retirement Lodge and The Simple Alternative.

Show manager Devorah Ohayon told *The CJN* that there were three times as many exhibitors as there were last year, and "Centerpoint said they hadn't been as busy since Christmas."

Certainly though, the food testing was a highlight of the afternoon, generating great interest and attention, not to mention encouraging cheers.

Kraft said she tested foods in categories such as gefilte fish, appetizers, desserts and pickles, along with fellow food judges Vivian Anhang, kosher cooking instructor and consultant for the Kashruth Council; food-writer Elizabeth Baird; Lisa Friesan and Marty Galin from the Marty and Avrum Restaurant and Food Show; Joan Monfaredi, executive chef of the Park Plaza Hotel; and talk show host Shirley Solomon.

Dairy Treats won in three categories — bagels, general dessert (for its cheesebun) and gourmet dessert, winning for its Belgian chocolate mousse cake.

Other winners were Perls, for sweet gefilte fish; Levitt's pickles; Hermes Bakery challah; E.D. Smith's triple fruit wildberry; Yogènfruz' new strawberry smoothie; Metropolitan Ice Cream's sorbet fruit ice; Chocolate Moose for its chocolate hazelnut cup, and the antipasto plate from Peter Graben caterers.

"I had a great time," enthused Kraft.

***CJN* staff reporter Frances Kraft [centre] ponders an ice cream sample, along with fellow judges Joan Manfaredi, executive chef of the Park Plaza Hotel (left) and COR cooking instructor and consultant Vivian Anhang, at the food judging contest at Aish Hatorah's Jewish Life and Kosher Foodfest 97. [Ryan Kraft photo]**

Cooking classes set for fall

TORONTO — The Kashruth Council of Toronto, affiliated with the Vaad Harabanim of Toronto, has announced its lineup of fall cooking classes.

Three new classes will be offered and one class will be repeated by popular request.

The demonstrations will be given by Vivian Anhang, a teacher and graduate home economist

Vivian Anhang

with many years' experience in presenting food-related programs to all segments of the community.

The classes will be held at the Shaarei Tefillah Congregation on Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. throughout November. There is ample parking and convenient public transportation. The classes are open to males and females. The fee for each class is $15, and $10 for students under 18 years of age.

The classes include Gourmet Entertaining on a Budget (V46) on Nov. 4; Festive Main Dishes-Meat (V44) on Nov. 11; Less Fat-More Energy (V47) on Nov. 18; and Convenience Meals-Meat (V17) on Nov. 25, a repeat of a highly successful class.

Enrolment is limited, with registration on a first-come first-serve basis.

To register, send your name, address, postal code, phone number (home and work) and a postdated cheque for the day of the class to: Cynthia Gasner, director of Information and Public Relations, Kashruth Council of Toronto, 4600 Bathurst St., Suite 240, Willowdale, Ont., M2R 3V2. If registering for more than one class, please send a separate cheque for each class and for each participant. For more details, call 416-635-9550.

Clarification

A letter to the editor from the Canadian Friends of Yad Sarah in *The CJN* Sept. 25 should have read that Yad Sarah saves the Israeli economy about $350 million a year with its services.

The CJN regrets the error.

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The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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Jewish groups approached with grisly sale offer

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Two leading Jewish organizations say a local individual has approached them with an offer to sell what he said is a bar of soap made of fat from Jewish Holocaust victims.

The organizations say the man wanted $1 million for the grisly artifact.

In the past few months, the individual approached the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem and the Toronto office of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre with the offer.

According to both groups, the man said he represents the seller.

Yad Vashem and the Wiesenthal Centre expressed revulsion at the offer, and turned it down.

"We agreed to meet with him, not to buy the object but to examine this from all sides," said Hank Rosenbaum, chair of the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem. "We were definitely not willing to buy it."

In the end the society's board "decided not to get involved."

Sol Littman, director of the Wiesenthal Centre here, said he wrote the man a letter saying he heard the man had a Holocaust-era artifact for sale that may be of interest to the Wiesenthal museum in Los Angeles.

A few days later, Littman said, the man called, and a meeting was set up.

Littman said the $1 million asking price was not negotiable, and that the identity of the seller was not revealed.

He said the man seemed legitimate and serious.

"He brought a small color photograph of something that looked like a bar, with letters and numbers on it," Littman said.

"I told him that if he's going to be peddling this, he has to show it's genuine. Jewish organizations don't just hand over $1 million."

Littman said there's no historical evidence of soap manufactured from the bodies of Holocaust victims. "The major historians say there was no such thing."

Prof. Jacques Kornberg, a Holocaust expert at the University of Toronto, agreed there's no evidence the Nazis made soap from human remains.

"My understanding is that this was never done," said Kornberg, adding that mainstream historians feel the same way.

However, the *Encyclopedia Judaica* describes a war-time photograph of human remains in a large vat at a German soap factory in Danzig.

In any event, Littman said the man stressed he was simply a go-between, and implied that the religious community might be interested in the item in order to give it a proper Jewish burial, as prescribed by Jewish law.

In the end, "I told him there's no chance my organization would be interested," Littman said.

When contacted by *The CJN*, the man, whose identity was confirmed independently by both Yad Vashem and the Wiesenthal Centre, denied all involvement in the matter. "It's not true at all," he said. "Who would have told you that?"

ERWIN AND EDIE KORANYI HONORED BY BGU IN OTTAWA

Seen from left are Myrna Barwin, tribute committee member; Norman Barwin, board member, Ottawa Associates of Ben-Gurion University (BGU); the Koranyis; and Harry Prizant, president Ottawa chapter. Erwin Koranyi, founding president of Ottawa Associates of BGU, and his wife Edie were honored at a recent dinner at the Barwins' home. The couple received the Ben-Gurion Negev Award, and the Dr. Erwin and Edie Koranyi Scholarship Fund was created, honoring their commitment to community and Israel. The Hungarian-born couple, both Holocaust survivors, didn't know anyone in Ottawa when they arrived 27 years ago.

Israel's short history has been marked by incredible change. From a fledgling agricultural state in 1948, Israel has grown into a thriving technological leader and is now among the economic elite of the Western world.

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On Campus

Student leaders get BB Hillel Foundation awards

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

VANCOUVER — Three student leaders were presented with Vancouver B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation Leadership Awards earlier this summer.

Daniella Weber, 1996-97 co-president of the University of British Columbia's (UBC) Hillel (now working as Hillel program director); Noam Dolgin, also of UBC, director of the Hillel play *Village of Idiots*; and Ron Phillipson of Simon Fraser University (SFU) were the co-recipients.

Vancouver lawyer Rodney Massel, co-president of the Vancouver B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation, said the awards are given annually to students "who go the extra mile, who participate, who innovate, who are leaders.

Phillipson, a recent biochemistry graduate who Massel said did "yeoman's work" in establishing Hillel at Simon Fraser, was the first SFU student to be recognized by the foundation. The campus has about 150 Jewish students affiliated with Hillel, according to Massel.

Phillipson, 22, became involved with the organization during his first year of university after meeting Hillel outreach coordinator David Chivo, he recalled in a recent e-mail from Israel, where he is attending an ulpan in Tel Aviv.

(Dolgin is also in Israel, but was not reachable by press time.)

Phillipson was elected president of SFU Hillel three years ago at the end of his first year of studies. Eventually, the SFU group was "able to achieve greater independence from UBC including having our own Shabbat dinners." Their first one, which included students from UBC, was "a great success" with almost 50 participants.

Weber, 22, a native of South Africa who has lived in Vancouver for the past decade and is completing a degree in Religious Studies/Religion and Literature, has been involved on the Hillel student board every year since she began university. During her third year, when she studied at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, she was one of 15 Hillel scholars from North America who made up the Hillel board for overseas students.

In high school, where she was one of only a few Jewish students, Weber was involved in NLFTY, the Reform youth group. When she entered university, becoming involved with Hillel seemed "naturally the way for me to go," she told *The CJN* in a telephone interview.

At UBC, there are an estimated 1,000 Jewish students out of a total student population of over 30,000. Hillel membership at UBC is between 200 and 250.

Holding Vancouver B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation leadership awards, from right, are Daniella Weber, Adam Strasberg (accepting for Noam Dolgin) and Ron Phillipson. Aleina Spigelman, centre, presented the awards. At left is Rabbi Ken Kaufman, former executive director of Vancouver Hillel.

Hillel "created a sense of community for me right from the beginning," Weber said.

Before becoming president she was co-chair of Holocaust Awareness Week for three years. She also chaired last year's Israel Week.

UBC Hillel is fortunate to have a centrally-located building, Weber noted. "It's a great place to hang out. People are in there constantly, sitting, chatting with friends, playing ping pong, playing on the computer. It's wonderful to have that."

The biggest challenge for Hillel is meeting students' diverse needs, Weber said. In her first year, she organized a women's seder. "You're not going to get everybody out to every program. You have to try and have a diverse range of projects."

Involvement in Jewish life on campus is "key to ensuring that our generation will be an active Jewish community in the future," said Weber.

Phillipson wrote that he hopes there will be more interaction between Hillel and the Jewish community in the future. "I feel that this will strengthen both of them. It is of utmost importance that Hillel members go to the board of directors' meetings and some representatives from the board of directors attend Hillel meetings."

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From coast to coast

Ontario court rejects beit din in rabbi's lawsuit

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

ST. CATHARINES — An Ontario court has rejected an application by a St. Catharines synagogue to refer a lawsuit brought by its former rabbi to a beit din (religious court).

The ruling last month by the Ontario Court (general division) clears the way for Rabbi Joseph Ben-David to have his wrongful dismissal suit heard by a secular court.

Congregation B'nai Israel filed a motion with the court arguing the matter should be heard by a beit din because it involves an inter-Jewish dispute.

But Mr. Justice R.J. Sharpe dismissed the argument, saying the synagogue was too late to say the matter should be referred to a beit din.

The judge said the synagogue did not act in a "timely" fashion and that nothing in the rabbi's contract said a beit din would supersede the authority of a court in the event of a dispute.

The judge said he finds it "significant" that the synagogue did not rely on a clause in the rabbi's contract that refers disputes to the United Synagogue of America's Committee on Congregational Standards. The court noted that a beit din is not the same as the committee, which is overseen by the Conservative's movement's umbrella body.

The judge said the synagogue should have argued its case right away instead of responding to the rabbi's charges in a statement of defence. He said the congregation could not pursue both avenues at the same time.

Rabbi Ben-David, 61, is seeking $260,000 in damages. He alleges he is owed severance pay for 27 years of service at the synagogue, which has about 100 family members.

He said he progressed from teacher to cantor to assistant rabbi, and six years ago, to rabbi.

His lawyer, Brian Grosman, said the matter should be heard by a secular court because it is not a religious dispute.

But the synagogue's lawyer, Ronald Greenspan, said the rabbi's first obligation should be to Halachah, which mandates that disputes between Jews must be heard by a beit din.

No trial date has been set.

Vickars honored for Bonds donation

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — For the second time this year, a major Jewish organization, State of Israel Bonds, has honored Winnipeg philanthropists Ed and Marion Vickar. Earlier this year, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev paid tribute to the couple.

Bonds recently presented the Vickars with its La Société Award at a reception at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory, an award given to people who buy $1 million or more in bonds.

"We didn't know anyone was going to make such a big thing about it," says Marion Vickar. "We didn't think anyone else knew about it. We were really surprised."

The Vickars don't just buy bonds. Their usual practice is to buy them and then donate them to another non-profit Jewish organization. In this case, they bought $1 million worth of bonds and donated them to the new Asper Jewish Community Campus.

The Double Mitzvah program – donating the bonds – helps both Israel and the local community, noted Shoshana Shalev-Minuk, manager of the Winnipeg Bonds office.

"We have been contributing through Israel Bonds to the Ben-Gurion University and other Jewish organizations for years," says Marion Vickar.

Originally from rural Saskatchewan, Ed Vickar spent his career in the auto business. He opened his first General Motors dealership in Melfort, Sask., in the 1950s. He and his family moved to Winnipeg in 1963, where he operated Community Chevrolet Oldsmobile until he retired three years ago.

The Jewish Museum of Western Canada and accompanying Holocaust Education Centre at the Asper Campus have been named for Ed and Marion Vickar.

WINDSOR NEGEV DINNER

President and CEO of Chrysler Canada, Yves Landry (second from right), this year's honoree at the Windsor Jewish National Fund Negev Dinner, receives a plaque from Windsor JNF president Carl Cohen (left). Keynote speaker was former Ontario premier Bob Rae and deputy prime minister Herb Grey presented the citation. Also shown here are Elaine Cohen (left) and Henrielle Landry (far right).

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

What's New and About People deadlines:

Friday, Oct. 10 (to 2:30 p.m.) is deadline for Oct. 22 issue.

Monday, Oct. 20, is deadline for Oct. 30 issue.

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Sunday, Oct. 12

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth, hosted by **Alec Gelcer**, 7:30 p.m., Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave. Come listen, come tell. All welcome. $3. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

Monday, Oct. 13

CRAFT AND GIFT SALE

Boutique-style craft and gift sale run by Na'amat Canada Beersheba Club includes handicrafts, boutique items, gifts, plus clowns and balloons for the children and hourly draws, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Bayview Village Mall (Sheppard/Bayview). Free admission and parking. Proceeds go to child care and education, prevention of domestic violence and advancement of women's rights.

Tuesday, Oct. 14

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood opening meeting, **Dara Kennedy**, North York General Hospital, speaks on Molecular Genetics, the Breast Cancer Connection, 8p.m. $3 non-members.

Wednesday, Oct. 15

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement, Homelessness and Homecoming, speaker **Rabbi Dow Marmur.** At noon. Bring lunch. $1.

And What Else Is New

LZA CONFERENCE

Labor Zionist Alliance Yitzhak Memorial Conference, Creating a Progressive Zionist Future, Oct. 18 and 19 at Borochov Cultural Centre.

Saturday, Oct. 18: Dinner Forum 8 p.m., guest speaker author **J.J. Goldberg.**

Sunday, Oct. 19: Education panel 10:30 a.m., **Yigal Donyetz** of the Jewish Agency; **Uri Korin**, principal of Bialik School; educator/author **William Shaffir,** chair, Camp Gesher parent's committee; Lunch guest speaker **Daniel Mann**, national president, LZA of America, Peace, Progress and Pluralism: Advocacy and Implementation.

Open discussion follows panels and lectures. Reserve. 630-9444.

THE ETERNAL CITY

The University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies six-week course on Jerusalem, Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. starts Oct. 28. Included are sessions on the history of Jerusalem from biblical times to the modern era, including the Herodian, Roman and Middle Ages periods. Present day Jerusalem will be covered in the course outline. Instructor is **Aaron Nussbaum.** Register by phone 978-2400, or fax 978-6666.

BEREAVED FAMILIES

A self-help group for parents is being offered by Bereaved Jewish Families of Ontario, an organization that provides support following the death of a child. Groups are held once a week for eight weeks. **Maureen Feder**, Jewish Family & Child Service, 638-7800, ext. 202.

MARATHON FOR CANCER

The 42.2-kilometre Canadian International Marathon Oct. 19 is run in conjunction with the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation to raise money for cancer research. In tribute to the late **Dr. Dan Roncari,** professor of medicine at the University of Toronto, colleague **Norman Track** is participating in the marathon to raise money to name a room at Princess Margaret Hospital in Roncari's memory. (He's hoping sponsors will help him reach the $10,000 goal.)To participate in the Dan Roncari Memorial Fund, call Norman Track at 962-1555 or **Malcom Burrows** at Princess Margaret 946-2912. Proceeds go to cancer research.

[Cont'd. on page 25]

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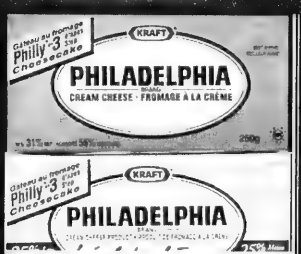

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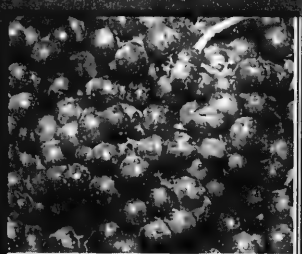

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

BOOK SALE

Great bargains, all subjects, at the annual University College book sale, 15 King's College Circle, University of Toronto. Doors open 10 a.m. (except Sunday – 11 a.m.), Oct. 18-22. 978-2968.

OTTAWA FILM GALA

Benefit gala screening of *Fiddler on the Roof*, an evening in support of the Hillel Lodge, the Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation, Canadian Film Centre and Canadian Screen Training Centre, Monday, Nov. 3, National Arts Centre. Gala tickets include pre-screening reception with director **Norman Jewison,** live entertainment, supper buffet, VIP seating for the film, post-screening activities, $118 (tax receipt). 613-789-4720. Film tickets $25/adult, $18/children under 18, box office or Ticketmaster 613-755-1111. Silent Auction before and after screening (to donate items, **Marla Spergel** 613-596-0115).

THE CHORALAIRS

The Choralairs of North York, a volunteer choir that sings for seniors and disabled persons, welcomes singers of all ages, voices in all ranges. The ability to read music is not a pre-requisite. Rehearsals Tuesdays 8-10:30 p.m., Earl Bales Park Community Centre, Room 2. Repertoire includes pop, Broadway and folksongs. Membership fee $45/person, $70/couple, full tax receipt. **Fay Cohen** 633-7233 or **Judy** or **Myer Gordon** 221-3161.

To book a concert for your facility (nursing home, home for the aged, seniors' apartment) **Rose Terrance** 633-0433.

TEL-AIDE VOLUNTEERS

Tel-Aide: The Jewish Distress Line needs volunteers to answer the line. 636-9610 for application.

COURSE FOR WOMEN

A Bridging Course for Women, sponsored by Women's Studies Program in cooperation with North York Women's Centre, runs Mondays 1-4 p.m., Oct. 20-Jan. 26, 201 Caribou Rd. Improve reading, writing, speaking skills, explore educational options and potential, prepare for university study. $85 plus books. **Marlene Richman** 736-2100, ext. 40204.

PROGRAM FOR TEENS

Jewish Family & Child Service and the Learning Disabilities Association of York Region Adolescent Social Skills Group, ages 13-18 for teens having difficulty with relationships. A group to develop improved social skills and self-esteem. Begins Oct. 14, Promenade Mall at JF&CS offices. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

DRIVERS NEEDED

Make a difference in someone's life by providing escort and/or transportation to the Bernard Betel Centre, programs at Senior Care and medical appointments. **Barbara** 225-2112 or **Arnold** 635-2860.

BOWLING LEAGUE

Senior mixed group bowling 10-pin every other Saturday evening has room for more bowlers. **Sydney** or **Judith** 633-7305.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups: To register **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Looking Ahead, to discuss feelings, loneliness, new relationships, moving ahead, begins Oct. 21.

Step-Parenting: Coping with His, Hers and Mine, begins Oct. 29

The Self-Confident Woman, discuss self-esteem, stress management, assertive non-aggressive behavior, begins Oct. 14.

Bereavement Group for people who have recently lost a spouse, daytime or evening groups, groups divided by age, begin after the holidays.

FOR SENIORS

LZA Seniors Club registration for 1998 Miami trip, **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Because Oct. 16 is Sukkot, group meets Oct. 14 for bingo and games. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Washington and Atlantic City Oct. 26-31; seminar with speaker on ABCs of Fraud, Nov. 4, 10 a.m.; shopping in Buffalo Nov. 5; Square One Shopping Centre Nov. 19. Activities include table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork shop, day and evening trips. 395-7881.

Fall Prevention Clinics to show seniors how to prevent falls and maintain independence at home and in the community conducted by North York Public Health nurses, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Tuesday, Oct. 14, Beecroft, 35 Park Home Ave.; Wednesday, Oct. 15, Glenyan Manor, 10 Deauville Lane; Monday, Oct. 20, Sheppard Place, 4455 Bathurst St. **Irene** 395-7600.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Parkinson's Support Group for people with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers, Tuesday, Oct. 14, 1:15 p.m. **Gilda Waltman,** occupational therapist at Baycrest Centre presents Tips on Managing Daily Living Changes. **Ruth.**

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays. Programs include movies, lectures, nostalgic singalongs, dances, bingo. Oct. 14 is a lecture. **Anna.**

Movie, *My Fellow Americans*, Sunday, Oct. 12, 2:30 p.m.

Dance to music of Creative Band Sunday, Oct. 12, 7:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

High Holy Day services with Downtown Reform Minyan and First Nerayever Congregation. Call for information.

Raptor Ball Youth Leagues for ages 7-13, Fridays 5:30-7:30 p.m. or Saturdays 9-11 a.m., 12-week program.

Reserve Oct. 19 for next Books and Bagels with **Rick Salutin.**

Bloor JCC Seniors Club: Thursday, Oct. 9, afternoon tea at Helen Gardner Whelan Playhouse, 79A St. George St., by invitation of Jewish Students' Union, University of Toronto. Program of storytelling. Walk from Bloor JCC at 2 p.m., or meet there at 2:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Oct. 14, film *Blood Money*, documentary on Swiss Bank Account Scandal, discussion after. Tuesday, Oct. 21, trip to Niagara Casino, $19 includes $10 refreshment voucher. Must pay by Oct. 9. **Judy.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 636-1880.

BJC Tai Chi, Mondays, 9:15-10:15 a.m., beginners and advanced beginners; Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. to noon, advanced and intermediate. Non-members $25. Oct. 29-Dec. 15.

Entertainment '98 books, discounts up to 50 percent off all around town. At Information Desk. $32.

Young Einsteins computer courses for adults and children. For course content, times, fees ext. 378.

Special Needs program begins the week of Oct. 26. Social, physical, recreational programs for children, teens, adults with developmental and/or physical disabilities. **Patricia Trojman** ext. 265.

TORONTO HESCHEL SCHOOL

Sean Haber and Deborah Mazer, two Kindergarten children at The Toronto Heschel School, prepare to harvest vegetables in time for Sukkot. Seeds were planted in the school's organic garden last spring by many of the students.

BIG PAYOFF

Bernie Abrams (second from left), national president of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation, presents a $25,000 check to Ken McCord, winner of a hole-in-one contest at the recent Shaare Zedek Hospital/Solursh Feldman & Partners Annual Open. The contest hole was sponsored by Montreal Trust, who donated the funds given to the winner. With them are Evan Sone (left) and Brad Fox (right), co-chairs of the tournament. McCord made a generous donation to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Shaare Zedek Medical Center. Missing from photo is third co-chair Stephen Caffrey.

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From coast to coast

Scene in Ottawa

By STEPHEN BINDMAN

Supreme Court shifts out of neutral

OTTAWA — The country's top court finally seems to get it.

In just three long years, the Supreme Court of Canada appears to have dramatically changed its tune about the urgency of prosecuting suspected Nazi war criminals.

In 1994, when it narrowly upheld the acquittal of retired Toronto restaurateur Imre Finta on war-crimes charges, the Supreme Court brought to a screeching halt efforts to try suspected Nazis in Canada as criminals under our criminal law.

(The Criminal Code was amended in 1987, after the Deschenes Commission, to allow for the prosecution in Canada of war crimes committed elsewhere. Usually, Canada can only try people for crimes they may have committed on Canadian soil.)

The contentious ruling reluctantly forced the federal government to switch tracks and try to denaturalize and deport suspects instead of trying them here.

The Finta judgment was severely criticized, not only in Jewish circles but in the legal academic world as well, and was challenged at international legal bodies such as the Inter-American Committee on Human Rights.

Finta was charged with the unlawful confinement, robbery, kidnapping and manslaughter of 8,617 Jews in 1944 at Szeged, Hungary where he was an officer in the Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie, an armed paramilitary police force.

To be fair, the Supreme Court then never actually said it wasn't important to go after suspected war criminals.

Mr. Justice Peter Cory, the Mr. Rogers look-alike who wrote the Supreme Court majority ruling, said such allegations "shock the conscience of all right-thinking people."

But the legal hurdles the top court imposed because of the seriousness of the charges made it unlikely a prosecution would ever be successful, especially more than 50 years after events that occurred a continent away.

"Nothing is ever impossible, but the prospects of successfully prosecuting someone under the Finta regime are so slight as to not really be a rational way of proceeding," said Paul Vickery, the mild-mannered head of the Justice Department's war crimes unit, who recently made a brave appearance before a public forum in Montreal organized by Canadian Jewish Congress.

Fast forward to last month.

The very same court with the very same judges ruled the denaturalization cases against three Ontario men could proceed despite a now much-publicized, but then secret meeting, between the top judge of the Federal Court and a senior federal Justice Department lawyer.

Of course it is significant in itself that the Supreme Court refused to halt the cases despite what it unanimously called a "serious affront" to judicial independence because of the meeting between Chief Justice Julius Isaac and Ted Thompson.

And it is of course significant that the first three cases launched by Ottawa in its new 1995 denaturalize-and-deport strategy are now finally, though tentatively, back on the rails.

But perhaps of much more importance is the powerful language the Supreme Court employed.

First, there was the choice of words used to criticize Isaac and especially Associate Chief Justice James Jerome, whose foot-dragging allowed the cases to languish for more than a year with only a day of legal argument on a procedural matter and whose "dilatoriness defies explanation."

The message is clear that further delays, especially in war crimes cases, will not be tolerated.

But even more heartening is what the Supreme Court had to say about the pursuit of suspected war criminals.

In the 9-0 judgment written in the name of the entire court for added emphasis, the high court said there is a strong public interest in quickly bringing alleged war criminals to justice and having "allegations of the most wicked kinds of criminal activity" dealt with in court.

"The crimes involved rank among the most heinous in history and the civilized world's resolve to apply the appropriate sanctions should not be interfered with lightly," the court said.

"What is at stake here, in however small a measure, is Canada's reputation as a responsible member of the community of nations."

True the legal issues confronting the court in its most recent war crimes foray, having to do as they did with comfortable topics like judicial independence and court delay, were very different from the guilt-and-innocence issues it encountered in the Finta case.

Perhaps when one of the war crimes cases eventually makes it to the Supreme Court on its actual merits, the judges' favor-the-defence orientation will again get the better of them.

But in the meantime, there is still renewed hope for justice.

"I think the Supreme Court was appalled by what its Finta judgment looked like in the light of day," said B'nai Brith's war crimes guru David Matas.

"They just kind of missed the point. I think they got it this time around.

"They see the seriousness of these crimes and the public reaction to it. They said, 'it's not so much that we think these crimes are serious, the world thinks these crimes are serious and we cannot fly in the face of that opinion.'"

Stephen Bindman is the legal affairs correspondent for the Southam Newspapers based in Ottawa.

NOTICE

The Henry Korenblum Family Health & Sports Medicine Clinic remains located at the Bathurst Jewish Centre ("BJC"), 4588 Bathurst Street, North York, Ontario. Although temporarily closed at present, the clinic will soon reopen at the BJC. Dr. Howard Winston, former Medical Director of the Korenblum Clinic at the BJC, and his therapy staff have relocated their Sports Medicine practice to the *Centre for Health & Sports Medicine ("CHSM")* located at 2790 Bathurst St., North York, Ontario. For appointments at CHSM, please call (416) 789-2476.

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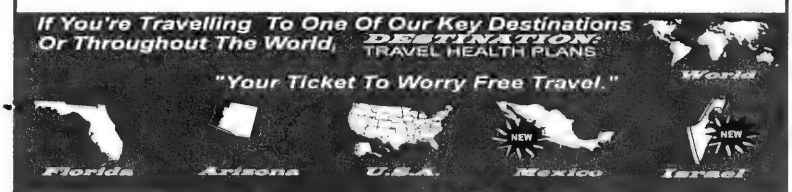

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Israel's prestige damaged: former ambassador

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The abortive attack in Jordan on Hamas political leader Khaled Meshal, which has been attributed to the Mossad, has dealt a serious blow to Israel's prestige in the eyes of the international community and has called into question its deterrent capability, former ambassador to Jordan Prof. Shimon Shamir said Sunday.

"More importantly, however, is the damage that this has caused to Israeli-Jordanian relations," said Shamir, who was Israel's first ambassador to Jordan.

"Assuming that we are talking about an operation carried out by an official Israeli organization in Jordan, then this reflects a complete misunderstanding of the essence of peace.

"Peace means that you undertake certain limitations in your behavior on the basis of the fact that you and your [peace] partner are in the same boat. There is inter-dependence, which is the essence of peace.

"The freedom of action that Israel had in the past, during the years of conflict, is terminated by the commitment undertaken by the two sides in a situation of peace. The fact that anybody could contemplate such an action on Jordanian territory, in a way that – even if it had succeeded – would have embarrassed the Jordanian government, shows that there are important elements in our society who have not yet internalized the meaning of peace."

Shamir, who was also Israel's ambassador to Egypt from 1988 to '90, is considered a leading expert on Middle East affairs in general and Jordanian-Israeli relations in particular.

"Had it succeeded, the possible effects of such an operation on our relations with Jordan – even if Israel had denied responsibility – would have been to expose the Jordanian government to accusations from opponents, of whom there are many, that it is not in control of its own territory," said Shamir.

"Furthermore, based on the experience of the past, there would have been many elements in the opposition who would have blamed the king and the government and accused them of cooperating with Israel.

"It is a fact that the Jordanian government is now in a serious situation of competition with the Islamist opposition on the eve of the parliamentary elections next month. This is the biggest domestic issue at the moment, with the Islamists mounting a great challenge to the legitimacy of the parliament and Jordan's political system.

"The opponents would have used the matter to undermine the peace accord by accusing Israel of continuing to act in a high-handed manner in Jordan itself. The damage would have been enormous. What I cannot understand is how anyone could approve an operation which either way would have been very detrimental to the cause of peace and our relations with Jordan."

Shamir maintained that the reported incident appeared to be the latest in what he described as a series of blunders on the part of the government in its relations with Jordan.

"These incidents, from the opening of the Jerusalem tunnel onwards, indicate a lack of sensitivity and insight into the political position of our partner," he said.

"Peace was originally presented by the Jordanian leadership to the people as a great achievement. It was supposed to be the jewel in the crown of Jordanian policy.

"Instead of this becoming a great asset for the Jordanian leadership, it has gradually become a liability since the tunnel affair and due to the failure to demonstrate the fruits of peace. The latest fiasco only makes this more serious.

"There appears to be a common denominator behind a chain of mishandled situations that we have seen and this seems to be based on a lack of understanding of the requirements of peace with Jordan."

To minimize the fallout and help repair the damage to Israeli-Jordanian relations, Shamir said that "what should be done now within the parameters of the Israeli domestic political system is that first the Israeli polity must demonstrate that when it makes a mistake, it has a machinery for correcting it.

"The first action should be to establish who is responsible and draw the necessary conclusions from that. This would show the outside world that we are human and make mistakes and may misunderstand things, but we have a mechanism to repair it.

"Once we have demonstrated that, we should start the long and difficult work of damage control and rebuilding confidence. This cannot be achieved in one day and I'm afraid will be a long process.

"I cannot relate to what should be the end result of any process of inquiry into this matter. The facts have to be established first of all. What is important is that this process should be a very serious, penetrating investigation and that conclusions drawn should be implemented."

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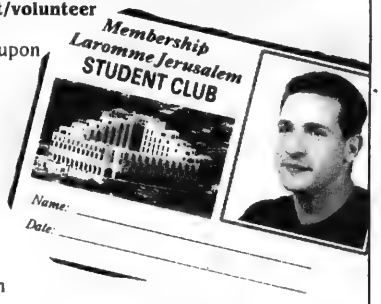

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Chronology of events in the Meshal Affair

• Thursday, Sept. 25 — Khaled Meshal, the political chief of Hamas in Jordan, is attacked and a toxic substance injected into his left ear as he enters his office in Amman. Meshal's bodyguards capture two of the assailants, who were carrying Canadian passports. A third man is reported to have escaped.

• Sept. 26 — The assailants are identified by Jordanian police as Shawn Kendal, 28, and Barry Bitnun, 36. Another man, identified as Guy Eris or Erez, 30, also was named as a participant, but he flees. Hamas says the men are Mossad assassins. The men are taken to jail and refuse Canadian consular aid.

• Sept. 27 — Meshal is treated with an antidote, reportedly provided by an Israeli doctor summoned at King Hussein's request.

• Sept. 28 — A high-level Israeli delegation — including Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and top defence ministry officials — travels secretly to Jordan to work out a deal for the release of the two "Canadians," according to Jordanian sources.

• Oct. 1 — The IDF announces it is releasing Hamas founder and spiritual leader Sheik Ahmed Yassin and sending him to Jordan. The IDF cites the 61-year-old cleric's ill health as the reason for his release. The army also says Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recommended Yassin's release.

• Oct. 1 — David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada, is called in by senior Foreign Affairs officials in Ottawa to advise the Israeli government that "any improper use of Canadiah identity documents would be viewed with the utmost seriousness."

• On the same day, Prime Minister Jean Chretien tells the House of Commons: "It is completely unacceptable to this government that anybody authorized by another government would use the Canadian passport to perpetrate any illegal action." Bob Mills, the Reform party's foreign affairs critic, says the affair could put Canadians at risk if there are reprisals from Hamas. Reform calls for visa, trade and intelligence sanctions against Israel.

CSIS denies Spector's claim

As well, Norman Spector, a former Canadian ambassador to Israel and now the publisher of the *Jerusalem Post*, questions whether "Canadian intelligence authorities were involved" in the operation. The statement draws a terse denial from the head of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS). Ward Elcock said his agency "had absolutely no involvement" in the operation.

• Oct. 2 — Canada announces it is recalling its ambassador to Israel, David Berger, in protest over the use of Canadian passports. Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy calls the move "a fairly serious step," but declines to say what other measures would be taken.

• Oct. 3 — Canadian security officials interview the two assailants and determine they are not Canadian. In Ottawa, Axworthy says "forgery" had been used on one of the passports. In Jerusalem, Israel's foreign ministry says it "regrets" Berger's recall, but promises continued dialogue to repair relations. In Amman, Meshal tells a news conference that his survival "has destroyed the legendary image of the Mossad."

• Oct. 5 — Israeli officials confirm Netanyahu personally approved both the target and the methods of the assassination attempt. Opposition leaders call for his resignation. But at Sunday's weekly cabinet meeting, the government refrains from commenting on the affair, except to say that the decision-making process involved various branches of the security forces which brought their recommendations to the prime minister for final authorization. "Under no circumstances is the process forcibly reversed," a statement said, adding that "false charges are being published, thus cynically exploiting a situation."

• Oct. 6 — Jordan frees the two Israeli assailants; Israel frees 22 Palestinian and Jordanian prisoners and Sheik Yassin arrives in Gaza. In Ottawa, Axworthy says Israel has agreed to cooperate in an official inquiry into the affair.

— By Ron Csillag and JPFS

NOTICE
RE: BY-LAWS APPROVAL

A special meeting of Jewish National Fund of Canada members for the purpose of By-Laws approval will be held on Sunday, November 23rd, 1997 in Montreal at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel at 3:00 p.m. Proposed By-Laws of the corporation will be reviewed and voted on for approval. A copy of these proposed By-Laws is available from the national office to any member of the corporation upon request prior to the meeting.

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Roger Neilson teaches hockey skills to a young Canadian goalie at Canada Centre in Metulla, Israel.

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For information on next year's program, contact the Canada Israel Experience Centre at:
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Bibi speaks to *The CJN*: part 2

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gave a Rosh Hashanah interview in his Jerusalem office to Edgar Asher, The CJN's Israel correspondent. The following is the continuation of the interview, which began last week.

CJN: *There have been renewed calls in the past few months to widen the inquiry into the fate of the missing children of Yemenite and Oriental Jewish parents who were abducted and sold for adoption in the early '50s. What does the government intend to do about this?*

NETANYAHU: It is a deeply emotional issue to think of families who have lost their children or do not know the fate of their children, or for that matter children who do not know who their parents are. These are the most primal issues that affect any human being and therefore one can understand the degree of anxiety to get to the bottom of this issue — this is shared by all of us. For this reason, in the next cabinet meeting, I am going to receive a comprehensive report from minister Avigdor Kahalani on the investigation and recommendations. He was asked to submit an account on the progress of the Cohen Commission and the enquiry in general.

CJN: *What is the government's strategy regarding the economic future, particularly as the country is currently riding the top end of its inflation target and the economy is on a slow down?*

NETANYAHU: Since 1991, Israel has produced more than 3,000 start-up hi-tech companies, which is more that any other country in the world, with the exception of the United States. This is the second largest Silicon Valley. Our national strategy is very simple. We are combining Israel's hi-tech capability with free market principles — the combination is very powerful and attractive.

A survey in Israel's leading financial daily, *Globes*, published last week, showed that among thousands of American investment firms, the number 1 country for foreign investment was Israel. The second was Britain, which was half that of Israel. Business communities around the world want to do business with us because what counts in the market place of tomorrow is the speed of innovation.

Our people are great improvisers. Israel has become the storehouse of technology, software and conceptual products. Capital is flowing in. For example, there are 22 joint ventures between Korea and Israel. Hyundai is coming in to join Microsoft, Intel, Siemens and Philips to establish a presence over here. This means that the Israeli economy has a vast potential. It has now the per capita income of average western Europe.

There will be rapid growth if we manage the economy in the right way. Israel will become a wealthy country. For the first time in thousands of years, the majority of the Jewish people will live in Israel and not in the Diaspora. Israel can become the realization of everything we all dreamed about — a Zionist dream. But it has the obligation to foster Jewish identity and Jewish solidarity in the Diaspora. I predict that in a decade all this will come about.

CJN: *How can Israel go about renewing its national identity?*

NETANYAHU: I would like to see the secular public more acquainted with traditional Jewish values. This is important for our national identity. Many countries are faced with the question of the fragmentation of national identity. We have today a very facile international culture that is sweeping across lands. You cannot stop this; you must counteract this by education. We must be proud of our heritage. I would like to see the haredi communities playing a part in the new technologies. There is a precedent for this.

We must be proud of our heritage

I maintain that Hazal [sages] were great programmers. They had discipline and learned from the talmudic tradition, essentially what you do today in hi-tech. What did they do? They took a problem and looked at its different components from every point of view until they solved it. It was an intellectual exercise, well suited to today's yeshivah-trained citizens.

The first Zionists felt that the only wealth was in the ground; it turns out, 100 years later, that we have come back to the understanding that there is tremendous opportunity in using the intellectual disciplines that Jewish people have had for many, many centuries. I see no reason why many people in the haredi community could not be exposed to this kind of activity and do very well for themselves and for the country.

Because of the rapid growth of Israeli hi-tech industries there is a tremendous shortage of manpower. We have started a program called A Computer for Every Child. This is intended especially for low-income families, which includes haredi families, Arab families, Druze families. I call it simplistically the two "mems" —*morashah* and *machshevim* — heritage and computers. If you ask me what the greatest danger is for Israel, it is the formation of two societies — the very rich and the poor, who will get poorer if their children are not brought into the communications age.

CJN: *How do you see the relationship between Israel and the Diaspora communities?*

NETANYAHU: It requires persistence and the ability to withstand criticism from home and abroad. In general, the Jewish communities abroad have figured out that it is important not to engage too completely in the general debate in Israel. There are always opinions — that's natural — but there has always been a limit to this kind of debate and rancor. I think that should be a continuing guideline. I have no illusions that Jews will express their opinions, its impossible they won't.

Nobody can contemplate a world without multiple Jewish opinions. That is not the issue, but I think that at the end of the day, we should remember that we are part of the same future and the same effort to establish peace, a secure peace, for our children and our children's children and also for our neighbors. I think that we will also see more immigration to Israel from the West — from Argentina for example, where the per capita income is lower than in Israel and from parts of Britain where the same is true. You're seeing it now.

Eventually, if Israel moves up the scale of economic success you will see American Jews moving to Israel to improve their economic lot. I know this seems like pure fantasy, but it is going to happen — I guarantee it.

CJN: *Finally Mr. Netanyahu, may I ask you on this Rosh Hashanah for a personal message to the Jewish community in Canada?*

NETANYAHU: I have no doubt that in the near future we will achieve peace with security for our country. And I hope that with the help of democracies, like Canada, we will also be able to remove the dangers to world peace posed by the predatory regimes in the region.

But there is more to our security than the physical safety we must have. Security also means preservation of Jewish unity, the nurturing of the bond which ties Jews everywhere. Israel's power is not limited to what we have here. It is the power of a people who may live in all corners of the globe but whose heart is with us in Israel.

We have good reason to be proud of our achievements. But we must not forget the realization of the Zionist dream — the in-gathering of the Jewish people in the Land of Israel is not yet complete.

Our goal for the next decade must be to have a majority of the Jewish people living in Israel. The challenges we face are still formidable. To meet them, we must be united in purpose, strong in resolve and unbending in faith. I wish each and every one of you in the Canadian Jewish community Shanah Tovah — a good new year, a year of peace, security, health and happiness.

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The law cannot seem to reach corruption in high places

By JONATHAN SHIFF

The acquittal of Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert has brought to the fore a dilemma facing the State Attorney in every case which involves charging public figures with white collar crimes.

Olmert was accused of various felonies stemming from his tenure as the Treasurer of the Likud in the 1988 national elections. Israeli law does not allow corporations to deduct contributions to political campaigns.

Some party functionaries had been convicted of setting up phony companies that allowed corporate donors to contribute to the Likud campaign and receive tax receipts. Olmert's co-treasurer was certainly involved. The question was whether Olmert knew this was happening, was personally involved, or remained fortuitously out of the loop.

After several years of investigations and public speculation, the Tel Aviv District Court exonerated Olmert, while criticising some of his behavior (such as signing a blank affidavit, which someone else filled in and submitted to the State Controller). The bottom line was that there was no strong evidence linking Olmert to the misdeeds.

Naturally, this was seen as a great victory by the mayor, and many in politics and the media (including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu) used the opportunity to attack the legal establishment.

Jerusalem's mayor is thereby added to a long list of public figures who have been indicted in recent years and then found not guilty.

The indictments stemmed, in part, from a general public perception of corruption at the political level and an attempt by the prosecutors to clean up matters by enforcing the law. Now the danger is that they will have achieved the opposite: having lost so many cases, they may hesitate to charge public figures and therefore make politicians feel they have carte blanche to ignore the law.

Politicians may feel they can ignore the law

In retrospect, the judgment vindicates the High Court's ruling that Olmert did not have to step down during his trial. It has become fashionable in recent years for people (often led by the Movement for the Quality of Government) to turn to the court and request all sorts of sanctions against public figures. In this case, the petitioners had argued that an indicted mayor should not continue in office while charged with such serious crimes.

Had the court granted that request, Olmert would have been evicted from office and replaced, only to be found not guilty. The damage to his career might have been irreparable. Eilat Mayor Raffi Hoffman was forced to step down and by the time he won his trial, the city had a different mayor. Clearly this is unjust.

On the other hand, there is a definite sense that public figures feel free to act as they please. The more sophisticated the corruption, the more difficult it is to convict, since no written records are left and those involved often cover up for one another.

All of this highlights one of the major limits of law. Laws can only go so far in modifying behavior, and when overused, the courts can create a boomerang effect, undercutting attempts to change norms and standards.

Indeed, since the Israeli political system has been stalemated for the last 20 years, it is hard to force people out of office for issues other than those dividing the country. This has led certain politicians to feel safe as long as their constituency is concerned with other matters. As a result, the courts have been the only force able to create standards of behavior. Paradoxically, however, the more they are used, the less effective they may become, losing both authority and deterring power.

Without inside information, it is hard to know whether the string of defeats for the prosecution stems from coincidental bad luck or poor judgment. In any case, it may be time for the state attorneys to pick their battles more carefully. Also, investigations should be conducted as quickly as possible, without public leaks that allow officeholders to portray themselves as victims of a vendetta.

The risk is that this approach may allow some corrupt politicians to remain in power. The hope is that if the state wins a few cases, the politicians may realise that at the end of the day, someone may hold them accountable.

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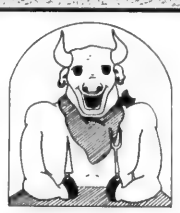

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THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

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"Food that is poetry" was how Sara Waxman of *The Toronto Sun* described Avli's culinary offerings, which include vegetarian specialties, fresh seafood daily, and exquisite main-course pies with an olive oil crust.

Hours: Sun. – Wed. 5 to midnight; Thurs. – Sat. 5 to 2 a.m.
Main floor wheelchair access
Reservations recommended Thurs. – Sat.

401 Danforth Avenue
Phone 416-461-9577

VILLAGE LOFT, EATON'S YORKDALE

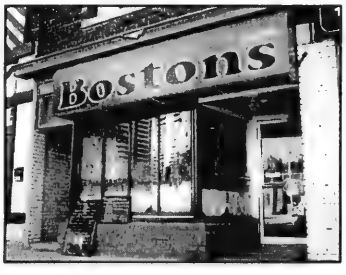
The Village Loft Restaurant at Eaton's Yorkdale is a family dining oasis for both in-store shoppers and the general community. Especially popular is the All-You-Can-Eat Buffet, served daily: $9.95 M to F 11:30–2:30; $13.95 M to W 4:30–8, Thurs. & Fri. 4:30–9; $10.95 Sat. 11:30 to 8 and Sun. 11:30 to 3. The Thurs. & Fri. Night Buffet features an all-you-can-peel and eat Shrimp Festival. Children under 8 eat for half price, children under 4 eat FREE, and seniors enjoy 10% off every day!

Licensed under LLBO, the Village Loft also offers an exciting à la carte menu. Its large, sunny dining room is a cheery destination for all your special occasions, and a private room is available. There is ample free parking and direct subway access.

Hours: Open daily; see hours above
Reservations recommended

Eaton's Yorkdale, 2nd floor
Phone 416-256-5018

BOSTON'S FAMILY RESTAURANT



Bostons has an Eastern European flavor: traditional cabbage rolls, kreplach, latkes, blintzes and bagels with lox and cream cheese set the tone; and proprietor Yolanta recommends the excellent veal schnitzel. The fish menu includes sole, rainbow trout, salmon and gefilte fish. If you're diet-conscious, try the low-fat cheeses and the salads. Yolanta and chef Hugh each have over 10 years' experience in Jewish dairy cooking; and the staff enjoy the home-cooked food they serve. This cozy family-run locale seats 40 guests. It is licensed, and reasonably priced.

Hours: Mon.-Fri 7:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Sat. 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.,
Sun. 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
Reservations accepted

1958 Yonge Street
Phone 416-932-1913

THE FRIENDLY GREEK

Treat yourself to a Greek holiday without getting on a plane. The authentic decor and the interesting and delicious food will leave you feeling like you've had a mini holiday. Start out with the calamari and maybe some humus. For your main course try the souvlaki available in lamb, chicken or beef accompanied by roasted potatoes, tzatziki sauce and a complimentary basket of garlic bread. End your perfect meal with Greek coffee. Book your parties, or call in for take out or delivery. We will make your evening an enjoyable experience.

Hours: Mon.-Sun. 11:00 am-11:00 pm
Fri.-Sat. 11:00 am-midnight
Wheelchair access

7315 Yonge St. (north of Steeles)
Phone 416-310-4733
905-707-8579

BUMPKIN'S

Bumpkin's, under the same owner since 1971, is situated in a Victorian house with an inviting atmosphere and warm fireplace. The huge menu includes duck a l'orange, quails and breast of chicken; for seafood, try the best-selling Shrimps Bumpkin's, fresh Atlantic salmon, stuffed rainbow trout, or fresh catch of the day. The choice of tender, juicy meat items includes roast beef, sirloin, filet mignon and sirloin butt steak; there are also fine vegetarian dishes, like pasta primavera. Daily specials include tiger shrimp, pasta aux fruits de mer, and surf 'n turf. Appetizers are from $2.95, entrees from $8.95; lunches include soup or salad. Best escargots & mussels in town!

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 12:00-2:30 p.m., dinner Mon.-Sat. 5:00-11:00 p.m.
Reservations requested for 5 or more persons

21 Gloucester Street
Phone 416-922-8655

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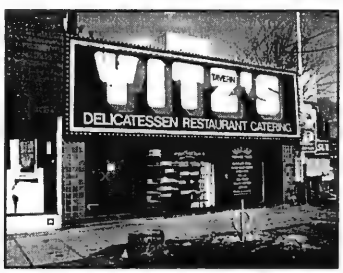

A Jewish Deli serving hearty foods prepared fresh daily with many favourites like homemade soups, corned beef, knishes, big salads and bagels. Voted #1 for Chicken Matzoh Ball Soup, Baby Beef, Lemon Meringue Pie and Chunky Chocolate Cookies. Boasts a 'lighten up' low fat menu. Baking on premises all day long. Unique Feature: A well stocked Humidor with the finest Cuban cigars at the city's best prices.

Hours: 10:00 am-9:00 pm
Take Out: 9:30 am-9:00 pm
7 days a week
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346 Eglinton Avenue West
Phone 416-487-4506

DI MAGGIOS

The flavors here are Southern Californian and Continental, with Asian touches. Chef Chris Thomas worked for some years in Beverly Hills. The swordfish, sea bass and salmon are all recommended; likewise the rack of lamb or provimi calves' liver; or try a pasta, say, angel hair with black tiger shrimp. There's also fine vegetarian pizzas, soups, appetizers and salads. The striking decor is unique: it features walls and floors painted with classic reproductions of the Sistine Chapel, Mona Lisa, Van Gogh and Matisse. October's Toronto Life gave DiMaggio's an ecstatic review; come for yourself, and see why.

Hours: Mon.-Fri. lunch & dinner,
Sat. dinner only; Sun. closed, but
available for private functions.
Reservations, please.

1423 Yonge Street
Phone 416-924-3288

FURAMA HOUSE

Looking for ambience, fine dining and a varied selection of Cantonese and Szechuan cuisine? Look no further than Bobby Peng's Furama House, which boasts all of the above plus the city's most spectacular Dim Sum, available from 10 to 4 seven days a week for your dining pleasure. Ongoing specials include Live Lobster (buy 1 get 1 free, $18.95 eat in or $20.95 take out), and Live Lobster & Whole King Crab, $22.50. Mon. to Fri. except holidays, enjoy 20% off the Dim Sum if paying cash, and 15% off the dinner menu, not including specials.

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100 Steeles Avenue West
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THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

GIRA POLLI

The name means "turning the chickens"; and that's what Gira Polli is all about. The pride of the house, and Cordon Bleu chef Neil Turner, is fresh free-range chicken, roasted on a turnspit over two-year aged oak logs in a tiled, arched oven. The wood-fired rotisserie leg of lamb, marinated for four days, is also excellent; so are the pastas. One of the best appetizers is spicy grilled calamari. Then there are ribs, filet of sole and a vegetable grill, plus salads, sauces and homemade desserts to complete your meal. The ambience is roomy, rustic Italian, with brick arches, ceramic tile and plenty of real, live plants. Entree prices range from $7.95 to $15.95.

288 Eglinton Avenue West
Phone 416-322-9550

Hours: Tue.-Sat. from 5:00, Sun. from 4:30 until the last guest leaves. Call for reservations Fri. & Sat.

RICHMOND GRILL AND CAFÉ

Richmond grill and café

Leslie Kubicek, former principle of Toronto restaurants Pronto and North 44, has opened the casual, easy-going Richmond Grill and Café in the heart of Richmond Hill. Chef Kumar (formerly of Pronto and Jump) heads up the culinary team who's goal is to offer creativity and variety; from pizzas to grilled meats, fish to pastas and daily specials – all cooked to perfection ... of course! Lunches $4.95 and up; dinner entrees starting at $11.50. Take out, catering, private functions and private room available. Ample free parking off Church Street.

10165 Yonge St. (N. of Major Mackenzie)
Phone 905-884-5155

Hours: Open Monday to Sunday
Lunch: Tues. to Fri. 11:30 am to 2:30 pm
Dinner: Mon. to Sun. from 5 pm

HOTHOUSE CAFÉ

The HotHouse Cafe, with 120 menu items and an extensive wine list, takes special pride in its Thin-Crust Pizza, Indonesian Tiger Shrimp, and Linguine Mediterranean. There is a fabulous Sunday brunch with live jazz, and a Wednesday night buffet; the atmosphere is bright, upbeat and elegantly casual. When you plan a corporate party or a simchah, consider that HotHouse has hosted thousands of events, for 10 to 200 guests. HotHouse is in the heart of Toronto, steps from the theatre district, major hotels, the SkyDome and subway; two hours free parking.

35 Church Street
Phone 416-366-7800

Hours: Mon.-Thu. 11:00 am-midnight
Fri.-Sat. 11:00 am-1:00 am
Sun. 10:30 am-midnight
Reservations requested

SPLENDIDO

Splendido blends the best of Californian and Italian cuisine. From amongst their many splendid dishes, the grilled rack of veal with cracked pepper and rosemary crust comes highly recommended. Another good choice is the hardwood-roasted, free-range chicken. Fish lovers won't be disappointed with the tasty sauteed tiger shrimp served with Cajun spices. The atmosphere and service are friendly, the colors and decor inviting and cheery. Splendido has a private room; and on Sundays, the premises are available for outside catering, and for bar mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs and weddings.

88 Harbord Street
Phone 416-929-7788

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.
Closed Sun.
Reservations advised.
Wheelchair access.

LOBSTER ROYALE

Seafood and lobster lovers, come and enjoy. Dine at The Lobster Royale where lobsters range from one to three pounds, live from the tank, prepared for you either broiled or steamed. Start your meal with a superb Lobster Bisque or a divine Clam Chowder. Other fine fish delicacies are Alaska King Crab Legs, Orange Roughy and Fresh Atlantic Salmon and the meat menu includes Filet Mignon and New York Striploin. There is a certain tone here, not too formal; smart-casual dress goes well with fine table linen.

7323 Yonge Street
Phone 905-707-0546

Hours: Mon.-Sun. 5:00-10:00 pm
Reservations advised for groups of 4 and up
Wheelchair access

THE FRIENDLY GREEK

For dinner, you'll find your traditional Greek favorites here, like moussaka, chicken souvlaki or the fine roast lamb dinner; there's also a varied fish menu reminiscent of the Greek islands, with dishes like halibut steak and filet of sole. For lunch, sample appetizing dips, and mezedes snacks such as dolmadakia (rice wrapped in vine leaves). This Friendly Greek is small and cozy, decorated in warm, relaxing colors; service is fast and friendly; and as both the lunch and dinner crowd include many regular patrons, you'll know you've come to a place which has earned its high reputation.

4695 Yonge Street
Phone 416-250-7880

Hours: 11:00-mid., Fri. & Sat. till 1:00.
Reservations accepted.
Wheelchair access.

OUTHAI RESTAURANT

At the vanguard of the "new wave" of Thai restaurants that have taken Toronto by storm, Outhai Restaurant at 1100 Eglinton Avenue West offers all the exotic, piquant Thai flavours you'd expect at exceptionally reasonable prices, served in a warm, friendly, but unpretentious environment. House favourites include the Mixed Seafood Grill, Lemon Shrimp Soup, Mango Salad, and Cashew Chicken, and, of course, Pad Thai; you'll find Outhai's version unparalleled.

Current specials, valid for both dining in and take out, include a 2nd entrée at half price with the purchase of any regular-priced entrée.

1100 Eglinton Avenue West
Phone 416-785-1727

Hours: Mon.–Thurs.11:30– 3:30 and 5–10
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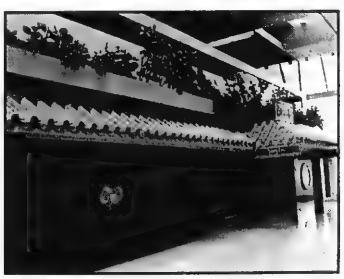

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David Broza returns to Toronto:

Popular performer is keeping himself busy

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts editor

NEW JERSEY — David Broza is a busy man. It was with great difficulty that I managed to reach him by phone at his home last week to talk about his upcoming gig in Toronto.

He'd finished a stint in Israel a few days earlier and had flown back from a show in Chicago just before I finally reached him.

"I've been busy mostly playing concerts and writing lots of stuff," he said, a touch of weariness in his voice.

Broza performs over 200 concerts a year and for the past few years has always included a Toronto gig. Fans of all ages who've seen him know exactly what to expect.

"I try to give my audience everything they can possibly want," he said of his concerts. "A 'Best-Of' show plus that night's fusion of whatever's happening on stage." He also finds time to throw in a few of his personal favorites.

David Broza

His one-man show will combine English and Hebrew songs with his unique mixture of urban rock 'n' roll combining Spanish flamenco, blues and '70s-style folk rock.

Also on the bill Oct. 12 at the Music Hall on Danforth Avenue is talented singer/songwriter Marc Jordan, who's scored a few hits of his own in addition to writing for Rod Stewart and Amanda Marshall.

"It will be a long night," Broza promised. "The audience will definately get their's money's worth."

Although he currently makes his home here, Broza grew up in Israel and has performed many benefits there including a memorial concert for Yitzhak Rabin.

"It's a slow march through the valley of death," Broza said of the current political scene in Israel. "But I'm actually a positive thinker and I was never under the delusion that the road to peace won't be a bloody and difficult one."

Which is why Broza returns to Israel to perform as often as he can. "I make people feel better by providing entertainment for them," he said. "It's what I do."

When not performing, Broza has been busy working on a number of projects, including a Spanish album and a story album for children. In Israel he's collaborating with singer/songwriter Peter Himmelman on a project he's calling Israeli Gears (a tie-in to Eric Clapton's progressive blues band Cream.)

For tickets to his Oct. 12 show, call 416-870-8000.

Lawyer takes a shine to miracle polish

BY ADAM BELLO
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Aspiring entrepreneur Les Kotzer has found a Midas touch that does not turn things to gold, but does make them glitter.

Drawing on his experience in his family-run hardware and paint store, the lawyer-turned-business owner is beginning to make a name for himself in Canadian retail by introducing a versatile American cleaning product that can be used to renew all metal surfaces, from brass menorahs to gold and silver jewelry to the stainless steel kitchen sink.

The product is Maas, an all-metals polishing cream. In the last few years, Kotzer has taken it from the fringe of mail order and home shopping television promotion to the shelves of Canadian Tire, Home Hardware, the Bay and Loblaws. Some call Maas a miracle cleaner. Kotzer calls it an opportunity he could not pass up.

"Whatever direction I went in life, I never lost the entrepreneurial spirit that my family shared," he says, "I knew I wanted to build my own business around bringing a good product to the [Canadian] marketplace, and I recognized this right away in Maas.

"I learned from my father and grandfather to know and understand the quality of a product, which made me want to capitalize on the cream," Kotzer says.

"Most young entrepreneurs make the mistake of not knowing enough about the products and services they offer, and then get in over their heads. The key is to always know the quality of what you are offering – and always deal in quality."

Kotzer, 41, a practising lawyer with Fish & Associates in Thornhill, became involved with Maas in 1991 at a Chicago trade show of hardware goods. He says he realized its potential when he saw his reflection in a brass planter treated with the polish.

"It was amazing how it all happened," Kotzer says. "I used to write a do-it-yourself column in a local newspaper as part of the hardware store's marketing, and someone once wrote in a question about how to choose the right metal polish. This was always a concern when people came to the store looking for a specific metal cleaner. We would spend a lot of time reading the small print on polish tins to find the best one. I felt there had to be a better way.

"When I saw this gleaming brass planter, the memories of the store, the old column and the entrepreneurial spirit all came together; I knew right then and there I had the opportunity I was looking for."

Les Kotzer and his Midas touch.

The Maas polishing cream works on all metal and non-porous surfaces (glass, plastics and Plexiglas, among others). The product has received critical acclaim in the United States for its versatility for home, commercial and industrial use.

Donna Maas, the president of Maas Polishings Systemes said in a telephone interview that Burlington Air Express informed her it is currently testing to determine if the polish will help them save on fuel by effectively reducing the dirt build-up on their airplanes, and thereby reducing wind sheer, the wind resistance faced in flight.

She said the product is also being used in every branch of the American military and in U.S. Department of Defence commissaries.

But while the product has had an impressive track record in America, Kotzer found he needed to build up a reputation for it in Canada.

After acquiring the Canadian distribution rights to the polish through his company, Eglinton Marketing Corporation, Kotzer used word-of-mouth to develop public confidence in the product. Now he has an overflowing binder of thank you letters and hand written orders from satisfied mail order customers.

However, major retail chains wanted further proof that Maas could create in-store demand and Kotzer set out to break into the retail market.

By attending the Home Show and maintaining a continued presence on the Canadian home shopping network, Kotzer slowly began to draw the attention of Canadian media and he learned how to develop new marketing strategies.

Last year, Kotzer sent a tube of Maas to radio personality John Michael of CKTB in St. Catharines. Michael praised the product over the air, triggering a demand from his listeners that gained the attention of Canadian Tire, who has since carried Maas in its stores. The polish has sold well and has been the featured product in two promotional flyers in the past year.

More recently, Kotzer has had success with Loblaws/SuperCentre, which has added Maas nationwide to its cleaning section.

Kotzer says the next challenge is to market a Maas line, with product spin-offs such as polishing gloves and a cleaning gel for automotive and boat use. His current marketing promotion has already led to a product profile earlier this month on the national radio program, the *Canadian Achievers*.

As a further promotional step, Kotzer is seeking to have the product designated kosher for Passover by next spring.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

RAGTIME, STILL THE NIGHT SWEEP DORAS

Singer-actor **Theresa Tova**'s original play *Still The Night*, which won critical acclaim at Toronto's Theatre Passe Muraille last year, came away with four awards, including best new musical in the mid-sized theatre division, at the 18th annual Dora Mavor Moore awards in Toronto last week.

Another big winner was Livent's production of the **E.L. Doctorow** novel *Ragtime*, which captured seven Doras including best new musical in the large theatre division.

Still The Night, a two-person musical drama about Jews fleeing the Holocaust, also won in the categories of best musical production, best female performance in a musical (**Liza Balkan**) and best sound and music.

The awards couldn't have come at a better time for Tova, who both wrote and starred in the highly successful work, and who plans to take it on a cross-country tour, beginning in Calgary Oct. 17.

Tova is also starring in a gala concert for JIAS on Oct. 27 (see next item).

* * *

JIAS Concert: To mark its 75th anniversary, Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS) is sponsoring Celebrating Our Heritage, a gala concert at the George Weston Recital Hall, Ford Centre, on Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. The concert features diva, **Theresa Tova**, TSO associate concert master **Mark Skazinetsky**, cellist **Igor Gefter**, pianist **Marina Surgan** and cantor **Armand Moyal**.

JIAS intends to use the concert to launch the *JIAS Community Heritage Book*. The proposed book will feature the well-illustrated stories of numerous waves of Jewish immigration to Canada, highlighting various Toronto Jewish families.

Tickets are $18, $36 and $75 (the latter price includes post-concert reception). 416- 697-0613.

* * *

Hollywood Snub: Billy Crystal is one of four big-name Jewish Hollywood celebrities who have opted out of a celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary set for next April in Los Angeles, the *London Jewish Chronicle* reports.

The decision not to participate is supposedly a protest over Israel's proposed Conversion Bill and what many American Jews see as a growing intolerance in Israel's Orthodox establishment of non-Orthodox Jews.

The performers were reportedly upset that the proposed Conversion Bill would deny the legitimacy of non-Orthodox conversions performed in Israel, and by a recent incident in which non-Orthodox Jews were heckled by Orthodox onlookers at the Western Wall before being evicted by the police.

Yoram Ben-Ze'ev, the Israeli consul in Los Angeles, said he was not entirely displeased that his cable of the closed-door meeting had been leaked to the Israeli media. "The matter goes beyond the current controversy," he said. "I think both Israel and world Jewry are on a genuine quest for a new identity. We need to redefine ourselves and find a broad common denominator to hold all Jews together."

* * *

Poetry Corner: A Seed in The Pocket of Their Blood is the title of a slide show and poetry presentation by **Rafi Aaron**, in which he focuses on the moods of contemporary Israel while conveying a sense of its past. Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave., Oct. 28, 7:30 p.m. 416-924-6211.

* * *

New CD: Guitarist **Simon Wynberg** explores Jewish musical tradition in *Songs Of My People*, a new CD on the Narada label.

Wynberg, a Scottish-born Torontonian whose parents came from South Africa, has performed with many notable classical groups, including the BBC Concert Orchestra. The CD offers "an exploration and interpretation of Jewish musical traditions in acoustic, contemporary arrangements" led by Wynberg's eloquent acoustic guitar.

* * *

Posluns Monodrama: *The Galician Woman*, a monodrama with music based on the life of **Eva Deutsch**, is being performed by Vienna's legendary **Topsy Kuppers**, Nov. 1 and 2, 8 p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre, North York. *The Galician Woman* is "a unique celebration, a dream of laughter and tears...a cavalcade of Yiddish-Deutsch," co-sponsored by Spotlight Productions and the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Kuppers also performs in *Weit Von Wo – Cabaret in Exile: A Journey into Nostalgia*, Nov. 2, 2 p.m.

Reservations, 416-636-1880, ext. 368.

* * *

Play Returns: *My Mother's Courage*, **George Tabori's** play about the Hungarian Holocaust, returns to Theatre Passe Muraille, Oct. 22 to Nov. 2, courtesy of Theatre Asylum & Olive Eye Productions. $18-$25. 416-504-7529.

Toronto actress delivers message

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Wife abuse is "hidden" in the Jewish community, says Marlene Charney, 39, one of several actors who plays the part of Francine Nicholas, who in real life was shot five times by her husband in front of their six children.

Charney plays Francine in the trial scene, one of the links between the two acts, *I Will Not Fall*, which played at the Theatre Centre until Oct. 5.

Marlene Charney

A volunteer with Jewish Family and Child Service's telephone support group for abused women, Charney said she gets "even more satisfaction" from playing a role in a message play.

"I think wife abuse is just as prevalent in the Jewish community as it is in general society," she said. "I have seen quite a few women in these circumstances. The subject is not given nearly enough significance in society."

Since graduating in dramatic arts from the University of Windsor, she has had leading roles in other productions during an acting career of 16 years.

The daughter of Auschwitz survivor Morris Charney of Toronto, she is a volunteer as well at the Holocaust Remembrance Committee. An uncle, Michael Charney, of Toronto, was also at Auschwitz

She is on stage during the whole play, either in the role of Francine or as a singer in the chorus.

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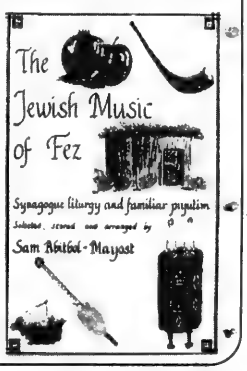

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Documentary focuses on Israel's founding

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

The three years from the end of World War II in 1945 to the establishment of Israel in 1948 were critical ones in modern Jewish history.

These seminal developments, which were touched off by the surrender of Nazi Germany, are dramatically captured in *The Long Way Home*, a two-hour documentary produced by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre and previewed at a special screening late last month in Toronto.

Written and directed by Mark Jonathan Harris, and narrated by Morgan Freeman, the film is an amalgam of archival newsreel footage, period radio broadcasts, still photos and personal accounts. Factual and yet stirring, it is framed by the barbed wire of the Dachau concentration camp and the flight of Jewish displaced persons to an embattled Israel.

The Long Way Home, which is avowedly Zionist in orientation, unfolds as U.S. troops liberate Bergen-Belsen. They are shocked, dumbfounded and disgusted by the horror. They hardly know what to make of the Jewish survivors, who are ravenous and ill. Some are so hungry that they wolf down their rations, rupturing their stomachs. Many others, having tasted the whiff of freedom, simply succumb to disease.

Harris essentially deals with four overlapping themes: the appalling condition of the DP camps administered by the American occupation force in Germany; the hostility survivors often faced when they returned to their homes; the struggle for Jewish statehood at the United Nations; and the increasingly bitter conflict over illegal Jewish immigration to Palestine.

In relating this complex story, *The Long Way Home* conveys stark images and strong words.

Conditions at the DP camps were so bad that a special American emissary was dispatched by then-president Harry Truman to investigate the matter. His report prompted Truman to issue an appeal to Britain: admit 100,000 Jewish refugees to Palestine.

Britain declined, but its unsympathetic attitude was echoed by General George Patton, who claimed that Jews are "lower than animals."

Survivors who trekked back to their homes in eastern Europe usually received a chilly reception. Some were murdered by Fascists. Others were pointedly asked why they hadn't been turned into soap. "We were hated," one recalls, "because we returned from the dead."

In the aftermath of the Holocaust, the idea for a Jewish state in Palestine gathered momentum, despite Arab and British objections. Truman was supportive, but his senior cabinet officers were not. As the issue was debated, the United States cozied up to Germany in the interest of containing the rising tide of communism.

During the months leading up to Israel's emergence as a sovereign state, events moved fast and furiously. The United Nations passed a resolution partitioning Palestine. The British vacated their mandate after a terrorist campaign mounted by Jewish extremists. The Haganah shepherded Jewish refugees to Palestine, even over the Alps.

This tumultuous post-war period, which exerted such a profound influence on the world, is deftly recounted in *The Long Way Home*, a film of startling contrasts, piquant observations and piercing truths.

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The Toronto Senior Strings (TSS) is launching its fourth season on Oct. 23 at 2 p.m.

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Tickets, priced at $10 per concert or $28 for the series of three, can be ordered from TSS, 204 Airdrie Rd. Toronto M4G 1M8 or call 416-769-5071 or 416-488-9452 for more information.

The two other concerts in the series will be held on April 16 and June 4.

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Abuse of seniors often linked to other problems

TORONTO — Most older people enjoy positive relationships in their daily lives. But a minority of older women and men – experts estimate about four percent – experience some type of neglect or abuse, according to the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

TO YOUR HEALTH

While strangers and professional caregivers may be implicated in some cases of abuse, research has shown that most abusers are related to their victims. A recent Canadian study found that in 27 percent of cases, the perpetrator was a son; in 24 percent of cases it was a husband; and in 11 percent of cases, the daughter was the abuser.

Mistreatment of an older person rarely happens unless some other problem is present, according to Jan Boyd, a social worker with the Community Assessment and Treatment Program at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care in Toronto.

"We often discover past episodes of conflict or violence, financial problems, or that the abuser has a problem with drugs or alcohol," Boyd says.

Abuse in later life occurs in several forms and they often overlap, according to a 1992 survey, which found that financial abuse was the most commonly reported problem.

This occurs when someone – a family member or trusted professional – handles a senior's money or property without his or her knowledge or consent. For example, adult children or other relatives may convince an older person to let them make investments, which they then turn to their own advantage.

Or there may be outright theft or fraud involving property or pension cheques. Some elderly people are pursued by zealous vendors, who try to convince them to purchase unnecessary products or services.

The survey found that the next most commonly reported type of abuse was chronic verbal aggression – being yelled at, threatened with physical harm or abandonment, or belittled by cruel remarks.

Less frequently reported was physical violence, which may involve hitting, kicking, pushing, slapping or restraining the older person, which can result in injuries such as bruises, cuts or even broken bones. In some cases, there may be sexual abuse as well.

Finally, the survey found that elderly people are sometimes abused through neglect. In these cases, relatives deprive a dependent of necessities such as nutritious food, clean accommodation and medical care.

Some studies have found that two groups of older people may be especially vulnerable to abuse: those who are economically dependent on an adult child or other caregiver, and those who are cognitively impaired due to Alzheimer disease or stroke.

Most older people are reluctant to admit that someone is mistreating or taking advantage of them, says Boyd. "They feel ashamed and embarrassed that this is happening to them and don't want anyone else to know about it."

This is especially true if you're being abused by your own child, or if your self-esteem is already so low that you feel the abuse is somehow deserved. In some cases, the person may have been mistreated in the past, either by a spouse or a parent, and is simply accustomed to living this way.

People who are financially and/or emotionally dependent on the abuser may also hesitate to complain or fight back, because they fear being abandoned or losing their family member's "love." They may also worry that, by revealing the abuse, they will be forced to press formal charges against the abuser.

Boyd offers the following advice:

- If you suspect that someone is taking advantage of you financially and don't want to confront them, speak to someone else – another family member or a trusted friend. You need to find out what's happening in order to gain control of the situation.
- If you are being abused physically or psychologically by someone in your family, you have to break the cycle and get outside help.

"Unfortunately, very few people are willing to disclose this type of situation to a complete stranger," says Boyd.

If there's no other relative you can talk to, she advises, call your family doctor or your clergyman who may be able to help you explore your options. For example, help may be available from a family service agency or seniors centre in your community. In some cases, it may be appropriate to contact the police or other authorities.

- If you are a caregiver who has already acted abusively toward an older person, or if the strain of caregiving is making you feel overwhelmed, angry or resentful, seek outside help immediately.

"Whether this kind of abuse is intentional or unintentional, the goal is to stop the abusive behavior and begin the healing process," says Boyd.

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Number of options available to ease Yom Kippur fasting

JERUSALEM — An expert at Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Centre has advice for your Yom Kippur fast.

According to Dr. Elliot Berry, head of clinical nutrition at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, there are a number of things you can do in advance to ease your fasting.

- Take frequent drinks of water throughout the day before the fast begins.
- Your last meal before the fast should include complex carbohydrates, like pasta, rice, potatoes and whole-grain bread. When complex carbohydrates are stored in the liver, water is retained so the body suffers less dehydration during a fast.
- But, be sure to eat a balanced meal before the fast. Proteins and fats are absorbed more slowly than sugars and provide the necessary energy, but you should balance your meal with 55 percent complex carbs, 15 percent proteins and 30 percent fats.
- Do not overeat before you fast.
- Do not take salty or sweet foods or beverages before the fast, because they may make you thirsty.

Dr. Berry also has some advice on the best way to break the fast.

Break your fast with a drink (not carbonated) and a slice of bread or dry cake. After an hour, enjoy a full meal.

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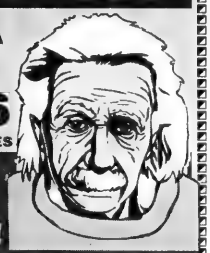

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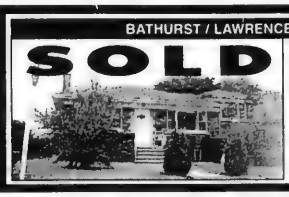

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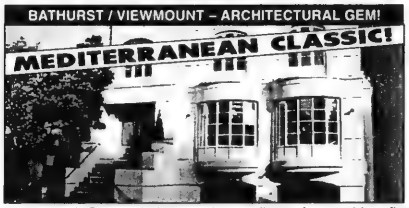

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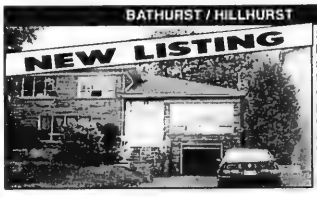

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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

*** CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.**

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I am 44, widowed & a prof. female with 2 teenage children & a dog.I enjoy music, theatre, fiction, travel & the outdoors. You are a warm, fun-loving, like-minded prof. male, in your late 40's, with a strong sense of family values & traditions. If this description reminds you of yourself,lets do lunch.CJN Box 6979

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Prof. male, 50's, with many interests, including sports, theatre, travel & just socializing, would like to meet similar female. CJN Box 6976.

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330 OBITUARIES

BURKE, Sol - on Sept. 21, 1997, late of 115 Antibes Dr.
KANTOR, Irving - on Sept. 22, 1997, late of 6250 Bathurst St.
LUBANSKAYA, Nesya - on Sept. 22, 1997.
NADEL, Fanny - on Sept. 23, 1997, late of 351 Christie St.
ROSENZWEIG, Morris - on Sept. 23, 1997, late of 137 Bannockburn Ave.
BROWN, David - on Sept. 24, 1997, late of 35 Brockington Cres.
KRAMER, Gilda - on Sept.25, 1997.
GREEN, Irving - on Sept. 26, 1997, late of 3000 Bathurst St.
RICHMAN, Harry - on Sept. 26, 1997, late of 1750 Russell Rd.
LITTNER, Celina - on Sept. 27, 1997.
ROSENBERG, Leonard - on Sept. 27, 1997.
SPEARS, Mary - on Sept. 29, 1997, late of 7420 Bathurst St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Colour prints from Marc Chagall "Open Window", Henry Matisse, M. Picasso.416-661-3838

330 OBITUARIES

FINK, Menahem - on Sept. 21, 1997.
FLEISHMAN, Samuel - on Sept. 29, 1997.

The Simple Alternative

BERKE, William - on Sept. 20, 1997, late of 4005 Bayview Ave., #304.
PANCER, Jason - on Sept. 20, 1997, late of 190 Little Ave.
SIMON, Abraham - on Sept. 20, 1997, late of 5 Fisherville Rd., #307.
GERTSBAIN, Regina - on Sept. 21, 1997, late of 37 Coldwater Crt.
LEWIN, Claire - on Sept. 21, 1997, late of 133 Braemar Ave.
COHEN, Rose - on Sept. 22, 1997, late of 6151 Bathurst St., #1106.
GELFUND, Solly - on Sept. 22, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MACKLIN, Anne - on Sept. 22, 1997, late of 122 Forest Heights Blvd.
MENDELOW (Gogarty), Kala - on Sept. 22, 1997, late of 14 Swansdown Dr.
TITLE, Molly - on Sept. 22, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
STANESCU, Irina - on Sept. 23, 1997, late of 40 Falstaff Ave. W., #111.
HERMAN, Lilly - on Sept. 24, 1997, late of 90 Fisherville Rd., #1201.
KIMEL, Yetta - on Sept. 24, 1997, late of 3000 Bathurst St., #1412.
TAYLOR, Barbara - on Sept. 24, 1997, late of 7927 Lawrence St.
TREIBICZ, Regina - on Sept. 25, 1997, late of 2 Karl Crt.

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335 UNVEILINGS

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

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will take place

Monday, Oct. 13th, 11:00 a.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Linitzer Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

BEN *(Benjamin Simon)* APPLEBAUM ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, Oct. 12th, 11:30 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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CLASSIFIED INDEX

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
18 FURNISHED HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
38 FURNISHED CONDOS FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
78 FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
80 SHORT-TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
98 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
98 FURNISHED DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
112 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
118 FURNISHED COTTAGE FOR SALE/RENT
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
138 FURNISHED FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMMODATION
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
162 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
168 FURNISHED ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
182 FURNISHED OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
188 FURNISHED OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
192 FURNISHED VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCHANGE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
238 PROGRESSIVE POSITIONS
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
248 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
285 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

The 21st Annual Jewish Book Fair

November 8 - 16, 1997

OPENING NIGHT - Saturday, November 8, 8:00 p.m.

David Grossman, author of *The Yellow Wind*, and the *The ZigZag Kid* speaks on IMAGINING PEACE. Sponsored by Canadian Friends of Peace Now. $7

Sunday, November 9

10:30 am & 1:30 pm Renelle Kuntz, Jewish Book Fair's Official Puppeteer, presents THE LAND OF MILK AND HONEY. In Honour of Israel's 50th Anniversary. Ages 3-8. $1

11:00 am Nancy-Gay Rotstein, will read from her novel *Shattering Glass* and discuss WOMEN, CAREER AND FAMILY. Free

12 noon Meet the Authors-Morris Macarz, author of *Staying Ahead* and **Harry Pollock**, author of *Max*.

1:30 pm The Shlomo Steinhardt and Label Basman Memorial Lecture featuring **Zachary Baker**, Head Librarian, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, speaking in Yiddish and English on "VILNA REVISITED: A REPORT ON THE YIVO INSTITUTE'S EFFORTS TO RECOVER ITS PRE-WORLD WAR II ARCHIVES." Slide presentation. Sponsored by Cttee, for Yiddish, UJA/ Federation. Supported by Friends of Yiddish. $3

3:30 pm Prose and Poetry at the Cafe Kasrilevke by contributors to *Parchment* 1997-98, Canada's national journal of creative Jewish writing, featuring **Ken Sherman, Seymour Mayne, Murray Pomerance, Ruth Panofsky and Nathalie Stephens**. $3

5:00 pm Aurel Braun and Stephen Scheinberg, editors of *The Extreme Right* speak on FREEDOM AND SECURITY AT RISK. Sponsored by Oraynu-Community for Secular Humanist Judaism. $3

7:00 pm Launch of a travelling exhibit and book, *A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood*, by poet and curator, **Rafi Aaron**. The exhibit links poetry and photography in one artistic unit. Free

8:00 pm Helen Epstein, author of *Children of the Holocaust* and the bestselling *Where She Came From-A Daughter's Search for Her Mother's History* speaks on BRINGING THE PAST TO LIFE: THREE GENERATIONS OF REMARKABLE WOMEN. Sponsored by Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Toronto. $7

Monday, November 10

10:30 am Program for Children. Selection of videos and storytelling suitable for ages 6-9. Free

10:30 am Reva Nelson, author of *Risk It!* and *Bounce Back!* speaks on CREATING RESILIENCE FROM ADVERSITY. Free

1:30 pm Dr Vera Rabie-Azoory, author of *They Love You, They Love Me Not* speaks on THE TRUTH ABOUT THE FAMILY FAVOURITE AND SIBLING RIVALRY. $3

8:00 pm Professor Elaine Newton reads from books by women survivors including *Ruth's Journey* by Ruth Glasberg Gold; *And Peace Never Came* by Elisabeth M. Raab; *To Auschwitz and Back: My Personal Journey* by Ruth Bindefeld Neray; *Theresienstadt- The Town the Nazis Gave to the Jews* by Vera Schiff and *A Partisan's Memoir: Woman of the Holocaust* by Faye Schulman. Followed by question period with the authors. Sponsored by Na'amat Canada-Toronto. $5

Tuesday, November 11

11:00 am IN THE MONTH OF KISLEV by Nina Jaffe. Performed by Dr. Abraham Shore Academy-Shearim Hebrew Day School . Discussion follows. For K-Grade 8. $1

1:30 pm Yehuda Fine, author of *Times Square Rabbi -Finding the Hope in Lost Kids' Lives* speaks on HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE EMERGE FROM HELL AND PREVENTING THEIR REENTRY INTO IT. Sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women in Canada. $3

8:00 pm Rosalie Sharp, co-editor of *Growing Up Jewish-Canadians Tell Their Own Stories* introduces contributing writers **Rosalie Abella, Morley Torgov, Ben Kayfetz, Julia Koschitzky, Fred Weinberg, Beatrice Fischer, Martin Goldfarb, Shirley Granovsky**. Coffee. Sponsored by ORT Canada. $5

Wednesday, November 12

10:30 am School Program with Carol Matas, author of *The Garden. In Honour of Israel's 50th Anniversary.* Grades 5-8. Sponsored by Canadian Zionist Federation. $1

1:30 pm School Program with Carol Matas, author of *The Garden. In Honour of Israel's 50th Anniversary.* Grades 5-8 Sponsored by Canada-Israel Committee. $1.

6:30-7:30 pm Reception by Stoddart Publishing to *Launch Dawn of the Promised Land- The Birth of Israel* by Ben Wicks. Open to the public- please join us.

8:00 pm Ben Wicks, author of *Dawn of the Promised Land* speaks on THE BIRTH OF ISRAEL. Sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada. $5

Thursday, November 13

10:30 am & 1:30 pm School program featuring **Jodi Miller** on *Brainteasers from Jewish Folklore* by Rosalind Charney Kaye. Grades 2-5.$1

10:30 am Eliakim Katz, author of *Old Age Comes at a Bad Times* speaks on WIT AND WISDOM FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART. Sponsored by Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. Free

1:00 pm Mark Nagler Ph.D., *Yes You Can!* speaks on A GUIDE FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES. Free

1:30 pm Broadway's Jewish Roots- A MUSICAL EXCURSION by **Faye Kellerstein**. Accompanied by **Jordan Klapman**. Sponsored by Ont. Region, The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and Canadian Seaway Branch, Women's League for Conservative Judaism. $3

8:00 pm Isabel Vincent, author of *Hitler's Silent Partners* speaks on SWISS BANKS, NAZI GOLD AND THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE. Sponsored by Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Centre. $5

Friday, November 14

10:30 am Alvin Abram author of *The Light After the Dark* speaks on TRUE STORIES OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS Featuring Eugene Libman. Sponsored by Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association. Free

Saturday, Nov. 15

8:00 pm THE MAN WHO CAPTURED EICHMANN. Painter, Poet, Soldier, Spy, **Peter Z. Malkin**, speaks on his book *Eichmann in My Hands*. With excerpts from Emmy nominated movie *The Man Who Captured Eichmann*, starring Robert Duvall. Sponsored by Canadian Society for Yad Vashem. $7

Sunday, November 16

10:30 am & 1:30 pm Renelle Kuntz, Jewish Book Fair's Official Puppeteer, presents THE LAND OF MILK AND HONEY. In Honour of Israel's 50th Anniversary. Ages 3-8. $1

11:00 am Panel Discussion by contributors to *Celebrating the Lives of Jewish Women-Patterns in a Feminist Sampler*. Featuring **Rachel Aber Schlesinger** (*From Generation to Generation*); **Sarah Taleb-Carlen** *(Wandering Jews: Lives Fractured by Geography*) and **Nora Gold** (*Pain and Healing, Sorrow and Hope*). Free

12 noon Brown bag lunch with **Ken Vegotsky**, author of *The Ultimate Power-222 Ways to Make Love with Life* speaks on THE MAGICAL POWER OF THE MIND. Interactive Presentation. Free

1:30 pm Concert Sponsored by du Maurier Arts and the Koffler Centre of the Arts. $3

3:30 pm Poetry Readings by poet **Shula Robin** and **Gladys Aaron** with musical interlude by **Eric Stein**. Sponsored by Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital and Emunah Women of Toronto $3

4:00 pm Alan Davies and Marilyn F. Nefsky, co-authors of *How Silent Were the Churches?* speak on CANADIAN PROTESTANTISM AND THE JEWISH PLIGHT DURING THE NAZI ERA. Sponsored by Canadian Council of Christians and Jews and Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto. $3

7:45 pm Phyllis Weinberg, author of *Yossi, the Boy who Wouldn't Speak Loshon Hora*, speaks on HAVE YOU HEARD THE LATEST GOSSIP? Sponsored by Aish HaTorah. $3

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Jewish players, coaches prepare for '97 NFL season

By HARLAN C. ABBEY
Special to The CJN

BUFFALO — There will be nearly a minyan of Jewish players and coaches on the field or along the sidelines during the 1997 NFL season.

The best-known among them is Marv Levy, head coach of the Buffalo Bills for the last 12 years and an NFL head or assistant coach for a total of 21 years. Prior to that, he served as head coach of the CFL's Montreal Alouettes.

Levy's claim to fame is being the only coach to bring a team to the Super Bowl in four successive seasons...never mind that they lost all four times.

Holder of an MA in history from Harvard, Levy has twice been named Coach Of The Year and stands 11th among the NFL's all-time winningest coaches with an overall record of 137-102 in the regular season and 11-8 in the post-season.

At 72, he is the oldest coach in the NFL.

* * *

The best-known — and only starter — among the NFL's six Jewish players is guard/tackle Harris Barton, who has started in 134 of 138 games he has played for the San Francisco 49ers. He was drafted out of the University of North Carolina, where he was an All American in 1986.

Josh Miller, punter for the Baltimore Stallions.

Last season, Barton, who has made at least two trips to Israel, started and played in 13 of his team's 16 games although he was slowed by a groin injury. The native of the Atlanta area is also known for the series of commercials he made for the American Cancer Society, while his father battled the disease — unsuccessfully.

In the latter's memory, he made the largest cash donation by any former University of North Carolina alumnus, $100,000 for the Paul C. Barton Conference Room in the School of Social Work.

Still single, Barton has conducted the Peninsula Symphony among his many fundraising activities.

* * *

Joe Brodsky was ready to retire after a 13-year career coaching high school and 11 years as backfield coach at the University of Miami, when he was asked by Jimmy Johnson to come with him to the Dallas Cowboys.

There he has worked with Emmit Smith, a future Hall of Fame member and one of the few Cowboys who has never had any off-field problems. Last year, Brodsky developed Sherman Williams, who gave Smith some relief by picking up 269 yards, the most by a second running back at Dallas since Smith arrived.

* * *

Adam Schreiber has lasted for 14 NFL seasons despite being a starter for only two, in 1993 as a centre for the Minnesota Vikings and at left guard for the Philadelphia Eagles in 1987.

Primarily a long-snapper now, he also has played with the Seattle Seahawks, New Orleans Saints, New York Jets and New York Giants.

Schreiber, 6-foot-5 and 298 pounds, was a ninth round pick out of the University of Texas. Active in many charities, he has the NFL shield on one of his teeth.

* * *

Ariel Solomon, 6-foot-6 and 295 pounds, is in his seventh season as a special teams member and back-up offensive lineman.

He was drafted in the 10th round from the University of Colorado by Pittsburgh and played in the 1996 Super Bowl.

He moved to the Minnesota Vikings last season before signing with Detroit in the spring.

Solomon has been active with several community organizations, including B'nai Brith.

Born in Brooklyn, he moved to Colorado with his parents, who operate an exotic pet business. In kindergarten, Solomon attended a one-room schoolhouse in Gold Hill, 12 miles from Boulder, CO.

He koshered his home in Pittsburgh when Orthodox Israeli cousins came for a visit. One, Ben-Tzion Solomon, is a member of the Diaspora Yeshiva Band.

* * *

Josh Miller is in his second year as the punter for the Steelers, coming by way of the Canadian Football League, where he was an all-star with the Baltimore Stallions, averaging 45.3 yards per kick.

A native of Rockway, NY, he played at the University of Arizona, where he majored in communications.

Miller was named ABC-TV Player Of The Game — extremely rare for a punter —when he averaged 49 yards for eight punts and three went out-of-bounds on the one-yard line against top-rated Washington.

During his CFL years, he interviewed players for ESPN2. He was a key member of Baltimore Grey Cup-winning team.

He may kick-off for the Steelers as well as punt this season.

* * *

Another second year player is Indianapolis Colt Scott Slutzker, a New Jersey native who starred at the University of Iowa and was drafted in the third round in 1996. The 6-foot-4, 250-pounder saw action on special teams and in blocking situations, ranking tied for fourth on special teams tackles with 12.

At Iowa, he won Player Of The Game honors against Michigan with six catches, one for a touchdown.

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LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

M	I	T	L	A		S	M	A	S	H		W	A	S
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The Inside Back

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CINNAMON HONEY CHICKEN

Marinade:

- 1 1/2 cups dry sherry
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 cup honey
- 1/3 cup lime juice
- zest of 1 lime
- 2 large cloves of garlic, crushed (or to taste)
- salt and pepper, to taste
- 3 3-lb. chickens, cut into 8th's

Mix together all marinade items. Arrange chicken pieces in single layer in shallow, non-aluminum, ovenproof pan, (or, use zip-lock, and then transfer before cooking - saves much space in the fridge!). Refrigerate overnight, turning pieces occasionally. Preheat oven to 350°F. Bake chicken uncovered 40-50 minutes, turning once or twice. Or, bake a shorter time and then broil til done for crispy skin.

About Life

Dear Ella,

My wife has been driving me crazy. She is a wonderful wife and mother; however, she is very superstitious. She believes in the evil eye. She believes that if I sew something on myself without taking it off first, I will sew my soul in. She believes that something terrible will happen to me if I go back into the house after I have left. I often sit in my car down the street from our home and wait for her car to pull out of the driveway so I can go back to retrieve what I have forgotten. I have to do this to avoid a terrible confrontation. I find all this stuff silly and unfounded and I can't seem to explain to her that she is being ridiculous and causing herself stress that she can't afford while running a household. Help!

Stupidstitions

Dear Stupidstitions

Webster defines "superstition" as a belief in, or fear of, what is unknown, mysterious or supernatural; religion, opinion or practice based on belief in divination, magic, omens.

Here we are, just before Yom Kippur, when many Jews will set aside their busy lives and go to shul to pray. Are they superstitious? What about people studying Kabbalah? Are they superstitious? What about the Chinese community who believe in Feng Shui, the practice of living and/or working in places that emanate good luck? Are they superstitious? Not to mention good luck charms, horoscopes, picking the same lottery numbers that your late mother used and believing you won because it was a gift from her. How many times have you heard the expression keneinehora meaning without the evil eye, or heard someone say "pooh pooh" or see someone pick up a lucky penny?

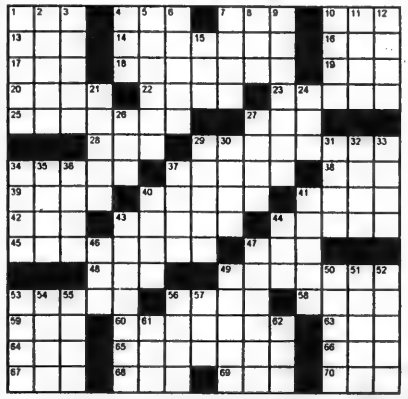
Possibly your wife was raised in a family that believed in these customs. She's not unusual. This is part of her personality. This is the woman you fell in love with, the mother of your children.

Enjoy your relationship and your family. Try not to focus on the superstitions she has. It's a package deal that comes with the part of her you love. It seems as though you're managing to work around these superstitions, just one of the many sacrifices a couple makes for one another.

Superstitious or not, may I end by wishing you and all our readers a happy, healthy New Year, G'mar Chatimah Tovah.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. And more
4. Tel Aviv to Jerusalem (dir)
7. Male swan
10. Lillian Florence Hellman
13. Brandeis casually
14. Secret Jew
16. Ithamar high priest
17. Sid Gordon stat
18. Baseball player "Flip"
19. Old woman
20. Mezuma (Eng.)
22. Berg and Stooge
23. Belief
25. Herzel
27. Israeli coin
28. Copeland on track
29. Bloody sign
34. City of mystics
37. Jacob Frank __ messiah
38. Damage
39. Palestinian
40. Duke of Edom
41. Wilder or Barry
42. Biblical measure
43. Jacob's ladder?
44. Pianist Victor
45. Festival
47. Ancient deity figure
48. Koch and Teller
49. Joseph's readings
53. Baseball's Johnny
56. Bets (Eng)
58. Have shpilkes? (Eng)
59. El Al milieu
60. Lou Grant actor
63. Long before
64. Affirmative
65. Rebuild the Temple
66. __ Aviv
67. Eat (Yid)
68. Prophesize
69. Meshugge (Eng)
70. First lady

Down

1. Choose
2. Books of Moses
3. Evil eye
4. Mother (Heb)
5. Lox
6. Bautista stat
7. Mama __ Elliott
8. Shema ender
9. Lit on Lag B'Omer
10. Samson's triumphant site
11. Matzo
12. Lofty
15. Lox starters
21. Israeli mountain
24. Cleo killer
26. Jacob to Judah
27. Nibble (Yid)
29. Former Israeli newspaper
30. World (Heb.)
31. Tenth part of an ephah
32. Imitated Cantor
33. Life or Knowledge
34. Comic Mort
35. Roberta Peters' solo
36. Diller's hubby
37. Exodus
40. Uzis
41. Thief (Yid)
43. Koufax's team
44. Terrorist target
46. Joe's Bro
47. Jael's victim
49. Poison
50. Emulate Abba Eban
51. Be'er Sheva region
52. Broke the eighth
53. Comedian Danny
54. Breaks the ninth
55. Gershwin and Morris
56. Shamsky goal
57. Hester Street time zone
61. Daled: (Eng.)
62. "Gingy"

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 42.)

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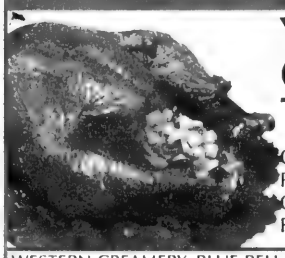

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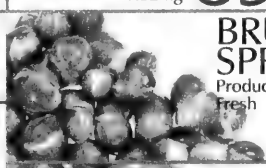

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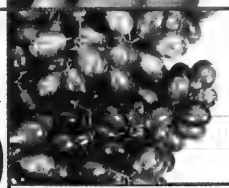

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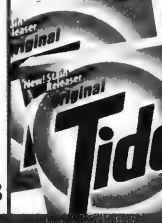

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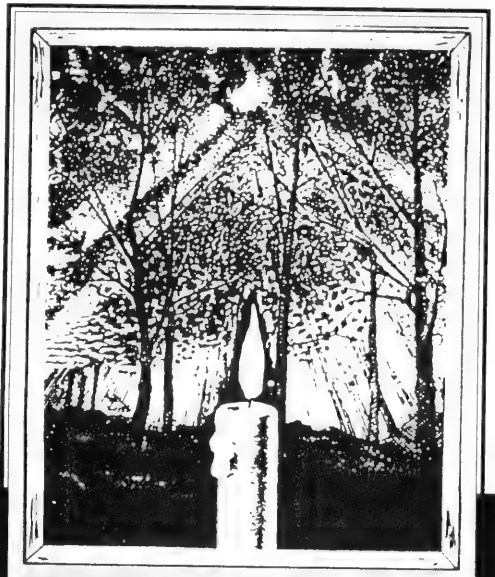


יזכור

For they offered charity
for the memory of their souls

בעבור שנדבו לצדקה
בעד הזכרת נשמתם

This mitzvah of *"tzedekah"*, translates into action
the promises we make during Yiskor prayers.

"May the words of our mouths become the deeds of our hands."

Let the memory of our loved ones guarantee
the future of the Jewish people and all of Israel.

MISSION '98 FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 4, 1998

Your Date with History

It happens only once in a lifetime. The opportunity to place your personal stamp on history. **Mission '98 - Israel at 50** is such an opportunity. The opportunity of a lifetime.

Join the people of Israel to celebrate the miracle of Israel's 50th anniversary. Participate in one of Jewish history's landmark moments, with UJA Federation, the experts on missions to Israel. Tour the country from north to south, in the warm, secure, family-like atmosphere of your group bus. See where decisive events determined Israel's future. Meet experts and analysts on the Middle East. Experience the incredible energy, excitement and spirit of a UJA Federation mission. Experience Israel.

Please read the following pages, then call the **Mission '98 Hotline (416) 631-5698** to reserve your date with history.

UJA FEDERATION

History Starts Here

"Whether you are old or young, whether you travel on your own or with family, UJA Federation missions are a great way to visit Israel. I really felt a connection to the people, traditions and most importantly, my heritage."
Ron Goelman,
Participant,
Mission 3000-1996

Our journey begins in the north - a region which is so intertwined with Israel's history. We will be visiting sites and meeting people only available through **UJA Federation** missions, using Israel's best guides, specially trained for this trip ... **Acco**, where the **Underground Prisoners Memorial Museum** honours hundreds of Israel's early fighters who were jailed for battling to create the State ... the strategic **Golan Heights** and the **Gadot** observation post overlooking the Golan's slopes ... **Tel Chai**, built by Baron de Rothschild in the late 1800's ... and the many **UJA Federation** and **United Israel Appeal** projects that have dramatically improved the quality of life for northern Israel residents.

Israel - From the Top

More than a decade ago, the mayor of **Metulla**, Yossi Goldberg had what everyone called a crazy dream. He wanted to build Israel's first skating rink in Israel's most northern town. His dream turned to reality in more ways than he could ever imagine. Today, the Olympic sized rink, housed in **Metulla's Canada Centre** recreation complex, built by Canadian contributors, is busy year-round. **Canada Centre,** the site of **Mission '98's** opening ceremonies, is a symbol of how the Canada-Israel partnership has achieved the seemingly impossible.

To the Bottom

"No trip anywhere can compare with a UJA Federation mission to Israel. It was the most exhilarating experience of my life."
Bob Bercovici

The remarkable Red Sea resort city of **Eilat** on Israel's southern tip is where we will be holding our festive farewell banquet - an indescribable dinner and dance. But during the mission, plenty of free time has been set aside for swimming, sunning, scuba diving and snorkeling ... for floating on the **Dead Sea**, the lowest point on earth ... climbing **Masada** ... admiring the **Ramon Crater**, Israel's Grand Canyon ... hiking in the Negev's **Red Canyon** ... digging through the archaeological treasures of **Beit Guvrin** and paying tribute to Israel's first Prime Minister, **David Ben Gurion** at his grave side in **Sde Boker**.

Mission '98 - Israel at 50, a Supplement to *The Canadian Jewish News*, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation.

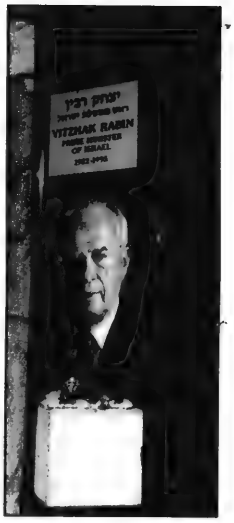
Jerusalem - The Incomparable Capital

In 1948, the Mandelbaum gate divided **Jerusalem**. Jordan controlled the Western Wall and the ancient Old City. Israel's jurisdiction was restricted to the western section. Today, **Jerusalem** is robust with new construction and groundbreaking archaeological excavations. On **Mission '98 - Israel at 50**, we will show you where Israel's capital was cut in half. You can follow the footsteps of the warriors as you trace the path of Israel's soldiers fighting for independence. And you will transcend centuries as you move from the **Old City** to Jerusalem's mega-mall, the majestic new **City Hall**, the **Supreme Court** building and the **Knesset**.

A Mission to Remember

"Celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary in Israel is an unprecedented opportunity. Travelling to Israel with UJA Federation is the best way to see the country. Israel is the place to be next year and I plan to be there."
Elaine Todres,
President,
Baycrest Centre Foundation

No place in the world captures Jewish emotional longing like **Jerusalem.** And no place is more fitting for a gala 50th anniversary celebration, featuring Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. You will be treated to a spectacular night of festivities, organized exclusively for **Mission '98** participants. In **Jerusalem**, we will also usher in Shabbat at the **kotel (Western Wall)**, remember the martyrs of the Holocaust and honour the memory of the late **Yitzhak Rabin** on **Mount Herzl**.

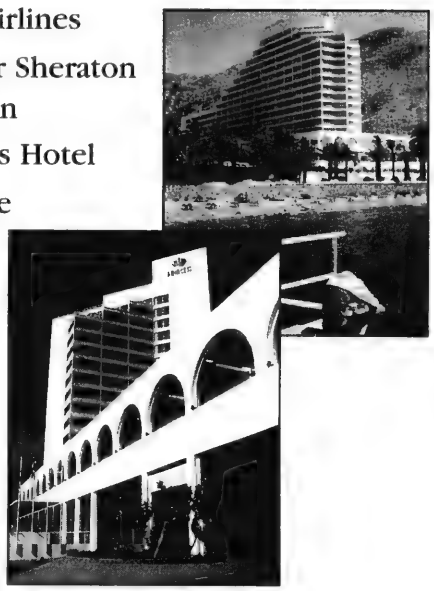


Something for Everyone

Whether you are touring Israel for the first time or you are a veteran visitor, **Mission '98 - Israel at 50** is designed to meet your needs. Our customized itineraries will ensure a fresh, exciting experience for everyone. And the individual attention you can expect is unsurpassed. History happens every hour of every day, but rarely does anyone have the chance to stand in the centre of history as it unfolds. **Mission '98** is your chance. It is your date with history.

"Both my husband Jeff and I can't wait for Mission '98. We're looking forward to it very much. This will be my first time in Israel and I couldn't imagine any other way to see the country than through a UJA Federation mission. Each time I think about the trip, I get goose bumps. I can't wait to experience every facet of the country, from its history to the beauty of the land. I know I will develop incredible memories that will last a lifetime." **Laurie Cohen**

Mission '98 - Israel at 50 ✦ A Golden Opportunity



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UJA FEDERATION

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The Canadian Jewish news
48 Pages Wednesday, October 15, 1997 Tishrei 14, 5758 75c

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Rabbi Erwin Schild to mark 50 years in Toronto rabbinate. *Page 14*

Seniors urged to take charge of their own lives. *Page 24*

On Campus

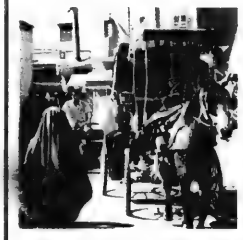
Orthodox students at Yale pay their tuition fees under protest. *Page 26*

National

Calgary's Jewish community welcomes United Church report. *Page 28*

Quebec's "unique character" same as distinct society, says Stéphane Dion. *Page 29*

Travel



History repeats itself: Drawing parallels between 18th century Torah scholar and a modern-day Israeli doctor in Morocco. *Page 39*

Index

Coast to Coast 3
GTA 4
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 16
On Campus 26
Just Between us.....27
International 31
Health 35
Travel, Arts & Business 36
Classified 42
Sports 46
Ask Jesse.....47
Crossword.....47

Shabbat: Chol Hamoed
Candlelighting: 6:14
Tishrei 16, 5758
Havdalah: 7:19

Apology triggers controversy

'Statement of repentance' by French church not universally applauded

By LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS — The French Roman Catholic Church's "statement of repentance" for its silence during the persecution of Jews in Nazi-occupied France has been applauded by most Jewish leaders, but some aspects of it have been called into question by Jews and non-Jews alike.

The Sept. 30 apology, declared on the eve of Rosh Hashanah at the site of the Drancy transit camp outside Paris – where 64,000 of the 76,000 Jews deported from France during World War II were dispatched to Auschwitz – has left some Jewish officials wanting more.

Jean Kahn, president of the Consistoire, the official body overseeing the religious needs of France's Jewish community, said the church had fallen short of his hopes for a statement recognizing the "specifically Jewish nature of the Shoah."

"Neither the French church nor the Vatican has done so. There is still an important step to be made," Kahn said in an interview.

Furthermore, "the Pope, on his way to Brazil, said there were many holocausts, and I find that upsetting," Kahn added, referring to comments Pope John Paul made on Oct. 2 about the Drancy apology and whether the Vatican would soon be issuing a document on the Holocaust.

Continued on page 32

A young demonstrator stands between two signs bearing the names of Jewish children who were deported from Bordeaux to Nazi death camps during World War II. The youngster was part of a demonstration that took place last week at the commencement of the trial in Bordeaux, France of Maurice Papon, an ex-cabinet minister charged with crimes against humanity. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

The lull before the storm

By EDGAR ASHER
CJN Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — Israelis are creatures of habit and set in their ways. Although a large segment of the population can trace its roots to the cooler climates and influences of northern Europe, it has not taken long for the Mediterranean tempo to invade and dominate most Israeli life today. If something can be put off for tomorrow, do it tomorrow – or the day after.

Every year in Israel there is a four-week break from reality. The chagim – the High Holy Days – are usually the lull before the storm. The governmental ship of state tries to find calmer waters immediately before the New Year, so that as the political, economic and social realities return following Simchat Torah, it will hopefully be able to steer a course of peace and prosperity.

There is not too much hope for either of these resolutions coming to fruition in the short term this year. The social evil of unemployment is rocking the boat together with the threat of industrial action on a national scale.

Commentary

Compounding these problems is the fallout of the Mossad failure to assassinate the Hamas official Khaled Meshal in Amman. Israeli/Canadian relations have also taken a knock with the revelation that fake Canadian passports were used by the two agents in their failed attempt.

The Israeli press is scornful of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's performance over the past months, and in particular over the past weeks. The metaphors of a ship without a rudder or of a ship's captain ignoring the harbor pilot would best categorize the gist of recent editorials.

Unemployment will soon be in two-digit figures nationally; in certain development towns, this was surpassed long ago and 25 to 30 percent unemployment is the norm in places like Dimona, in the Negev.

One might have thought that within the context of the deplorable economic situation, the main labor federation, the Histadrut, would think twice before calling a national strike on the pretext of

Continued on page 32

INSIDE

The Third Annual Chanukah poetry contest.
Please see page 31.

Don't miss an issue. Call 416-391-1836 today
News
Ask.

Ottawa wants assurances from Israel — please ... e 3

The News in Brief

CANADA

Out of the Cold

TORONTO — Holy Blossom Temple will take part again this winter in Toronto's Out of the Cold program, which provides the homeless with a hot meal and a place to sleep.

The program takes place at several Metro churches. Holy Blossom is the only synagogue to participate.

The program at the temple begins Nov. 20 and will run every Thursday night until March 28.

Volunteers and those who wish to donate clothes or other supplies can call 789-3291, ext. 508.

ICRF Mission

TORONTO — The Israel Cancer Research Fund is planning a mission to Israel in February for young associates.

The trip, designed to bring young adults together from across Canada and the United States, will cover Israel from north to south.

For more information call 487-5246.

Gray Plans Millennium

OTTAWA — Prime Minister Jean Chretien announced last week that he has asked Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray to assume responsibility for coordinating and planning the government's participation in national and international activities to mark the new millennium.

Chretien said Gray will work closely with his cabinet colleagues and consult other levels of government, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other countries to establish a framework for Canada's millennium activities.

ISRAEL

Bombing Toll Rises To 16

JERUSALEM — An 84-year old Israeli has died of wounds sustained in the July 30 twin suicide bombing in Jerusalem's Machane Yehuda open-air market.

Baruch Ostrovsky, a resident of Jerusalem, was burned severely in the blast. Hospital officials said he never regained consciousness before dying Oct. 3.

Ostrovsky, who emigrated from Russia seven years ago, was the 16th Israeli to be killed as a result of the attack, which wounded at least 170 others.

Thirteen Israelis died in the immediate aftermath of the blast. The remaining three, including Ostrovsky, died from their injuries in subsequent weeks.

Israel's Population

JERUSALEM — Israel's population is growing, but not as quickly as earlier in the decade.

The Central Bureau of Statistics said recently that the Jewish state has a population of about 5,863,000, of which 4,702,000, or about 80.2 percent, are Jews.

Israel's Muslim population stands at 872,000, or 14.9 percent of the population; Christians, 190,000, or 3.2 percent; and Druze and other religions, 100,000, or 1.7 percent, the bureau said.

The statistics, released each year on the eve of the Jewish New Year, indicated a rate of population growth of 2.45 percent since the previous Rosh Hashanah.

The growth rate was lower than that posted at the beginning of the 1990s, when a massive influx of immigrants from the former Soviet Union contributed to annual growth rates in the 4.5 percent range.

In its *Statistical Yearbook*, the bureau said that in the year 5757, the Jewish population increased by 1.9 percent while the Muslim population increased by 3.5 percent. Most of those increases were attributed to natural growth, or birth rates outstripping death.

The bureau also reported that a record 2.5 million Israelis traveled abroad during the past year and that economic growth dropped drastically from 6 percent in 5756 to 2.5 percent.

Reform Land Grant

TEL AVIV — The municipality of Tel Aviv-Yafo recently allocated a prime parcel of land to a Reform group. The city is planning construction of a major community centre and 300-bed youth guest house on the site.

WORLD

Cemetery Desecrated

MOSCOW — Vandals have desecrated 14 headstones at a Jewish cemetery in Kurgan, a city of 320,000 southwest of Moscow.

Each of the desecrated headstones was smeared with black paint; some were painted with swastikas.

This was the second act of vandalism to take place at a Russian Jewish cemetery in September.

Vandals recently desecrated 18 tombstones at a cemetery in Malakhovka, a small town near Moscow that had a sizable Jewish population from the 1920s to the 1970s.

Yeshiva U Program

NEW YORK — Thirty students from Canada, United States, England and South Africa attended a teachers' training program in Israel, part of Yeshiva University's Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration Summer Block Education Program.

The program enables educators to learn traditional and modern teaching approaches and acquire graduate degrees. Among the Canadian participants were Joseph Bienenstock, Rafael Lipner and Shmuel Marcus from Toronto; Yechiel Goldreich from Hamilton; and Zvi Shimon from Montreal.

Church Dedicated

ROME — The Italian branch of the Catholic Church has dedicated a church in memory of Italian victims of the Nazis in Oswiecim, the southern Polish town near the former Nazi death camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

The new church, which is located several miles from the former death camp, has not aroused any opposition from Jewish groups.

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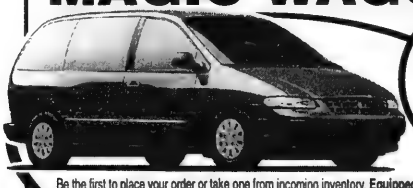

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AT RABBI NAHMAN'S GRAVE

More than seven thousand followers of Rabbi Nahman of Breslov came to worship at his grave in Uman in the Ukraine on Rosh Hashanah. *[Reuters/RNS]*

The Canadian Jewish news

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Ottawa demands assurances on use of passports

David Levy's apology not good enough

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — The Canadian government has not ruled out sanctions against Israel over the fake passport scandal.

And Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's lack of contrition has left opposition members of Parliament steaming.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy last week told reporters that while his first priority is to maintain good relations between Canada and Israel and support the peace process, he would not rule out "options" like economic and trade sanctions and imposing a visa requirement on Israeli visitors.

But future Canadian action depends on how Israel responds to this week's visit by Claude Laverdure, assistant deputy minister for Middle East affairs, who is scheduled to hold talks with senior Israeli officials.

In an unprecedented move, Canada's ambassador to Israel, David Berger, was recalled to protest the use of forged Canadian passports in the botched assassination of a Hamas leader in Amman.

Axworthy said Berger won't return until Israel promises to stop using Canadian passports in spy operations.

"Let's come to a clear understanding that it will not be done again," the minister said. "And I want some satisfaction on that before Mr. Berger will return. If we can't get satisfaction, then we'll consider what other options are open to us."

He said those options include expelling some Israeli diplomats, and charging the two – possibly three – Mossad agents caught using forged Canadian passports in their Sept. 25 attempt to kill Hamas leader Khaled Meshal.

Using a fake Canadian passport is an offense under the Criminal Code. But Axworthy cautioned that extradition on such matters is complex and difficult to achieve.

Israel has agreed to hold an inquiry into the passport affair, and to cooperate with Canada in its probe.

For Canada's opposition parties, the "deep expression of regret" Axworthy said he received from his Israeli counterpart, David Levy, in an Oct. 5 telephone conversation, isn't good enough.

Opposition leader Preston Manning said Levy's remarks were "unacceptable to Canada," and he urged Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to call Netanyahu.

The Israeli leader must admit wrong-doing and apologize to Canada, Manning said in question periods in the House of Commons following the passport scandal.

Lloyd Axworthy
...'considering options'

"If that can't be achieved by [Axworthy], then it ought to be pursued by the prime minister," Manning said.

He said the government has been "evasive, sloppy and inaccurate. They have embarrassed our country at home and on the world stage in their handling of the matter."

Forgeries

But Chrétien has ruled out asking Netanyahu for an apology, and said he accepts Levy's expression of remorse.

"He said his government regrets very much the incident... and they will initiate some discussion with this government to make sure that the same thing is not repeated," Chrétien told the Commons.

"When the minister of foreign affairs of a country expresses regret on behalf of his country and his government to the [Canadian] minister of foreign affairs, it is, in my judgment, an acknowledgment by that government," the prime minister said.

"I recognize the prime minister of Israel has not called me to offer the same comments to us, but the minister of foreign affairs has re-received this assurance from the minister of foreign affairs for Israel," Chrétien said.

He added: "I agree with the leader of the Opposition that it is extremely important for Canadians that the integrity and the value of the Canadian passport not be jeopardized by the actions of other people, as was the case in Jordan."

Chrétien said recalling Berger "is the strongest form of protest that could have been expressed, short of cutting relations" with Israel.

Responding to a question from Bloc Québécois leader Gilles Duceppe, Chrétien rejected allegations of collaboration between the Canadian intelligence agency and Mossad.

NDP leader Alexa McDonough said Canadians are "justifiably indignant that our Canadian passport has become the passport of preference for international terrorists, and said it's "puzzling" that Chrétien isn't demanding an "absolute assurance" that Israel will never again "rip off Canadian passports for terrorist purposes."

Scott Bryson, the Progressive Conservatives' foreign affairs critic, told *The CJN* he feels the whole affair has been an "abuse" of Canada's good relations with Israel.

He said the Tories want a commitment from Israel that it won't happen again and "would like to see an apology."

Also in the House last week, BQ MP Daniel Turp wanted to know whether Canada supplies passports to the Mossad for any purposes. Axworthy denied what he called Turp's "irresponsible suggestion."

Forensic tests have determined that both Canadian passports used by the Mossad were forgeries.

Axworthy welcomed the news because it dispels the notion that Canada helped the Mossad.

"Any suggestion that [the] passports were transferred or there were agreements between Canada and Israel, is absolute junk, nonsense," he said, adding that the documents were "put together locally."

In Israel last week, the Israel-Canada Chamber of Commerce called on Ottawa not to impose sanctions on Israel that would damage economic ties between the two countries.

Events surrounding the affair are "far from clear and even when there is a better understanding, there would be no benefit to either side in declaring economic sanctions," said chamber president Yehuda Raveh.

Over the last year, there has been a 50 percent increase in bilateral trade, following the signing of the Canada-Israel Free Trade Accord.

"This is only an initial indication of the huge potential development in trade between Israel and Canada," Raveh said. "It would be totally detrimental to negatively affect this trend, because of one exceptional incident which has absolutely no connection to trade relations."

Funding IN ACTION
UJA FEDERATION

Bernard Weinstein knows what it's like to be down and out. For nearly 7 months he was out of work, out of hope and thought he had nowhere to turn. That is until he headed to the Jewish Vocational Service of Greater Toronto where he was able to get a career search and his pride back on track. JVS, a UJA beneficiary agency, provides career, employment and educational counseling as well as vocational rehabilitation to thousands of individuals each year.

HARD TIMES

Bernard, his wife Carol and their two daughters immigrated from South Africa in 1989. After several unsuccessful jobs, Bernard found himself unemployed. "I was having real trouble getting another job because I was either over qualified or didn't have enough experience. I was at an all-time low. I felt that I wasn't good enough for anyone."

Realizing what needed to be done and not ashamed to ask for help, Bernard contacted Jewish Vocational Services to receive the counseling he needed. "I wiped the slate clean and started from scratch," explains Bernard. "I went for 10 one-on-one sessions where the staff really talked to me and assessed my interests and skills. From there, we worked together to find an industry that best suited my wants, needs and current workplace demands."

BACK ON TRACK

Eager and determined, Bernard faced a handful of potential career leads but "immediately my head said go with computers." So, he hit the books, and demonstrated determination "to give it everything I had."

THE SUCCESSFUL SOLUTION

Today, Bernard is the proud President of his own computer company, Creative Workgroup Solutions Inc., specializing in sales force automation and contact management. "I would never be where I am today without the help of JVS. I can't thank everyone enough for their time and patience. I couldn't be happier," beams Bernard.

JVS is committed to helping people come to grips with their employment and educational needs. It's another example of UJA Federation Funding in Action.

Greater Toronto Area

Desultory thoughts about Kol Nidre

Readers will receive this issue of *The CJN* on the eve of Sukkot, but these words are being written merely hours before Kol Nidre, which inspires these desultory thoughts.

* * *

At Kol Nidre, the room transforms. It is no longer "merely" a sanctuary of prayer, it becomes a chamber of history where time ticks from the past to the present, the inspirational, mysterious beat of Jewish existence.

Of all the prayers in Jewish liturgy, it is the one that usually generates the most goose bumps.

This is not only a personal testament.

It probably applies to the majority of Jews, even those among us who have only a marginal affiliation to our religion.

Not that long ago it was the practice of the government of the United States to estimate the size of its Jewish population by counting the heads in the synagogues across the country on Kol Nidre night. Of all the nights on the Jewish religious calendar, this one more than any other, brings people to synagogue.

* * *

The music of the prayer evokes powerful emotions. So moving and so chilling is its traditional Ashkenazi melody that it was arranged for cello and orchestra in 1880 by Max Bruch, a non-Jewish composer. The sound of the cellist's bow sweeping across the strings, tearful and sad, has become a memorial to Jewish martyrdom.

In the Sephardi tradition, the entire congregation sings the Kol Nidre. According to *Jewish Liturgy*, published by the Keter Publishing House in Jerusalem, "there seems to be no single standard melody common to the Sephardi diaspora." Indeed in the customs of south France (Carpentras) Kol Nidre is recited in a whisper and therefore has no melody.

No one knows the source of its famous Ashkenazi melody. But because of the prayer's associations with the sufferings of the conversos and marranos during the times of the Inquisition, some researchers have attempted to link it to Spanish traditions. But no evidence has yet been found to confirm that theory.

* * *

Nor does anyone know the source of the prayer itself. Its author is unknown. But there is proof of its text as far back as the ninth century in Babylonia.

In truth, the prayer is no prayer at all. It is a public declaration, a legal exhortation by which one nullifies the oaths and the vows that were made but not honored.

Scholars agree that when it was first invoked, the declaration referred only to vows made during the previous year. Over time however, the nullification came to apply both to past and to future vows, but only of course, to those vows made personally of one's own free will and under strict halachic conditions.

Anti-Semites throughout history in virtually every country of Europe, from east to west, from the Middle Ages and even until today, have seized upon Kol Nidre's reference to future oaths to justify spreading calumny and falsehoods about the unreliability of an oath given by a Jew.

Many Jewish disputants in the Medieval disputations into which they were forced had to contend with the slanders and false accusations surrounding the Kol Nidre.

* * *

Because Kol Nidre is partially a legal as well as a religious act, its pronouncement must begin before sundown since according to Jewish law, no legal proceedings could begin in the dark, after sundown. The chazzan is flanked by at least two people as he chants Kol Nidre. They form a beit din.

* * *

The atmosphere before Kol Nidre is a combination of electricity and dread, of anxiety and of anticipation. It begins in the home during the pre-fast meal and carries into the sanctuary.

There is a dignity and a solemnity to the occasion that is incomparable in the Jewish calendar. White is the predominant coloring in the sanctuary. It is the only time that men wear their tallitot to an evening service. And it is also the only time during an evening service when the scrolls of the Torah are removed from the Ark. The white of the tallitot join with the white of special Torah coverings. Many worshippers wear the white kittel. It is an eerie recreation of the whiteness of the burial shroud.

* * *

In the small communities of Eastern Europe, where Jews lived many years ago, the evening of Kol Nidre was one of trembling and tears. Neighbors visited one another to beg forgiveness for all manner of slight.

The fear was palpable. One shuddered to think that God might refuse to inscribe or that loved ones might depart or that life could be forever altered by an plea dismissed or turned away.

* * *

Kol Nidre is an expression of thoughtfulness to the Jewish people. It emphasizes unity and inclusion; it affirms the sanctity of peoplehood. No one can be excluded from hearing the prayer. This is quite unambiguous with the very first words, the preamble as it were, of the prayer.

"With the approval of the Almighty, and with the approval of this congregation; at this sitting of the court on high above, and at this sitting of the court on earth, we allow all transgressors to pray with us...

To accommodate latecomers, the prayer is recited three times.

And to underscore the importance of peoplehood, the prayer begs the forgiveness of God for the entirety of the congregation of the people of Israel and even for the stranger in our midst.

* * *

The prayer concludes with the blessing that Jews have intoned for countless hundreds of generations: a blessing of gratitude.

"Blessed are you O God, King of the universe, who has kept us alive, sustained us and brought us to this season."

* * *

Before we move from the sanctity of our homes to the sanctuary of the synagogue, we bless our children. It is the last act we perform before we hear the words of the prayer.

As our parents blessed us, and as they were blessed by their parents, we lay our hands upon the heads of our children, close our eyes and invoke the words that were enshrined into our way of life and encoded into our hearts more than 4,000 years ago.

G'mar Chatimah Tovah.

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Greater Toronto Area

Ronen defends Canada, Israel in passport affair

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada did what it had to do to defend our passports, and Israel did what it had to do to combat terrorism, said Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen last week, referring to the Mossad's use of forged Canadian passports.

He was speaking at a meeting of the national officers of CJC.

"Israel is not the only country involved with forged Canadian passports," Ronen added.

It was fortunate, Ronen said, that Canadian External Affairs minister Lloyd Axworthy met David Levy, his Israeli counterpart, at the opening of the Sephardic Kehila Centre in Toronto recently.

"It was *bashert* that they got to know each other. This bodes well for the negotiations between Israel and Canada," Ronen said.

(Levy has said that he would not have approved the assassination attempt in Jordan had he been consulted, and has threatened to resign from the cabinet.)

Ronen praised a letter from Peace Now co-chair Simon Rosenblum, asking Axworthy to query the Jordanian ambassador to Canada on why Jordan was giving refuge to Hamas political leaders and known terrorists.

"Peace Now deserves kudos for this; nobody did anything else on the record."

On another matter, the executive was told by community relations chair Ellen Cole that Congress policy is to force the City of David messianic "synagogue" out of the plaza at Bathurst and Steeles.

"We take a serious view of this messianic activity," said Bernie Farber, the region's acting executive director. "They think Toronto is ripe for the picking because of the large number of Russian immigrants here. Wherever they show up, we'll be there."

He said one estimate is that 100,000 Jews in United States have converted because of messianic activity.

"Although the City of David attracts only about 75 people at any one time, only a small number of whom are Jews, even if one Jew crosses over, it is too many."

Echoes of the current Ontario political situation were reflected in a report by Neal Goldstein, vice-chair of the region's political liaison committee.

"We are giving candidates our position on downloading of health care, of elder-care and welfare from the province to the municipalities," he said. "Also, [we are giving] our position on user fees for trash collections and for use of Highway 407, and the issue of broadening hate crime units in police forces."

On another issue, the national officers did not give their approval to the Quebec region's proposed move from the Congress building in Montreal. The controversial move to the Federation building, whose expansion is being considered, is a bone of contention between Congress and the Council of Jewish Federations. It will be the subject of "wide-ranging consultations," Ronen said.

"The national officers must approve, but it seems to be out of the hands of the national office," he added. "I don't want to get into the nitty-gritty details."

It was previously agreed that the national CJC office, which has been located in Montreal for 25 years, would not be moved to become a national advocacy base in Ottawa.

"The national officers say the CJC is a national organization first and all these decisions must be left to our responsibility," Ronen said.

Racist attitudes in Toronto greatest in Canada: report

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A recently published report commissioned for the Ministry of Immigration shows that racist attitudes toward immigrants are greater in Toronto than in Canada's other large urban centres.

Although racist attitudes were also found in Montreal and to a lesser extent in Vancouver – the cities that attract the largest numbers of immigrants after Toronto – "in Toronto the survey results are almost the diametric opposite from what would be wished for.

"Instead of the greatest proportion of new immigrants belonging to visible minority groups settling in the region where attitudes are the most tolerant, they are going to the city where residents display the lowest levels of tolerance," the report concludes.

Written by Douglas Palmer, the report examines public attitudes to immigration as found in EKOS Research Associates and Environics surveys conducted in late 1996 and early 1997. The pollsters questioned 2,000 Canadians on their attitudes to immigration.

The report found that those "who tend to be the most favorable toward immigration are Canadians who tend to [be] more educated, younger, employed or in school, living in larger urban centres, male and members of the immigrant community."

Overall, about four in 10 Canadians believe the level of immigration is "about right" while an equal number think it is too high. Five to 10 percent believe the level should be increased.

Breaking down the results by region, the pollsters found that in the three largest immigrant-receiving cities, Torontonians are more likely to perceive negative consequences to immigration than residents of Montreal or Vancouver.

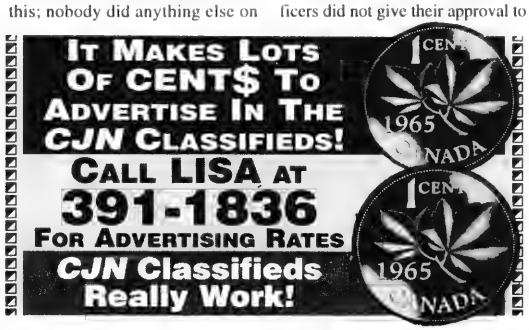
"Toronto residents are only very slightly more likely to say immigration's effects on the community are positive than that they are negative." That result is striking because more than 40 percent of the city's population, according to the 1991 census, are themselves immigrants and Toronto receives more immigrants than any other city, the report notes.

The report's findings did not come as a surprise to spokespeople for the Jewish community who monitor racist attitudes. Ellen Cole, chair of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress, said that while Toronto has become one of the most multicultural cities in the world, there has been a "dark side" to that development. The most dramatic expression of those negative attitudes accompanied the recent influx of Gypsy (Roma) asylum seekers.

"There was negative language in media reports and people were buying into negative and inappropriate stereotypes," Cole said. "To me, that was a glaring example of those negative attitudes."

B'nai Brith of Canada president Lyle Smordin said the report's findings "will tarnish the image of 'Toronto the good' as a city of opportunity for those coming from abroad. This became dangerously apparent with the resounding grassroots and media-fuelled backlash against the Roma refugees who recently arrived in Toronto."

B'nai Brith called on the incoming megacity mayor to ensure that existing community race relations committees continue their work after amalgamation and Congress promised to continue to educate the public on issues relating to multiculturalism.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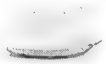

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Greater Toronto Area

Canada seen as haven by modern war criminals

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Reports that more than 300 modern day war criminals have attempted to find refuge in Canada should come as no surprise to the Canadian public. It's merely an example of the chickens coming home to roost, say spokespersons for several Jewish organizations that track Nazi war criminals.

Representatives of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, Canadian Jewish Congress, the Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation, and B'nai Brith Canada agreed that Canada's longstanding policy of turning a blind eye to the post-war immigration of Nazi killers has given Canada a well-deserved reputation as a haven for war criminals.

"Because we created a haven for Nazi war criminals, we've created a haven for all war criminals," said David Matas, honorary legal counsel for B'nai Brith Canada (BBC).

Matas was referring to a report prepared for Citizenship and Immigration Canada by Randy Gordon, project manager of the war crimes and crimes against humanity case management branch. He found that the 300 war criminals include death squad members, torturers, and members of dictatorial regimes from Somalia, Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Haiti, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Rwanda and El Salvador. Seventy-two of the suspects reside in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces, 195 in Ontario.

Gordon suggests that the number of war criminals in Canada could double in a short time.

Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard said the government was committed to acting against war criminals. She said that since a modern war crimes unit was established one year ago, 60 war criminals have been deported and more than 200 others were prevented from entering Canada.

Reform MP John Reynolds said in parliament that "in 1994, there were between 50 and 100 modern-day war criminals in Canada. Now there are 300." He demanded to know what the government was doing to stem that tide.

Robillard said the ministry is interested in improving the immigration system to counteract that trend.

Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, credited the Jewish community's persistent lobbying on the question of Nazi war criminals for the action taken against modern war criminals.

"We awoke the country to the moral issue. We alerted the press that this was a moral issue that must be discussed," Littman said.

He said the slogan that Canada would not be a haven for war criminals, repeated by government spokespersons ever since the Deschenes Commission reported on Nazi war criminals in 1986, "sounded good. But in reality, Canada has become as much of a haven as Argentina. They got the colonels and generals, we got the sergeants."

He said the government should have acted on several of Deschenes' recommendations in his report, including tightening up denaturalization and deportation procedures, as well as facilitating extradition.

The Mulroney government, sensitive to political pressures, amended the Criminal Code to allow for the domestic prosecution of war criminals, but changed its tactics to deportation after the Supreme Court of Canada made prosecutions extremely difficult in the Imre Finta decision.

Jack Silverstone, Congress' legal counsel, said that while the government is showing more interest in the issue of modern day war criminals than it historically did with Nazi killers, lawmakers should employ every gun in their arsenal against them. Extradition, deportation or criminal prosecution "are all viable options, depending on the case...I think if war crimes suspects know they will face [those actions], it would be a great disincentive to coming to Canada in the first place."

In addition, if they were kept in custody on their arrival pending trial, that too would deter them from even bothering with Canada, he said.

Matas said the report is evidence that federal authorities "created a problem for themselves by reacting to Nazi war criminals much too late."

Police and Justice Department officials believed it was a single, isolated issue, he said, but the current situation is "the inevitable result of giving immunity and safe haven to the worst mass murderers."

He urged federal authorities to amend the Criminal Code to make prosecutions easier, enact legislation to allow for extradition to international tribunals like those operating in The Hague (on Bosnia) and in Tanzania (on Rwanda), and he urged the consolidation of Canada's denaturalization and deportation procedures "so these cases don't drag on indefinitely."

Bert Raphael, president of the Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation, said immigration and refugee-claiming procedures should be opened up so that the backgrounds of applicants become publicly known. "If someone has some baggage when they come here, we should know," he said.

In his report, Gordon warns that scarce financial and human resources, lack of government will and lax immigration laws could result in a huge jump in the number of war criminals coming to Canada.

Alleged war criminal leaves Canada

OTTAWA — A former Montrealer recently stripped of his Canadian citizenship for lying about war-era activities has quietly left Canada.

Ladislaus Csizsik-Csatary, 82, thus avoided a formal deportation hearing. He's believed to be in Europe.

Federal officials learned last week, when they went to his Toronto home to serve him notice of his deportation hearing, that he had slipped out of the country.

Paul Vickery, head of the federal government's war crimes unit, said Csizsik-Csatary's name will be placed on a watch-list, and will be barred from re-entering Canada.

Csizsik-Csatary's citizenship was revoked in August by the federal cabinet, and his lawyers said he would not fight the decision. He was the first war crimes suspect to be stripped of his citizenship without a court battle, but he still faced a hearing.

His departure is a rare victory for the Justice Department. Csizsik-Csatary, a wartime member of the Royal Hungarian Police, was accused of helping round up thousands of Jews for deportation to death camps.

His exact whereabouts is not known.

"It's not, frankly, a terribly pressing concern as long as he's out of Canada," Vickery said. "But on the other hand, out of caution, we will take steps to see if we can determine where he is. If someone leaves in advance of deportation, then that's fine."

Csizsik-Csatary was convicted in absentia for war crimes in Hungary in 1948, and sentenced to death. He arrived in Halifax the following year, became a Canadian citizen in 1955, and worked as an art dealer in Montreal.

His deportation order was based on his obtaining citizenship through "false representation or fraud or knowingly concealing material circumstances."

Nine other war crimes cases are currently in Federal Court. Two other individuals died before their cases could be heard.

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Greater Toronto Area

Dental fraternity lauded for charity

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Toronto Alpha Omega dental fraternity was lauded recently for the role it played in the building of a new wing at Hebrew University's dental school, and for its other charitable works.

Efforts of the 750-member Toronto alumni chapter, the largest in Alpha Omega worldwide, were praised by international president Dr. J. Steven Kahan of Chevy Chase, Md. at its annual dinner at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. The Toronto president is Dr. Stanley Markin.

Kahan, who in the past few months has visited Alpha Omega fraternities all over the world, said the Toronto chapter's contribution to Israel's dental schools at Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University is magnificent. He mentioned the efforts of Dr. Victor Moncarz who organized a bicycle marathon in Israel in aid of the new wing at Hebrew University.

Kahan said the highlight of the dedication ceremony in Israel, held in May, was a forum in a new lecture hall at the wing's D. Walter Cohen DDS Middle East Centre for Dental Education.

"There were representatives of Jordan, the PLO, France, England, United States and Israel, speaking about [problems common to] the Middle East, including dental and health problems. It was very encouraging."

In an interview with *The CJN*, Kahan said: "The feeling we got from Israelis was very positive but we were there before the two bombing incidents. My wife, Eleanor, was at Machane Yehuda [market] that was later bombed and even today, she has an eerie feeling about how susceptible to terror that place was."

He believes a lot of agreements between Israelis, Palestinians and others on such matters as health and education are not being publicized because of the vested interest of some political parties.

"There are some politicians who are absolutely committed to never having peace," he said. "I know about a tremendous number of agreements dealing with special problems in the Middle East. If [there is ever peace] it will be the result of an undercurrent up from the people, not from the top down."

Dr. Gilbert Chapnick of Toronto will become Alpha Omega international president in 1999.

The following student awards were given: Dr. Saul Simon Scholarship Award to Dr. Brian Rittenberg; Dr. Murray Cornish Scholarship Award to Riva Shapero; Alpha Omega Bursary, University of Toronto, to Rita Sachdeva.

Professional awards will be announced at the alumni dinner in January.

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In saluting Edward Bronfman, the Jewish National Fund will assist Neot Semadar in reclaiming hundreds of dunams of land for agricultural use, help develop an Artists Centre, develop roads to the Kibbutz and within the Kibbutz, and assist the construction of a fifty thousand cubic metre reservoir. A resort area to promote tourism will also be developed. This undertaking will surely be a source of great pride to all who will have participated in this very worthy project. **Together, we can all help to make the *desert green*.**

For further information contact
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF TORONTO
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A new beginning

In the darkness of night, ill winds swirling, the air thick from the hovering gloomy haze of the Meshal affair, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat met last week at the Erez checkpoint in the Gaza Strip. It was their first meeting since Feb. 9, eight months ago. One could accurately say that the two men were swept to Erez by the gusts still blowing from the political storm of the preceding week.

After the tumultuous welcome in Gaza extended to Hamas founder Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, Arafat suddenly found himself with a powerful rival for the leadership of the Palestinian people. And after the tumult of criticism heaped upon his judgment and upon his character in the wake of the failed Amman operation, Netanyahu suddenly found himself needing to restore confidence in his leadership. Thus, the Erez meeting was quickly arranged.

By all accounts, the encounter was a success. An adviser to Arafat, Nabil Abu-Rudeinch, described it as "a very important meeting." U.S. special envoy Dennis Ross, who was also there, said it was "a very good meeting." He was quoted in the Israeli press: "They [Netanyahu and Arafat] agreed that the leaders themselves should meet on a regular basis. At one point they also emphasized that they saw this as a new beginning between the leaders and indeed a new beginning for the peace process. Both of them reaffirmed their commitment to work together to overcome all problems."

The moonlight summit ended in the early dawn, just as the darkness was starting to lift, at around 5 a.m. More meetings have been promised; more are expected at the end of this month.

Could it be that out of the chaos of recrimination, distrust, violence and dashed hopes, a suggestion of order and above all, the possibility of peace, will be spoken again?

With courage, moderation, honesty, determination and good will by both sides, perhaps.

Dangerous innuendo

Understandably, Canadians were troubled and angered by the Meshal affair. Expressions of that anger were voiced, for example, on both sides of the House of Commons. Indeed, to our mind, a great deal of what was said by the opposition was extreme and far in excess of what the circumstances warranted. However, the most alarming expressions came from the *Toronto Star*. In its lead editorial of Oct. 7, the editorial writer objects to what is referred to as Canada's "feeble" response to the use of the Canadian passports by the Israeli agents. The editorial then purports to advise the government on the questions that still need to be answered and on the punitive measures it should impose.

One of the questions that the writer raises is: "How many Canadian passports were reported lost or stolen in Israel in recent years? *Are more Canadians getting careless in Israel than in other countries on a per capita basis?*" (Our emphasis) The innuendo is clear: Jewish Canadians – the most frequent Canadian travellers to Israel – cannot be trusted as much as other Canadians to cherish their Canadian citizenship and to protect their passports. One of the retaliatory measures the writer prescribes is: *"Canada should start taking a far closer look at people arriving from Israel with Canadian passports."* The innuendo is clear: Canadians who have returned from Israel – and thus are more likely than not to be Jews – are unworthy of trust and should therefore be treated differently, harshly, punitively

Tactlessly, illogically and shamefully, the advice of the editorial writer hurls the age-old, Hamanesqe, canard of dual loyalty at Jewish Canadians.

The innuendo is insulting. In the long run, it is dangerous too.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Sugar in the mouth will not help if the heart is bitter."
Yiddish proverb

Dry Bones

MISS ALBRIGHT ... THE JEWS HAVE BUILT THOUSANDS OF BUILDINGS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY!!
SUKKOT-SHMUKKOT
I WANT IT STOPPED!
Kirschen

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
October 16, 1910 the *Hebrew Standard* reported that a congregation had been organized by the Jews of Belleville, Ontario.*(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Ottawa's part in Balfour Declaration

In November 1917, the British foreign minister, Arthur Balfour, issued the now famous declaration bearing his name promising the Jewish people a "national home in Palestine."

Fully six months before making that historic declaration, Balfour, as British foreign secretary, was visiting Ottawa. During the visit, he arranged for a meeting with Clarence de Sola of Montreal, longtime leader of the Zionist movement in Canada.

The meeting lasted three hours and at its conclusion, the British cabinet minister issued this statement: "You have made it clear that we can be the instrument of fulfilling the biblical prophesy of restoring the Jewish people to Zion. I can assure you that I can tell my colleagues in the cabinet that the Zionist ideals harmonize perfectly with the English policy regarding Palestine. I can assure you that you will shortly hear of a decision in the English cabinet supporting the Zionist idea."

The statement is part of a comprehensive story by H. Hirsh of Ottawa in the *Canadian Jewish Chronicle* of Nov. 23, 1917. Balfour later was made First Earl of Balfour. He died in 1930 without seeing the vision he had enunciated in his declaration become reality.

Joe King
Montreal

The Kashrut situation at Ashkenaz

A serious effort was made to secure COR, mashgiach supervised food vendors for this year's Ashkenaz festival. Many kosher restaurants, caterers and bakeries were solicited by our food coordinators up to three months in advance. Despite repeated efforts to include them, they did not choose to participate. Several declined immediately before the festival. Unfortunately, our program books were printed with the promise of "kosher delights" before it became clear that no kosher vendors would be present.

In an attempt to satisfy some minimal kashrut requirements, the coordinators of Fressers' Paradise purchased packaged kosher meats, buns, mayonnaise and served these to people on paper plates without using utensils. They could not obtain supervision for this kind of operation from the Kashrut Council. The accompanying signage explained that all the ingredients used were kosher (they did not pretend to be a COR supervised establishment). They were not able to rent a kosher kitchen, hire staff or buy pre-packaged foods in the short and hectic time remaining immediately before the festival.

We apologize for the distress and inconvenience that the above situation caused. We want to be clear that our commitment is to solve this problem and ensure that all future Ashkenaz programs will include strictly kosher foods. To this end, a kashrut committee will be struck. We invite members of the community to become involved in making this happen. For more information, please call 416-703-6892.

Bruce Rosensweet
Executive Director, Ashkenaz
Toronto

Canadians at Dieppe and Arnhem

I am researching the names of Canadian Jews who fought, died, were wounded, or were PoWs at the battles of Dieppe in August 1947 *and* Arnhem in September 1944.

If you were there or know men who were, please send me full details – name, rank, number, age, unit, date and place of birth or death or place where they were a PoW. If you are willing to send a photograph for our archives of such a person in uniform, this would be even more useful. When completed, I hope to have it published and will send copies to appropriate archives.

Please write to me in London.

Martin Sugarman
Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women
16 Brenthouse Rd.
London, England
E9 6Q6

Liked Polish version of the Dybbuk

I feel that I owe the sponsors of Toronto's Ashkenaz Festival an opinion of *The Dybbuk* contrary to Helen Yellin's critique in your issue of Sept. 25.

I saw the play this past summer at the Edinburgh Festival, same play, same all-gentile Polish cast.

None of the productions of *The Dybbuk* I've seen before over the years captured as this one did the haunting story of a tragic, doomed love enduring beyond the grave. The fact that a Polish company of players had striven, in a language foreign to them, to understand and come to terms with a play with such quintessentially Jewish nuances only added to the poignant effect for me.

I can understand some people being offended by the near-explicit sexual scenes. We've learned to accept that in the all-encompassing genius of our treasured Issac Bashevis Singer. If it enhances and illuminates the story, then it belongs there. I felt it surely belonged in *The Dybbuk* I saw.

Abe Gruber
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

'So great was this man...'

This year, the festival of Sukkot marks the 200th yahrzeit of the death of Rabbi Eliyahu, the Gaon of Vilna. *The CJN* asked Rabbi Baruch Taub to reflect upon Rabbi Eliyahu and his contributions to the generations that followed.

"If I thought I was as great as the Gaon of Vilna I could not endure the arrogance, but if I didn't try, I couldn't live with myself."

This statement attributed to Rabbi Yisrael Salanter, founder of the Mussar movement and one of the leading moralists of the last century, puts the Gaon of Vilna into proper perspective. The Gaon was and is the paradigm of the quintessential Jew. For generations, Jewish mothers would encourage their young children with a less poetic version. Playing on the similarity of the Yiddish word for "desire" and Vilna the city of the Gaon, they would say: "*Vill nor* und du vest zein a Gaon." (If you desire it, you too could be like the Gaon.) What is clear is that the Gaon represents the ideal.

Rabbi Eliyahu, the Gaon of Vilna, was born in Vilna in 1720 and died in 1797 on the festival of Sukkot. This year will mark his 200th yahrzeit. Rabbi Eliyahu was recognized as the premier Torah scholar of his generation while only in his 20s – no simple accomplishment when one contemplates his older contemporaries, such as Rabbi Yechezkel Landau of Prague and Rabbi Yisroel Lipschitz, author of the Tifereth Yisrael commentary on the Mishnah.

Rabbi Eliyahu's famous student Rabbi Chaim Voloziner commented: "I know the Babylonian Talmud as well as the average Jew knows Ashrei (a prayer recited thrice daily.) The Gaon knows it like reciting Ashrei backwards!"

So profound was his acumen and piety that after his passing, the Vilna kehillah never again appointed a rabbi for the city. The *dayan* who served as head of the beit din (rabbinical court) functioned in that capacity without the title.

Vilna and indeed Lithuania were distinguished for the high level of Jewish scholarship of the masses. Unique among the Jewish centres of Europe, Vilna was referred to as "Yerushalayim d'Lita," Jerusalem of Lithuania. The Gaon was its centrepiece.

So great was this man that he was called Gaon, a title of honor and distinction which was a throwback to 900 years earlier to the Gaonic period. Since that time, the title had not been used. In fact when one uses the term to this day, the Gaon can only mean one person, Rabbi Eliyahu, also known as the GRA, an acronym for Gaon Rabbi Eliyahu.

The Gaon was not only the link to the previous generation of Torah scholarship, but was also viewed as a "visitor" from the generation of Rashi. It was the Gaon's student, Rabbi Chaim, who through the founding of the Volozin-er Yeshivah, was the father of the Yeshivah movement of today. The notion of a large Torah academy with a regimented study routine was developed by Rabbi Chaim with the encouragement of his teacher the Gaon.

The Gaon's contribution to scholarship was vast. He amended all of our classic texts: the Babylonian Talmud, the Jerusalem Talmud, the Shulchan Aruch (Code of Jewish Law), the Zohar and more. Whenever original manuscripts have been discovered, the text invariably conforms with the Gaon's corrections. Yet before he undertook to amend a letter, a word or a phrase he fasted an entire day – not that he was in the habit of indulging lavishly. It is recorded that from the age of 30, the Gaon slept a total of two hours during every 24 hours and never more than half an hour at a time!

His knowledge was encyclopedic and he was accomplished in all disciplines. From his commentary on the laws of the new month, we see his uncanny grasp of astronomy, math and the sciences. He authored a book on mathematics. He wrote music, reportedly teaching that unless one has an understanding of music one cannot fully appreciate the Psalms of King David.

The 18th century was the defining historic period of the Chassidic and Misnagdic movements. The Gaon's influence during this period tempered some of the excesses suggested by the adherents of those movements.

At a certain period in his life, the Gaon disappeared. He went into Galut (wandering) for five years, which was not uncommon among the early pietists. He travelled throughout the hamlets of eastern Europe as an anonymous poor Jew. He went in search of hidden Torah talent and he often found it, encouraging young rabbis and scholars in their work. Often he was discovered through his brilliant talmudic discussions with local rabbis.

Upon the Gaon's death, a yeshivah was established in his home and adjacent study, where 10 outstanding scholars continued his system of study.

There is ample precedent for a fitting memorial on his yahrzeit. On his 100th yahrzeit, the community gathered for a memorial, at which time additional Torah curricula were inaugurated in the academy. The yahrzeit was seen as an occasion to increase the study of Torah.

Also on the 100th yahrzeit, the Bais Medrash Eliyahu was established in Jerusalem. As well, a library was founded in his memory and people were invited to donate rare manuscripts and texts. The Gaon himself never saw Eretz Yisrael although he attempted to relocate several times. His students, however, did so and they established the Ashkenazi community in Eretz Yisrael. In fact, the order of prayers in the Ashkenazi rite in Eretz Yisrael, known as Nusach Eretz Yisrael, is essentially Minhag HaGRA, according to the custom of Rabbi Eliyahu.

The 100th yahrzeit was viewed with particular anticipation. The Gaon had left a sealed letter to be opened 100 years after his passing. The letter was opened, but that was the easy part. Deciphering its contents was quite another story. It was sent to leading scholars and Kabbalists for interpretation, but to this day, there is only the faintest understanding of its coded message. It has been suggested that Rabbi Eliyahu's letter indicated the time of the final redemption.

> 'At a certain period, the Gaon disappeared.'

The 150th yahrzeit in 1948 included a special gathering in Jerusalem and the establishment of two new synagogues, one in Jerusalem and one in Tel Aviv, bearing the name of Rabbi Eliyahu. A valiant attempt was made to establish an institute to study the GRA's works, but it did not come to fruition. It should be remembered that this was taking place during Sukkot 1948, the year of the establishment of the State of Israel. Understandably, with war raging, this venture was curtailed.

It is indicative of the expanse of Rabbi Eliyahu's scholarly accomplishments that there are institutes of advanced Torah study devoted to publishing additional works of the Gaon still in our time. To this day, the Gaon's works are central to our understanding of Torah.

> Additional works of the Gaon are still being published.

In our day, there is an annual memorial gathering and scholarly lecture on the Gaon's yahrzeit in the famed Beth Medrash Gevohah in Lakewood, N.J. This custom was begun by Rabbi Aaron Kotler and is continued by his heirs.

This past year, the consul general of Lithuania visited the Lakewood yeshivah and witnessed over 2,000 young men studying in the Beth Medrash. When he was informed that they were studying the Vilna Talmud and commentaries of Rabbi Eliyahu, he was visibly moved to tears.

This coming Sukkot will mark the 200th yahrzeit of Rabbi Eliyahu, the Gaon of Vilna. Jewish custom dictates the invitation of *ushpizen*, sainted guests, into our Sukkah and by extension into our lives. It would be fitting for us all to contemplate "inviting" the Gaon and what he represents into our lives.

To engage in the pursuit of Jewish knowledge through the avenue of Torah study would serve as a lasting memorial to this scholar among scholars and would bring us closer to Sinai.

Rabbi Taub is spiritual leader of Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation in Thornhill, Ont.

Opinions

Breath of realism offered

Vancouver's Combined Jewish Appeal campaign opened with a bang. The program featured three "heroines of aliyah" and a major address by Labor MK Yael Dayan, activist for human rights and staunch advocate of the peace process.

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Three women who made aliyah were there to tell us their own personal stories. Shira, from the United States, described her entry to Israel – half rueful, half whimsical, and wholly understandable to many in the room who have visited and lived in Israel for any length of time. Her work in resettlement of newcomers to Israel introduced her to the other speakers.

Yardena, from Ethiopia, told us how her family of many brothers and sisters trekked for days to the refugee camp where they would live for months until brought to Jerusalem – "It was always Jerusalem to which we were going," she explained. Her little sister, whom she carried for days, died in that camp. Her 100-year-old grandmother made it to Israel. In Israel she went to school regularly for the first time in her life. Today she is planning a career in counselling after getting her advanced degree.

There was not a dry eye in the house, especially after Shira interjected – "but I should tell you that Yardena's brother was one who did not make it. He committed suicide in Israel."

Sarah from Sarajevo spoke next. Her family were Muslims. Her mother, she said, has been recognized by Israel as a Righteous Gentile for her efforts in saving Jews from the Nazis during World War II. Sarah, her husband and her daughter have converted to Judaism. She spoke of her love and respect for what her mother had done, and of her decision to become a Jew. A ripple of laughter went through the audience when she described her beit din with the rabbis. "I said to them, 'I have a few questions for you!'" Her love of the people and of the religion was infectious, and tears turned to smiles.

But I must add that from where I sat, I could see at least five other Jews by Choice whose conversions were being disregarded at that very moment by the rabbis Sarah confronted.

But the main event was still to come – an address by Yael Dayan. Dayan is as passionate about Israel as were the other speakers. She chided the rabbinate for its attempts to delegitimize non-Orthodox conversions, rabbis and converts. She claimed the right to call herself a Jew despite her non-observance, and recounted (to our horror) what happened to one of the victims of the recent Ben Yehuda bombing. The 15-year-old boy, not recognized by the rabbinate as Jewish, was refused burial in a Jewish cemetery and for days his mother searched for a place where he could be buried with dignity. He rests in the Baha'i cemetery in Haifa.

Dayan ended with a plea for Diaspora Jewry not to abandon Israel, to continue to support democracy in that country and to picture us as one people committed to a search for peace, despite the present situation.

(What a pity no one ever taught Dayan that by her advocacy for justice and human rights she is performing mitzvot.)

The fireworks started about 10 seconds after the singing of Hatikvah, which ended the evening: outrage at criticism of Orthodoxy, outrage at Dayan's dismissal of the need for conversion process and observance of mitzvot.

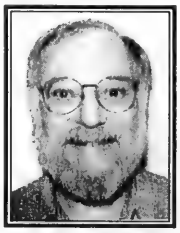
In all that clatter, the message of the evening should not be lost, because the evening was a breath of realism. These four women gave us a brutally honest picture of Israel today, with its greatness and its failures, its divisions, its tensions, its outright disdain of one side for the other. Let us not sink back into platitudes about being one, about building up the land without regard for its inhabitants. Let us not idealize the process of taking in immigrants whose lives undergo severe shock, often exacerbated by misunderstanding and even outright rejection.

Let us know Israel for what she is, and let her know us for what we are.

One last word about a word – pluralism. This word is in bad odor, having been dumped in favor of "diversity" or some such euphemism. Sorry, I cannot agree. Judaism *is* pluralistic, should be pluralistic, must be open to many voices if it is to survive. It is not the narrow road, but the broad way that should lead us to Zion. If we allow the fanatics among us to have their way, they will take us down a dark path. Give me the whole picture, presented by these four women, and let me decide. I will not abandon Judaism or the Jews if they are not perfect, as I hope they will not abandon me.

Sukkot, suburbs, corn, critters

Among other things, the festival of Sukkot commemorates the very first Jewish suburb. In that fragile and inhospitable desert subdivision, manna made prayers for the future supermarket unnecessary. And the concept of "en suite" was still a distant dream.



By Shel Krakofsky in London

Sukkot was established to coincide with the final harvest of the year in a spirit of Divine thanksgiving. The Torah refers to the agricultural nature of the festival as Chag Ha'asif, the festival of ingathering. In the siddur, this holiday is called *Zman Simchatainu*, the season of our rejoicing.

Here in Komoka, a small farming community just west of nearby London, we live on a few acres my wife likes to call a "garni" — bigger than a garden, smaller than a farm. We grow our own assortment of fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers. My own particular passion is a corn patch I assiduously tend during the summer months.

I love looking at the corn grow, watching it rise quickly from the mere whiskers on the soil after spring planting. It is so soothing to listen to the wind rustle through the stalks with gentle and wistful sounds that increase in frequency and softness as the harvest approaches.

They grow as sturdy as Louisville Sluggers, corn so wondrously used as a backdrop in the movie, *Field of Dreams*. The foliage sways as nature's pennants. Corn can declare the primacy of all that is real though unpredictable. Like the Sukkot lulav, corn can bind our dreams with our lives, not separate them.

When fall arrives, my corn harvest is threatened by local deer, raccoons, possums, rabbits and groundhogs. As every passionate gardener knows, these critters can be maddening. My farmer neighbors have offered several suggestions over the years. A rifle. No way. A snarling guard dog. Nope. Barbed wire. Not for me. An electric fence. Sorry.

I don't mind sharing our produce with our four-legged friends and besides, after the harvest, no matter who has done the eating, the dried stalks of corn make wonderful *schach* for our sukkah — a tip you won't get from Martha Stewart.

Our scarecrow, an ugly fellow with a New York Yankees' cap is called George (Steinbrenner or Costanza?). He protects us from nothing. A mere ornament. The animals consider George their personal maître d' as they chomp away.

This year I tried sound. An all-night rock station in the field. It worked, though not all the cobs survived my newest nostrum.

Some animals like to dinner and dance.

ONE SEED AT A TIME

my neighbor, a real farmer
idles by on his tractor
and with a wave
turns me into a colleague
despite my courteous refusal
to borrow his plow

bemused, he watches me hoe
the furrows by hand
helped only by worms, frogs
and insects in camouflage
working in ways
no tractor can understand

preparing this pulsing
placental ground for seeding
I bend in reverence, in reverie
on hands and knees to offer
dried kernels of corn in communion
touching, redeeming this earth

the corn is sweet
long before harvest
planted one word at a time
in ordered lines
without hurry or ease

the only way to sow and soar
Bless and be Blessed

Gypsies and Jews

Of late Gypsies have been much in the news, especially since a number of them have arrived in Canada as refugees, having left Czechoslovakia and other countries because of discrimination in their homelands.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

As most readers will know, this ancient nomadic people should really be called Roma or Romany (the latter is also the name of their language). Therefore, in deference to them we should speak of them in the way, they would like to be known. In the same way we also ought to avoid using the word "to gyp" — a derogatory term that is exactly parallel to the equally despicable "to Jew." (Incidentally, the term Gypsy is derived from Egyptian). Language frequently conveys prejudice, often unbeknownst to the speaker, but the People of the Book ought to know better.

Yet, when I grew up in a small university town in the Western Germany, I was warned by my grandparents not to be out alone at night, "for the Gypsies may steal you." This warning scared me enough to insist that the windows in my bedroom be shut tightly, fearing that the thieves might climb up to the third floor and abduct me.

The more I hear of the Romany, the more I become aware of the similarities between their treatment and the way we Jews were looked upon in the not too distant past. We were considered thoroughly untrustworthy, and so are the Romany in the European countries where they live. We were considered by people like Fred ("None is too many") Blair as incapable of being integrated into the Canadian polity and so, in the view of a lot of Canadians, are the Romany, even though theirs is a culture of which we know little — except that we "know" it is inferior. We also are aware that they are basically a nomadic people, a fact which seems to us urban dwellers as a derogation of our lifestyle.

We should remember that the Hebrew Bible exhibits a strong streak of suspicion, not about nomads, but about city dwellers. The Torah tells us that Cain was the first founder of a city — the implication being that cities tend toward violence and human indifference. Many of the biblical greats came from a background of nomadic life, and especially so our patriarchs and matriarchs. The prophet Elijah was a nomad par excellence, and in Jewish tradition, it is he who will presage the coming of the Messiah.

The Romany want to preserve their culture, and so do we. It is difficult for them, and so it is for us, especially in an environment that holds out great rewards for assimilation.

All told, we ought to be the first to speak up when others talk derogatorily of "Gypsies," and when they say that "these people have no place in Canada, as refugees or otherwise." To me, the great attraction of Canada is not its mineral wealth or even its natural beauty. Canada is distinctive because here, people of 120 or more different national and cultural backgrounds live together peaceably and demonstrate to any and all that humans from every part of the globe are all children of God.

The Kirshner File

Egypt's rapprochement with Israel recalled

By Sheldon Kirshner

Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the last secretary-general of the United Nations, was a central figure in the arduous talks which culminated in the 1978 Camp David accords and the 1979 Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. Plucked out of obscurity by President Anwar Sadat, and appointed minister of state for foreign affairs on the eve of Sadat's historic trip to Israel in 1977, Ghali was not only a key negotiator but a staunch defender of Egypt's astonishing rapprochement with the Jewish state.

Twenty years on, Ghali has written an intriguing memoir of that momentous era in peacemaking, *Egypt's Road To Jerusalem* (Random House), a book based almost entirely on his diaries. It is frank, revealing and caustic, an account which adds to our understanding of Sadat's motives and the personalities who shaped a new political environment in the Middle East.

When Ghali was summoned to government service in October 1977, about three weeks before Sadat's journey to Jerusalem, he was a professor of political science at Cairo University, the scion of a respected Coptic Christian family whose grandfather and uncle had held the position of prime minister.

Initially, Ghali's task had been to prepare an outline for a speech Sadat intended to deliver in the Knesset. But with the resignation of the minister of state for foreign affairs and the foreign minister, who refused to accompany Sadat to Israel, Ghali stepped into the breach. In the face of vitriolic personal attacks against him in the Arab world, Leia, his Jewish wife, supported his acceptance of the mission.

Not to put too fine a point on it, Sadat's decision to address the Knesset and confer with Israel's leadership was not universally popular in Egypt. Sadat's closest aides were horrified by the plan.

To Ghali, who was filled with emotion at the outset of this "unbelievable journey," Israel was like a planet in outer space." For decades it had been the enemy, the cancer in the body of the Arab world, which we had to all in our power to destroy."

Once in Israel, the foreign minister, Moshe Dayan, asked Ghali to convey a message to Sadat to exclude all references to the PLO in his speech. But Ghali, an indefatigable partisan of the Palestinian cause, ignored the request. And when he and Sadat visited Yad Vashem, they refused to don a yarmulke.

Both sides were disappointed by the outcome of Sadat's visit, and a wide gap remained in their respective positions. Israel sought a separate peace with Egypt, while Egypt's goal was a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute. Nonetheless, Ghali tried to convince his interlocutors of the seriousness and sincerity of Egypt's quest for peace.

In a reference to Deputy Prime Minister Yigael Yadin and Defence Minister Ezer Weizman, Ghali observes: "I wanted them to understand that President Sadat's initiative was not a tactic we were using to regain our land in order to prepare for the next war."

Later, Ghali attempted to sell Dayan on the idea of a Palestinian state in the Gaza Strip, arguing that it would inspire Arab trust in Israel's intentions. Dayan, whom he describes as "decisive and clear," rejected the concept on the grounds that Gaza lacked economic and financial resources. (Interestingly enough, Yitzhak Rabin made an identical proposal to the PLO in 1995, but Yasser Arafat rebuffed it).

As negotiations dragged on, Ghali realized that Sadat was not as committed to the Palestinians as he had imagined. Sadat's overarching objective was to regain the Sinai Peninsula, conquered by Israel during the Six Day War. "Sadat had concluded that Egypt could not undertake a major effort to gain the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people as long as Egyptian territory lay under Israeli occupation. By contrast, I was convinced that no treaty of peace could endure unless it included measures for Palestinian rights, the minimum being the right of self-determination."

But this was not to be, and Ghali argues that Sadat's success in winning back the Sinai was achieved at a heavy price. Egypt's treaty with Israel, he contends, marginalized the Palestinians, decreased Egypt's leverage on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and undermined its pre-eminent place in the Arab world.

Ghali, however, supported the broad scope of Sadat's strategy. Egypt had sacrificed enough blood and treasure on behalf of the Arabs and the Palestinians, and the time had come for an Egypt-first policy. Besides, he was certain that there was no viable alternative to Egypt's "path of dialogue and negotiation" with Israel.

In his view, Dayan was the most flexible Israeli leader with regard to the Palestinian question.

Boutros Boutros-Ghali

He is less charitable toward Yosef Burg, the minister in charge of the Israeli team negotiating autonomy for the Palestinians. "...it was clear that he knew nothing about the Palestinians. He talked as if they did not exist in the West Bank (and) Gaza..."

Ghali believes that Egyptian diplomacy was hemmed in by two constraints — Israel's refusal to acquiesce to a sovereign Palestinian entity and the Arab refusal to recognize Egypt's treaty with Israel.

He discloses that he aroused the ire of Menachem Begin, Israel's prime minister, for championing Palestinian rights. Indeed, Begin urged Sadat to fire Ghali. On the other hand, Ghali reminds us that he was continually denounced in the Arab press as a traitor and defeatist.

Ghali is of the opinion that Sadat was correct in believing that only the Likud could forge a treaty with Egypt. But he thinks that Sadat was dead wrong in failing "to see that only the Labor party could achieve peace with the Palestinians."

Sadat, he reveals without elaboration, distrusted the Labor party, and was confident that Begin would fulfil his promise to settle the matter of Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza. As we now know, the autonomy talks collapsed, and the Palestinian issue was virtually shelved until the Madrid peace process beginning in 1991.

Being charged with the responsibility of promoting the 1979 treaty, Ghali was often the official whom Jewish leaders from the Diaspora met on fact-finding missions in Egypt. He is sarcastic about their attitude. They listened carefully when Ghali spoke about the normalization of relations between Israel and Egypt. But "they heard nothing" when he raised the Palestinian issue.

Occasionally, Ghali is downright arrogant. When Burg goes out of his way to show the Egyptians Tel Aviv by night, he writes: "Burg and his colleagues were very proud of Israel's wealth, power and glamour, which they thought would overwhelm me, but they did not... He enjoyed the tour and was far more impressed than we were."

At times, Ghali displays flashes of droll humor. At a dinner party in Dayan's home, Ghali presented him with a gift of gold cuff links with his name inscribed in hieroglyphics. Yadin, an archeologist by training but a nitpicker by inclination, commented that there was a "spelling" mistake in the hieroglyphs for "Dayan." Still, Ghali has the last word: "Yadin's editing did not dampen the pleasure of the gift."

In closing *Egypt's Road To Jerusalem*, Ghali recalls his luck at having missed the 1981 military parade in which Sadat was assassinated. His friend, the Egyptian minister of defence, informed him that he had been a prime target of the Muslim fundamentalist assassins. Fate had spared Ghali for greater things.

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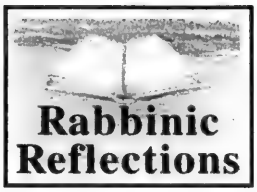

Rabbinic Reflections

Patience needed to understand G-d

By RABBI MOSHE YERES

A while ago I was driving down one of the interstates in New York. As I was going at a fair clip I was able to pass a number of transport trucks. Various companies had their ads and wares plastered to the sides of their trucks, advertising the contents of their vehicles. One truck in particular however caught my eye. There, emblazoned on the rear of the trailer in large letters, was the message and phone number: "Call 1-800-DIAL G-O-D."

I could hardly control my driving foot as I pulled into the left lane and slowly accelerated past this "heavenly messenger." As I passed the truck I began to make out the smaller words printed underneath the phone number: "G-O-D — Guaranteed Overnight Delivery." I later found out that this indeed was a truly legitimate and mortal courier company that operates in the northeast United States.

Truth be told, all too often we think of G-d (HaShem) in this fashion — Guaranteed Overnight Delivery. When I have what I perceive as a real need, I expect and even at times demand, an instantaneous response from G-d. I turn to G-d, dial up my prayer or request and expect that HaShem will issue forth with a swift answer to ameliorate my problem. And if I do not see His lightning quick response, don't I become discouraged, dismayed, feel let down? Some even have lost faith.

Alas for man, G-d does not always act in such a way. A thousand years are as a moment in His sight. G-d listens and hears but does not always respond to us in knee-jerk response. Without tackling the issue of good and evil (*Tzaddik vera lo'*), suffice it to say that the Almighty maintains plans for an entire universe, of which I am but an infinitesimally small compound. Our modern society is built on the concept of immediate personal gratification. G-d's rule however is founded on a global comprehensive vision of mankind's total existence (indeed all of life's survival). I must recognize that my personal request may not necessarily dovetail with the bigger picture that G-d is trying to create for the universe.

The holiday of Sukkot varies from the other biblical festivals in that it does not mark a cathartic spiritual event. It does not point to a singular date when G-d showed his immediate powers. Passover has of course the Exodus: Shavuot, the revelation at Sinai. Even Rosh Hashanah is tied to unique and special events, for Rosh Hashanah commemorates the creation of the world and Yom Kippur the arrival of Moses with the Second Tablets. But Sukkot? There is no one day on the calendar of our history that Jewish chronology identifies with the events of Sukkot. The Bible tells us that we celebrate Sukkot because G-d housed Bnei Yisrael in "sukkot."

The Midrash and Talmud debate whether these sukkot were booths and huts or the heavenly clouds of glory (*'ananei hakavod*) sent to protect the Israelites from the elements. But the point is, there is no one specific event and day that the festival of Sukkot points to. There is no day of immediate and overt response by G-d. Sukkot represents a slow process, the plodding journey from Egypt to the Promised Land, a journey that lasted not only 40 years, but literally a lifetime; for the Bible tells us that, with few exceptions, those who left Egypt did not enter Canaan. There was no immediate gratification on this trip, just the need for trust and belief in G-d as protector of man. The lesson to us: G-d watches over us, even if my prayer is not answered today.

Kohelet (Ecclesiastes),which is read in the synagogue on Sukkot succinctly concludes "*sof daver hakol nishem* — in the end of the matter when all is said and done..." To appreciate G-d's role and rule, we need the patience to wait for the end of the story. In the interim, we heed the call of Kohelet: fear G-d and keep his commandments. Chag Samayach.

Rabbi Yeres serves as rosh yeshivah of Yeshivat Bnei Akiva Or Chaim and Ulpanat Orot.

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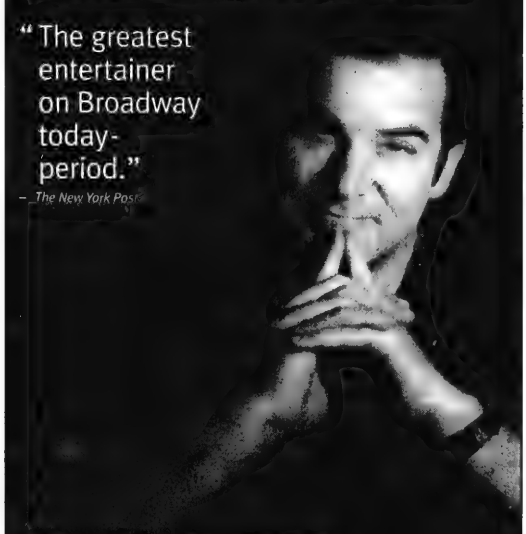

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Guest Voices

Child poverty casts shadow over Canada

By SANDRA STERN

Recent international reports by the United Nations and *Fortune* magazine have raised Canada to great heights as the most desirable place in the world to live and conduct business.

Canada provides the example of a social safety net and societal values that are envied by the world community. However, one dark shadow stands over Canada in the form of 1.3 million Canadian children who not only live in poverty, but in many cases, face neglect and abuse in their daily lives. This fact raises serious concerns about the risks to our social fabric and the trust we have in the traditional values of our society.

A child in Canada is now more likely to be poor than a child in 17 out of 18 industrial nations around the world. Only the United States has a worse record for child poverty than Canada. Too many of our children are not having their fundamental needs met and we stand idly by. Too many parents, having faced more than 25 years of profound social change, lack the assistance needed to raise healthy children and to strengthen the family.

The solution is available: affordable and non-stigmatizing programs to support child development at all levels. We need to end child hunger; provide a social support network to strengthen families; give children a healthy start prenatally, at home, in child care and in schools; offer children safe places during non school hours; instill in children a sense of community service; and ensure that each child has a caring adult in their lives. Paul D. Steinhauer, professor of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto, has worked for over 20 years to provide the solution.

The challenge is for corporate Canada to champion the first Canadian summit dedicated to child development and welfare. Corporate Canada must lead Canadian society in a partnership with other groups to care for and protect our children. The work cannot be done by government alone.

Corporate leaders have the leadership qualities, the problem solving skills, the resources and the vision to tackle the problem. This national non-partisan event would include leaders from business, government, foundations, professionals and social service agencies devoted to healthy child development.

Jordan was five weeks old when he died of starvation, Shanay was 21 months when she was beaten to death and Tiffani was three months old when her ribs were broken and she was asphyxiated. These children, terrified, alone and in pain remind us of another time and another place when children were also terrified and alone. We owe it to our children to do everything we can to better the lives of all children.

Canadian children need action and Canadian society needs action. Corporate Canada is in a truly unique position to lead Canada in an unprecedented way toward becoming attractive to the rest of the world for its ability to compete and for being able to maintain a social solidarity that will be the envy of the industrialized nations.

The time is right, the opportunity is extraordinary for corporate Canada to get involved. A summit on child development and welfare should be convened by the leaders of corporate Canada as soon as possible. Government will surely follow the example of business.

Sandra Stern is a concerned citizen who lives in Toronto.

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Richler in fine form

***Barney's Version*, by Mordecai Richler (Knopf Canada, $32.95).**

Mordecai Richler is, beyond doubt, Canada's best known and most widely admired Jewish novelist. *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* (1959) is regarded as a minor classic in the coming-of-age genre. Duddy, older, richer and somewhat wiser, plays a small part in *Barney's Version*.

This, the author's 10th novel, the first in eight years, is quite similar in style to *St. Urbain's Horseman* (1971) and *Joshua Then and Now* (1980). Like them, an improbable plot unfolds in an episodic, fragmented manner, full of digressions and flashbacks.

At 67, Barney, the novel's protagonist and narrator, ensconced in his once beloved Montreal, now being ruined by Quebec separatism, looks back with nostalgic satisfaction at years spent in Paris during the 1950s with a Bohemian coterie of expatriates. Among them were Bernard "Boogie" Moscovitch, Barney's best friend and mentor, whom years later, Barney is widely believed to have murdered; and also his first wife, Clara, an emotionally unbalanced, talented artist who kills herself with an overdose of sleeping pills. Barney, who was understandably unsympathetic when she produced a stillborn black child, is tortured by guilt feelings about her death.

Barney's father, Izzy, boorish and illiterate is the only Jewish member of Montreal's police force. His mother, obsessed with movie stars and the bygone culture of a previous period (she named her son after the comic strip character Barney Google), gradually loses touch with reality.

One is reminded of Joshua Shapiro's father in *Joshua Then and Now* who is an ex-boxer and bank robber, and his mother, an aspiring burlesque queen, who performs for a gang of teenage boys at her son's bar mitzvah.

Barney, who has made a fortune as owner of the TV company, Totally Unnecessary Productions, is an alcoholic who is given to sexual fantasies (described in graphic detail in this sex-drenched narrative) and is witty, caustic and weak-willed.

His second wife, referred to only as the second Mrs. Panofsky, is well-meaning, unmercifully garrulous, conventional in her ideas and actions, and harassed by her uptight, pretentious mock waspish parents. Richler has a great deal of fun in reporting her telephone conversations with her harridan mother.

At their wedding, Barney falls in love with nubile Miriam Greenberg, a wedding guest, who eventually becomes his wife of 30 years and the mother of his three children. Barney is driven to write the version of his life in order to counter what he believes will be a book by a long time nemesis, from his Paris days, filled with lies and calumnies about him.

At the end, a hapless victim of his own weaknesses, he loses Miriam and gradually drifts into Alzheimer disease.

Almost all of the characters are Jewish. When Barney decides, in a brief spasm of respectability, to raise money for the United Jewish Appeal, the fundraising professional advises him that every time some fanatic "daubs a swastika on a synagogue wall or knocks over a stone in one of our cemeteries, our guys get so nervous they phone me with pledges. So, things being how they are this year, what you've got to do is slam-dunk your target about the Holocaust. Shove Auschwitz at him. Buchenwald. War criminals thriving in Canada to this day. Tell him, 'Can you be sure it won't happen again, even here, and then where will you go?' Israel is your insurance policy, you say."

Barney's Version is bawdy, colorful, and filled with comic energy. There are a number of hilarious set pieces and the objects of his satire are numerous and familiar.

The book's final portion, concerned with his relationship with Miriam is often touching. The reader is left with a vague sympathy for Barney, not a bad guy really, but one of life's losers who could never rise above his credo that life is absurd.

Ambiguity is at the heart of the book. Did Barney murder Boogie? Is he a misfit or a hero manque? Should Miriam have left her difficult but desperate husband? It is no wonder that Richler decides that Barney wanted to be buried in a Protestant cemetery with a Star of David on his monument.

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Time to enjoy some great food in the sukkah

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Your sukkah is built. Your lulav and etrog are ready. And with Sukkot almost here, the obvious questions is...what's to eat? How about some seasonal fare – like hearts of lulav (palm) salad and sufferin' sukkah-tash? **[http://jewishfamily.com/Holidays/sukkah4.htm]**

While you're digesting those suggestions, it's time to talk about some of the wonderful food for thought about the festival of Sukkot you can find on the Jewish Highway. Start your travels at Virtual Jerusalem's Sukkot site **[http://www.jer1.co.il/city_services/holidays/sukkot-8Atzeret/index.htm]**. There is an illustrated guide to the laws and customs of building a sukkah, directions for buying and shaking a lulav and etrog and more recipes. Nothing could be better on a cool mid-autumn day in the sukkah than to sit down to Gran Sasto's special Sukkot tzimmes along with an apricot brisket and nectarine pie **[http://www.jer1.co.il/city_services/holidays/sukkot-8Atzeret/recipes.htm]**. As the guide says, "Everything tastes better in a sukkah." For still more recipes see **[http://www.bpe.com/food/recipes/fiszer/succoth.html]** and **[http://www.jewish.com/bk960927/cook.htm]**.

One of the most perplexing customs of the holiday is to read King Solomon's Megillat Kohelet or the Book of Ecclesiastes found in Hebrew at **[http://www1.snunit.k12.il/kodesh/bible/mkuhl.html]** and in English at **[http://www.jubilee.org:80/bible/21.ecclesiastes.html]**. Why, during a festival known as "the time of our happiness," do we read a book which examines philosophies of life and concludes "*Hakol havel*" (That all is worthless)? Rav Mordechai Elon explains that connection and looks at the concept of happiness at **[http://www.intournet.co.il/mtv/psa-sukkot.html]**.

Looking for more? Try Jewish Family & Life magazine **[http://jewishfamily.com/Holidays/sukkah1.htm]**, Ohr Somayach **[http://www.jer1.co.il/education/education/ohr/special/sukkos/index.htm]**, and for a glimpse of David Ben-Gurion at his sukkah at Kibbutz Sede-Boker, go to **[http://www.bgu.ac.il/Ben-Gurion/suc1.htm]**.

And do you have memories of a favorite Sukkot that you'd like to share? Then go to the Sukkah Forum **[http://jewishfamily.com/forum/sukkah.htm]** to read some other contributions or add one of your own.

Finally, what would a holiday be without music? There's a wide assortment of tunes at **[http://www.jewish-music.com/niggun.html]**. Over at **[http://www.613.org/music/niggun.html]**, you can watch a video of the late Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach conducting a Sukkot Hoshanah Rabah service at Congregation Kehilath Jacob.

And for something a bit less traditional why not go to **[http://www.jer1.co.il/city_services/holidays/sukkot-8Atzeret/schlock.htm]**? That's where you can listen to the Jewish group Schlock Rock's special holiday rendition of *All Shook Up*.

Get it? Sukkot? All Shook Up. Have a great holiday.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Topic: **"The Challenge of Jewish Education"**
Saturday, October 18th
Dinner: 7:30 p.m. Couvert: $20.00 per person
Sunday, October 19th
Continental Breakfast served: 9:45 - 10:15 a.m. - *(no charge)*
Speakers:
DR. YIGAL DONYETS
Representative, Special Joint Authority, Jewish Agency
Topic: **"The Challenge of Education in the Current Jewish Reality"**
DR. URI KORIN
Principal, Bialik Hebrew Day School
Topic: **"Zionist Education in the 21st Century: A Futuristic Approach"**
DANIEL MANN
National President, Labor Zionist Alliance of America
Topic: **"Peace, Progress & Pluralism: Advocacy & Implementations"**
WILLIAM SHAFFIR
Professor of Sociology, McMaster University
Chairman, Camp Gesher
Topic: **"Camp Gesher, Hemshech & Present Realities"**
Lunch: 1:00 p.m. **$6.00 per person**
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(416) 630-9444

Rabbi Schild honored for his 50 years in Toronto rabbinate

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The quirky thing, says Rabbi Erwin Schild, is that he never would have become a rabbi if not for the political climate in 1930s Germany.

Perhaps even more unusual is the role the rabbi emeritus of Adath Israel Congregation has played in Christian-Jewish dialogue there for the past decade. On a recent four-week trip, his second in a year, he gave almost two dozen lectures sponsored primarily by Catholic and Protestant churches. The German translation of his book, *World Through My Window*, a collection of his sermons, is in its second printing.

On Oct. 29, Rabbi Schild will receive the TALI Kavod Award given by Jerusalem's Seminary of Judaic Studies at an evening sponsored by the Canadian Foundation for Masorti Judaism. The event, to be held at Beth Tzedec Congregation, will coincide with Rabbi Schild's 50th anniversary in the Toronto rabbinate.

In 1947, Rabbi Schild was ordained at Yeshivah Torath Chaim and received his BA in Near Eastern Languages from the University of Toronto, where he was to complete an MA in Semitics two years later.

A native of Cologne, he studied at the Jewish Teachers' Seminary in Wurzburg. After a short imprisonment in Dachau in 1938, he studied at Yeshivah Torah Emeth in London, England. His studies were interrupted when he and other German refugees were interned as "enemy aliens" and shipped to Canada.

If not for the war, Rabbi Schild might have become a professor of art, literature or philosophy, perhaps even an artist. His self-portrait of a serious teen is among the pieces hanging in his synagogue study. "[But] the Germans disowned me, so to speak, and took away what I considered was my heritage."

Rabbi Erwin Schild

Veering towards Judaic studies, he found his calling. He has continued to take an active role since he retired eight years ago.

Still vigorous at 77, the rabbi – a grandfather of 11 and great-grandfather of two – has been a jogger for some 40 years.

Under his leadership from 1947 to 1989, Adath Israel grew from 200 to 1,900 families. Among the highlights of his tenure, he recalled, were the congregational tours to Israel he led with his wife Laura.

A former president of the Toronto Board of Rabbis, Rabbi Schild also served as vice-president of the Canadian Council for Conservative Judaism and founding president of Mercaz Canada.

Although his background is Orthodox, he was "ideologically ready" to lead a Conservative congregation by the time Adath Israel evolved away from its Orthodox roots. When Adath Israel hired Rabbi Schild, the congregation was "nominally Orthodox." By 1956, when it moved from downtown to its current North York location, it was Conservative.

"The Conservative movement was beginning to make strides," recalled Rabbi Schild. "Mixed seating and an open parking lot was an attraction...[I felt] it would be more effective in reaching out to alienated or indifferent Jews. I didn't compromise my own observance, [but] my theology was not Orthodox any more."

In the Toronto Jewish community overall, Rabbi Schild has seen major changes since arriving here in 1942. He attributes the strengthening of the community to the rise in Conservative Judaism, an influx of Holocaust survivors and pride in the establishment and growth of the State of Israel.

Within the Conservative movement, Rabbi Schild has also witnessed change. "I think if I were a woman I'd be an Egalitarian," he said, "[but] I see the downside as well. Egalitarianism upsets a great number of Jews. It's unacceptable to the Orthodox and creates a strong barrier between Conservative and Orthodox Jews. It may have far-reaching sociological implications, the consequences of which we can't quite see yet."

Reflecting on related issues, Rabbi Schild said everything possible should be done to accommodate "the minimum requirements of the Orthodox – the reasonable Orthodox – in personal status [issues such as conversion, divorce and patrilineal descent], so it won't come to a situation where an Orthodox Jew cannot marry a non-Orthodox. On the other hand, the Orthodox would have to recognize other streams of Judaism as a Jewish reality."

In the greater community, Rabbi Schild has long been involved in Christian-Jewish dialogue. "I feel in Canada or anywhere we cannot live in isolation."

He feels a particular responsibility to communicate with German Christians. "There are very few who speak their language and who can articulately represent Judaism," he said. "When I'm asked, I go."

CJC MEETS WITH CABINET MINISTERS

A delegation from Canadian Jewish Congress met recently with federal cabinet ministers to discuss Nazi war criminals in Canada. From left are CJC president Goldie Hershon; Justice Minister Anne McLellan; Citizenship and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard; CJC war crimes committee chair Irving Abella; and CJC honorary legal counsel Keith Landy. Issues discussed included the Justice Department's plans to produce an annual report on the work of the war crimes unit, allegations of anti-Semitism in the unit's early years, and the presence in Canada of modern-day war criminals.

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Stuffed artichoke bottoms with mushrooms and pimento		*Chicken liver mousseline on nutty bread*

• HOT CANAPES •

VEGETARIAN	FISH	MEAT
Feuilleté of spinach & mushrooms	*Fish Pastelle*	*Lamb baklava with curry*
Half moon of spicy ratatouille with basil	*Anchovy cigars*	*Suprême of chicken teriyaki*
Tempura of vegetables	*Goujon of sole with tartar sauce*	*Miniature pojarski of veal with a touch of ginger*
Aumonière of wild mushrooms	*Croquettes of fish*	

• ENTREES GALORE •

FISH: *Medallion of Atlantic Salmon with citrus and fresh herbs*
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What's New

By Miriam Hernan

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Oct. 20, is deadline for Oct. 30 issue and Monday, Oct. 27, is deadline for Nov. 6 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, Oct. 17

ONEG SHABBAT

West Toronto Jewish Community Association Oneg Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m., Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave. 236-2054.

Saturday, Oct. 18

BEIS HASHOEIVAH

Simchas Beis Hashoeivah live with Nafshenu Orchestra, dancing and more, second night of Chol Hamoed Sukkot, 8:30 p.m., Lubavitch, 44 Edinburgh Dr.

CONSERVATIVE MINYAN

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, and Federation of Jewish Brotherhoods Shabbat service followed by kiddush 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Synagogue. **Hilda Harris,** shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Sunday, Oct. 19

ISRAEL AT 50

Temple Sinai seminar, Israel at 50: A Retrospective, 10 a.m. Media commentator/writer **Shira Herzog** shares insights and historical observations.

GAMES SINGLES PLAY

A fun social evening of bridge, Trivial Pursuit, Chutzpah and such for Jewish men and women, Group A ages 26-40, Group B ages 41-69, 7:30 p.m., Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrooke Ave. $5. Early Bird Bingo 7:30-8 p.m. **Mollie** 733-3634.

Monday, Oct. 20

NAGILLAH CHAPTER, JWI

Nagillah chapter, Jewish Women International, membership night for singles women, 40 plus, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue. **Hannah Brown** discusses Jewish Women in Prison. $2. **Sheila** 665-3333 or **Joy** 905-770-9086.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

At Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., 3:30-7:30 p.m.

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League Willowdale, support for breast feeding mothers, 9:30 a.m. Annette 224-9870

UJPO SENIORS

Cranbrooke Friendship Club of the United Jewish People's Order features the Medina Theatre Ensemble staged readings of scenes from popular comedies, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Light lunch. $4.

ANTIQUES ROAD SHOW

Temple Sinai Singles (ages 30-55) Antiques Road Show and lecture, Amelia's Deal Ya, 2788 Bathurst St., Unit 5, 7:30 p.m. Bring item to be evaluated and non-perishable food item for donation to food bank. Pre-register 487-4161.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence. **Ruth** 763-9111.

ARCHIVAL EXHIBIT

Special showing of National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section's archival exhibit, Faith and Humanity, noon to 4 p.m., 7-9 p.m., Multicultural History Society, 43 Queen's Park Cres. E.

Tuesday, Oct. 21

JEWS IN THE NEWS

Tzavta Together presents Jews in the News: Examining the Media's Treatment of Jewish Issues. Panelists **Esther Enkin**, CBC Radio News; **Sheldon Gordon**, journalist; **Suanne Kelman**, professor of journalism, Ryerson Polytechnic University; **Sol Littman**, Canadian representative Simon Wiesenthal Centre. 7:30 p.m., Barbara Frum Library, 20 Covington St. $5.

COOKING, WINE, FITNESS

Temple Sinai Sisterhood Cooking Demonstration, Wine Experience and Nutrition with **Marc Thuet**, Centro Restaurant; **Donald**

[Cont'd. on page 17]

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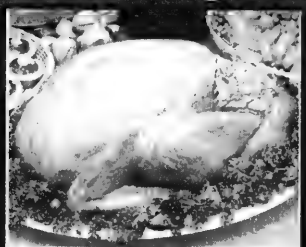
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319

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 16]

Ziraldo, Inniskillen Wines Inc.; **Iyabo Kubra Musa**, Fitness Institute, 7:30 p.m. at the temple. $15 in advance, $18 at door. **Karen** 223-4017 or **Rena** 635-0101.

WOMAN ABUSE

National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, presents Woman Abuse Through the Generations, 8 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. Panel discussion as well as experiences of survivors. For parents, young adults, women and men. $5/person, $8/family at door. 633-5100.

UNDER THE STARS

Join Jewish Women International's Tikvah chapter for a Sukkot program in a sukkah. Chapter members are in their mid-20s to mid-30s, single and married, and meet once a month. RSVP **Michelle** 905-709-0404.

Wednesday, Oct. 22

WHAT IS THE MESSIAH?

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich discusses What is the Messiah?, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue.

And What Else Is New

JIAS ANNIVERSARY GALA

JIAS 75th Anniversary Gala Concert honoring immigration and diversity Monday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m., Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, George Weston Recital Hall, sponsored by Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, starring Dora Award winner **Theresa Tova** who will sing many arrangements from her award-winning play *Still the Night*. $18, $36, $75 (includes gala reception). Tickets 697-0613.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel Congregation, Mississauga: Erev Sukkot celebration Wednesday, Oct. 15, decorations for sukkah 4:30 p.m., followed by Sukkot service and hot dog dinner. Thursday, Oct. 16, service 10 a.m. Family services Friday, Oct. 17, Wednesday, Oct. 22 (Simchat Torah) and Friday, Oct. 31, at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 18, 10 a.m. Regular services Thursday, Oct. 23 (Simchat Torah) 10 a.m. and Friday, Oct. 24, 8:30 p.m. Tuesday morning minyan 7 a.m. followed by breakfast. 905-820-5915.

CHINA & HONG KONG

B'Not Aviva and Gila chapters, Toronto Hadassah-WIZO present **Jan Wong**, journalist for the *Globe and Mail* and author of *Red China Blues* Sunday, Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m., Holiday Inn Yorkdale. Topic is Red China Blues: Perspectives on Today's China and Hong Kong. $20. **Bari Zittell** 658-0877 or **Carol Ritz** 489-8459.

PRAYER BOOK READING

Improve your reading fluency and understanding of the main prayers at Tuesday afternoon class led by **Yael Lev** at Kehillat Shaarei Torah Synagogue. Yael 225-6151.

AT TEMPLE SINAI

Temple Sinai Adult Education: **Prof. Harold (Hesh) Troper** three-session series on Canadian Jewish community's relationship with Israel, Wednesdays 8-9:30 p.m.: Oct. 29, Israeli Statehood to Victory in the Six Day War (1948-67); Nov. 5, The Joy of Victory to the Israeli Invasion of Lebanon (1967-82); Nov. 12, From Beirut to Oslo and Beyond (1982-present). $75/series, $30/session. Pre-register 487-4161.

Advanced Beginners and Intermediate Hebrew classes, Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m., Oct. 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27, Dec. 4, 11, 18. $70 session. For registration forms 487-4161.

JEWISH FREE LOAN CASSA

Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa G'milath Chasodim Association annual meeting, Tuesday, Oct. 28, 6:30 p.m., Lipa Green building, 4600 Bathurst St., Room 421. Guest speaker **Irving Abella**, chair, Canadian Jewish Congress National War crimes Committee. Also elections and presentation of Harendorf, Lebane, Moss Accounting Scholarship. Dinner served. $15. RSVP **Helen Kastner** 635-1217.

THEATRE NIGHT

Shaarei Tefillah Sisterhood is sponsoring *The Miracle Worker* Sunday, Nov. 2, 7 p.m., Fairview Library Theatre. $25 (donation receipt for $18). Reserve **Reta** 226-1875 or **Sharon** 787-1631.

REFORM MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan egalitarian Shabbat services every Saturday at 10 a.m. at Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Room 204 . On Simchat Torah, Oct. 23, 7 p.m., **Rabbi Paul Golomb, Arlene Turner, Rich Glauber** lead in celebrating the cycle of the Torah. **Shelley** 469-4287.

EDUCATIONAL SERIES

Downtown Jewish Learning Council, the educational division of Downtown Jewish Community Council, 1997/98 educational series at Bloor JCC, 11 courses on Jewish Meditation, Classic and Contemporary Perspectives, Hebrew, Yiddish, Jewish Ethics and Personal Growth, Peace and Conflict in Israel, Women in the Torah and more. **Paul Appleby**, or **Cheryl Wetstein**, 924-6211.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800. ext. 215.

Bereavement Groups: Adult Children Losing a Parent begins Oct. 29; Widows/Widowers for people who have recently lost a spouse, (daytime and evening groups, groups divided by age) begin after the holidays.

Divorce Groups: Looking Ahead begins Oct. 21; One Family Two Homes, three workshops for children and parents going through separation and divorce, begins Oct. 30; When You're About to Separate: What to Tell the Kids, Oct. 21.

Positive Parenting Groups: Your Preschooler, The School-Age Child, Preteens, Surviving Your Teenager, begin week of Oct. 27.

AISH HATORAH

Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818

Sukkot party, Monday, Oct. 20, 8 p.m. Music, refreshments, fun.

Shalom Bayit – Women's Commitment to Marital Harmony, Mondays 2 p.m. through Dec. 15. babysitting provided.

BUND CENTENARY

The 100th anniversary of the Bund Jubilee Banquet and cultural program featuring an address in Yiddish and English by **Jack Jacobs**, associate professor of Government, City University of New York, plus readings in Yiddish and performance of labor songs, Saturday, Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m. Workmen's Circle Centre, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. $25. Reserve. **Abe Sloma** 222-7547 or **Chaim Kuper** 663-6713.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tikvah Friendship Group 55 Plus presents A Life to Remember, an evening of nostalgia, humor, fascinating moments as narrated by members **Herb Freedman, Leona Garmaise, Phil Simon**, Monday, Oct. 20, 8 p.m. Non-members $3.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Due to the holidays, next meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 21, program is Israeli comedy movie *Sababa*. Simchat Torah party, dancing, Saturday, Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m. members $8, non-members $10. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Monday, Nov. 3, *Mr. Holland's Opus* 1 p.m.; Monday, Nov. 10, opening musical luncheon, 12:30 p.m., entertainers **Ivory** and **Silver**, art exhibit by club members. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Oct. 26-31 Washington and Atlantic City; Nov. 4, seminar with speaker on ABCs of Fraud, 10 a.m.; Shopping in Buffalo; Nov. 19, Square One Shopping Centre. Activities: Table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork shop, trips day and night. 395-7881.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trip 1998. **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m.; Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre is open for socializing Monday to friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Healthy Cooking with dietician/nutritionist **Sharon Zeiler** and two community food advisors Tuesday, Oct. 21, 1 p.m. $1 for materials.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays. Programs include movies, lectures, nostalgic singalongs, dances, bingo. Anniversary party Oct. 21. **Anna**.

Movie, *Forever Darling* Sunday, Oct. 19, 2:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Books and Bagels with **Rick Salutin** Sunday, Oct. 19, 11 a.m. Non-members $8.

Reserve your patron World Gala Premiere tickets now for the opening of **Simcha Jacobovici**'s film, *Hollywoodism: Jew, Movies and the American Dream* Nov. 24 at Princess of Wales Theatre, to inaugurate L'Chaim Capital Campaign Kickoff. Gala patron includes reception and post-gala party at Holiday Inn on King $180. Regular seats include reception $36.

Marilyn Lightstone one-woman show Oct. 30.

Renew membership and enrol your child in many after-hour programs, free with membership.

Entertainment '98 Two for One coupon books available at front desk.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club trip to Niagara Casino, Tuesday, Oct. 21. $19 includes $10 refreshment voucher. **Judy**.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

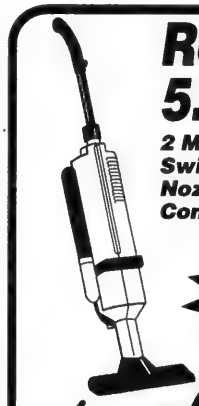
Special needs programs begin the week of Oct. 26. Social, physical, and recreational programs available for children, teens and adults with developmental and/or physical disabilities. **Patricia Trojman**, ext. 265.

Young Einstein's computer courses for adults and children. Information on course content, times and fees, ext. 378.

ABOUT PEOPLE

55TH ANNIVERSARY

Eva and Armando Salinas celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary by reaffirming their marriage vows in a ceremony at Holy Blossom Temple conducted by their grandson **Rabbi Robert Morais** of Rochester, N.Y., and **Rabbi Daveen Litwin** of Toronto's Temple Sinai. The Salinas were married in a civil ceremony at the Italian General Consulate in Shanghai in February, 1942 – no rabbi, no chupah. After spending the early years of their marriage in a Japanese prisoner of war camp, they came to Canada. For the ceremony at Holy Blossom, attended by their two daughters, five grandchildren, one great-granddaughter and many friends, the family provided the rabbi, the chupah, the ketubah, the music.



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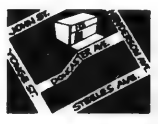

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Among those honored at the recent Senior Care volunteer recognition night were, left to right, Ida Picov, (Sam Rotman Humanitian Award Award); Marilyn Gross (Marie and Jack Freedman Memorial Award); and Joshua Levi, who has visited the same person since 1984 (Volunteer Visiting Silver Anniversary Award). Volunteer visitors provide an average of 12,000 hours of service each year. For information, call 416-635-2860.

Lovemaking holiest act, says rebbetzin

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In Judaism, lovemaking, within a consecrated union and at the proper time, is the single holiest act a person can do, lecturer and writer Rivkah Slonim told an audience of over 100 at Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, sponsored by the synagogue's sisterhood.

"A man and woman engaged in love-making have the possibility of most closely imitating G-d's aspect of being the creator. Every sex act creates a soul [in heaven]," she said.

Slonim is the education director at Chabad House at the University of New York at Binghamton, and is a frequent speaker on Jewish women and Jewish law and on *taharat hamishpacha*, the laws of family purity.

The marriage bed, Slonim said, is "no less than the Holy of Holies. And entrance to it, as it was for the High Priest entering the Holy of Holies, is contingent on ritual purity" — in other words, immersion in a mikvah at the appropriate time.

Observing the laws of mikvah, which say that a couple may not have relations during menstruation or for seven days afterwards, when the woman immerses in the ritual bath, brings renewal to a relationship.

"It is like a monthly honeymoon," she said, explaining that after being married a while, the possibility of boredom is very real.

However, when a couple observes the period of separation, "the person you live with becomes forbidden fruit. And you are always turned on by what you can't have."

As well, she said, when you have to express emotion without touching, you "have to dig deeper to communicate with each other."

She told the audience that it is never too late to start using the mikvah."Even if you go only once, the very act of going offers the opportunity to affect your past life and your family."

She noted that going to a mikvah has nothing to do with physical cleansing, adding that "there is no one cleaner than the woman about to enter the mikvah."

The mikvah itself should be not only clean, but beautiful "because that reflects its importance to Jewish life."

Entering the mikvah is "a moment of surrender," Slonim said. Not only do we leave our clothes, jewelry and makeup behind, but "we also leave behind our power and independence, as we enter what is not our natural habitat. At that moment, we are one with G-d."

Menstruation should not be seen as a punishment, but as a normal, physical phenomenon. However, since it occurs when the uterus sheds the lining that it has been preparing for a possible conception, it "signals the end of potential life for that month."

Similarly, immersion signifies a transformation back into someone who has the possibility of creating life, a rebirth in effect.

She acknowledged that the separation is difficult for couples. "I tell my students that I hope it will always be difficult. G-d forbid it will ever be easy to separate from your husband for two weeks a month."

Chabad Lubavitch of Markham is currently building a small mikvah to serve its own members and others in the community.

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UJA FEDERATION

Community Matters

NEW YEAR YIELDS NEW CAMPAIGN SUPPORT

More than 500 new contributors have joined the UJA Federation family over the last few weeks, nudging up the 1998 campaign total to nearly $25 million.

The 500 additional supporters, representing close to $300,000 in new pledges, were brought on board by hundreds of UJA Federation campaigners, calling community members who have not yet supported the campaign.

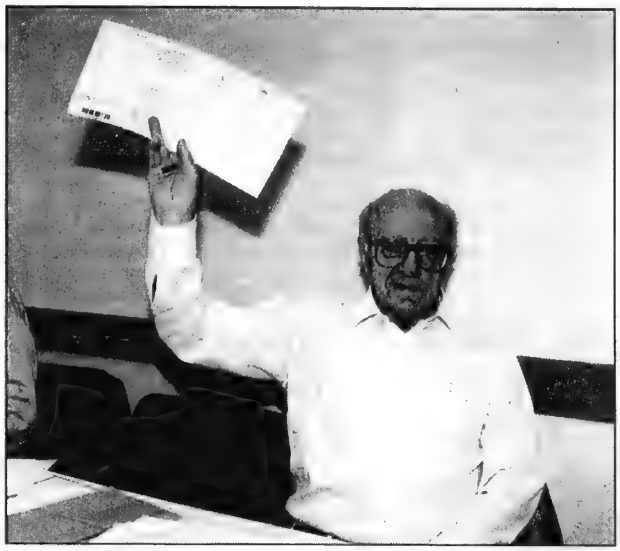
A New Gifts telethon held before Rosh Hashana, focused entirely on reaching non-contributors or community members who had not contributed to the campaign for many years. Another telethon will be held at the Promenade Shopping Centre in November.

"The telethons have been fantastic," noted Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar. "We're well ahead of last year."

Sam Horowitz, who has been campaigning for UJA Federation for 30 years, says "I owe a great deal to UJA Federation for helping subsidize my son's Jewish education."

"I've always gotten back more than I give," explained Susan Gudofsky, who was particularly excited about a first-time pledge she received for $200. "It was the kind of call campaigners dream of," she added. "It means we're getting through."

"So many of our campaigners stayed longer than they had signed up for and that shows the depth of their commitment to community," noted Debbi Stern, who co-chaired the new gifts telethon with Reesa Sud. Stern was also pleased to see the younger people making calls. "It's great to watch younger members of the community carrying on the tradition of helping those in need," she added.



Sam Horowitz waves a pledge card signalling a new five hundred dollar gift.

JIAS Concert Marks 75th Anniversary

The organization which helped more than 200,000 Jewish immigrants from all over the world begin a new life in Canada is marking its 75th anniversary with a celebration of Jewish music and culture.

Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, is holding a gala community concert on Monday, October 27, 7:30 p.m. at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts in North York. Tickets, which include a dessert reception following the concert, range from $18 - $35 and can be obtained in advance by calling (416) 697-0613.

Acclaimed Yiddish singer Theresa Tova, who recently won four Dora Awards for her play "Still The Night," will headline the evening's entertainment with CBC TV's Ralph Benmurgui as the master of ceremonies.

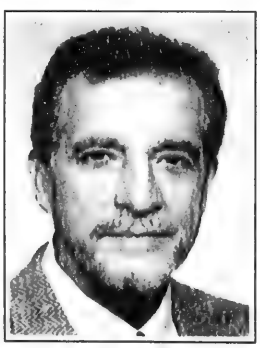
Cellist Igor Gefter, Toronto Symphony Orchestra violinist Mark Skazinetsky and National Ballet of Canada pianist, Marina Surgan will play a specially commissioned piece written by composer Yefim Adler. Cantor Armand Moyal completes the lineup of performers, all of whom come from immigrant backgrounds.

"Toronto is an immigrant community," explains JIAS President Sandy Atlin. "We're very excited about featuring talented immigrant artists who have contributed to our unique Jewish culture."

The JIAS Community Heritage Book, chronicling the successive waves of Jewish immigration into Canada over the last three quarters of a century, will debut at the gala event. The book highlights the stories of individuals and families from across Canada who, with assistance from JIAS, carved out new lives in a new country.

"The concert," explains Atlin, "is not only a way for JIAS to celebrate its accomplishments but also for all the people JIAS helped to say thank you."

For more information about the Heritage Gala Concert or the JIAS Community Heritage Book call (416) 697-0613.



Cantor Armand Moyal.

Art Show Benefits Woman Abuse Program

UJA Federation and Jewish Women's Federation are joining forces with six female artists to raise awareness about woman abuse in the Jewish community.

The New Beginnings: Preview and Silent Auction, Tuesday, October 28, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm, 80 Spadina Avenue, Suite 313, will feature the designs of Stoneworks & Company.

Artists Barbara Bender, Sandra Duba-Shubs, Lilli Gillman, Edie Harlang, Helen Kirzner and Naomi Reich-Freudmann, who have been exhibiting their art work together for the past five years, will donate six pieces for auction, the proceeds of which will go to the Jewish Family and Child Service Woman Abuse program. In addition, a percentage of the proceeds of all the evening's sales will be donated to the program.

Jewish Family and Child Service, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency, is currently dealing with approximately 300 cases involving woman abuse, through counseling, emergency shelters and other support for both women and children.

This exhibition, the artists' fourth, focuses on the strength of Jewish women and their struggles to build new lives following episodes of abuse. The title of the show, explains Harlang, also reflects the career changes she and fellow artists have undergone leading up to the formation of the company. "One woman was an accountant, another was a teacher and another was a nurse," recalls Harlang. "It was a new beginning for all of us."

"This is a great vehicle to raise awareness about an issue that touches many members of the community," notes Jewish Women's Federation President Jill Reitman.

"People have to be made more aware of the issue," adds Susan Maldoff, who chairs JWF's Women Abuse committee. "The more we know the more we can help."

For more information or to RSVP call (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.

"Jessica" by Edie Harlang.

Washington Fly-In

NEW ALLEGATION AGAINST SWITZERLAND

An expert on the relationship between Swiss banks and the Holocaust is alleging that Switzerland helped to finance the German war effort with assets stolen from Holocaust victims.

Gregg Rickman, Project Director for the United States Senate Banking Committee studying the controversy, cited the World Jewish Congress when he told a UJA Federation delegation in Washington, D.C. that "Switzerland was able to finance the war because it stole what is estimated today at upwards of $8 billion. Artwork, jewelry, watches, insurance policies, dental gold – all taken."

Rickman was speaking to participants in the annual UJA Federation Washington Fly-In.

His statements were corroborated in a study, written by the U S. State Department's chief historian Dr William Slany, which was released earlier this year.

U.S. Senate banking committee project director Gregg Rickman shed new light on Switzerland's dubious banking practices during World War II

"With the Reichmark largely unusable, in order to obtain war materials, the Nazis used looted gold, shipped largely to Switzerland, to convert into Swiss francs to help meet their war needs," claimed U.S. Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat, commenting on Slany's report.

According to Eizenstat, the study "documents one of the greatest thefts by a government in recorded history – the confiscation by Nazi Germany of an estimated $580 million of central bank gold, which would be worth about $5.6 billion in today's values, along with indeterminate amounts of other assets from individual victims of Nazi atrocities during World War II."

"Around $400 million of this looted gold - $3.9 billion in today's values- went to Switzerland." he added.

Although Eizenstat acknowledged that some Swiss actions helped the Allies, he concluded that Switzerland and other neutral nations "prolonged the war effort" by benefiting from trade and financial dealings with the Germans.

Rickman, along with a team of dedicated researchers, has been digging in the U.S. National Archives for a year in order to get to the truth regarding the Swiss relationship with the Nazis during the Second World War.

Three major Swiss banks have set up a fund to compensate those who lost assets now missing from Swiss banks. Payments from the Swiss Solidarity Fund have begun in Eastern Europe, where an estimated 40,000 Jews will be eligible to receive them.

"Although these banks will not claim responsibility or attach themselves to any wrong doings, they have quietly set up this fund totaling $185 million as a gesture of goodwill," said Rickman.

There are thousands of claims from survivors, according to Rickman, but only five have actual documentation about numbered accounts. "People were forced out of their homes with only numbers in their heads," he said. "But let's not forget that this is an issue of morality, not money."

WASHINGTON WHIRLWIND

A day filled with both history and current events began at the crack of dawn for 125 participants in UJA Federation's annual Washington Fly-In.

The intense itinerary started with a visit to the Jordanian Embassy, where Rania Atalla, Director of the Jordanian Information Bureau, called the recent Hamas suicide bombings in Jerusalem a symptom of Palestinian frustration, both economic and political. "Jordan's ultimate goal is to end terrorism," she said. "The only way to live together is to have a warm peace process."

"The Jordanian Embassy was extremely interesting from a students' perspective," observed Barney Paiken, 23, who attends the University of Toronto. "It's great to listen to people who you disagree with and be able to learn from them."

Director of the Jordanian Information Bureau Rania Atalla stressed Jordan's ultimate goal is to end terrorism.

Next stop was the architecturally impressive Canadian Embassy, where Canada's Ambassador to the U.S. Raymond Chretien and his Middle East advisor Stewart Hughes described Canadian-Israeli relations as solid. On the question of Middle East peace, "Canada would like to see Israel in a warm peace and as an accepted neighbour in the region," said Chretien.

Lunch on Capitol Hill with syndicated columnist Steve Roberts and a trip to the renowned Holocaust Memorial Museum followed. "Experiencing something as significant as the Holocaust Museum, has left me with an incredible feeling," said Fly-In participant Janice Kussner.

Dinner and discussion ended the day with Gregg Rickman, Project Director for the United States Senate Banking Committee studying the use by Swiss banks of money and other assets from Holocaust victims.

"The entire day was invigorating," beamed Agi Mandel, UJA Federation's Women's Campaign Chair.

Welcome to Washington. Fly-In co-chairs Alan Winer (l) and Joel Reitman (r) are ready to get started.

"Today's mission was hugely successful because of the participants," added Joel Reitman, who co-chaired the Washington Fly-In with Alan Winer. "We had students, Holocaust survivors, corporate partners and a mix of many others – this diversity is the formula for a wonderful trip."

"Today we have seen many reasons why the 1998 campaign theme *For One People. Forever*, is appropriate. Each place we visited signifies genuine unity and community togetherness, giving us reasons why we must unite and care for each other in our community and abroad," concluded Winer.

FLY-IN JOINS GENERATIONS

Thirteen year old Jacob Binder wanted only his grandfather, Dr. Fred Weinberg, to accompany him on his first UJA Federation Fly-In to Washington. "I have a very close relationship with my grandfather. He has taught me a lot about Jewish history and I thought it would be special if we could take this trip together."

Although Jacob is in his early teens, his strong interest in the Holocaust, racism and justice exceeds his years. "A few years ago, I began reading books by Carol Matas, the author of *Daniel's Story*. I find her work very interesting and I wanted to see first hand the famous exhibit depicted in her book."

Daniel's Story is the emotional biography of the Holocaust seen through the eyes of a young boy. The U.S. Holocaust Museum exhibit provides a historical account of Daniel and his family's eventual journey to the concentration camps, as you walk through their home.

"Jacob and I have always had an extra special bond," says Weinberg, a well-known Toronto pediatrician who treated many members of the Jewish community. "Seeing the museum through his eyes was for me, a wonderful experience. We were each other's teachers."

Jacob's parents, Sari and David Binder, were participants in last year's UJA Federation Washington Fly-In and were very impressed with the mission. "Ever since Jacob's bar mitzvah, he has been asking to see the Holocaust Museum," explains Sari. "Because of his immense interest and the caliber of the trip, I thought this would be a great opportunity for him."

Both Jacob and his grandfather agree "the entire day was hugely successful." "I'm glad that Jacob chose me as his companion on the trip," Weinberg proudly proclaims. "His presence and great interest was, for me, a most enjoyable experience."

Jacob Binder enjoys the day with his grandfather Dr. Fred Weinberg.

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

PARTNERS PROGRAM IS OFF TO A FAST START

When you combine the business community with a world-renowned non-profit agency, you get a recipe for success. UJA Federation's Partners Program, spearheaded by Karen Miller and Howard Sokolowski, gives the corporate world an avenue to lend a helping hand to hundreds of thousands of Jews in need.

The Partners Program, according to Miller, permits business and UJA Federation to strengthen the community together. "The program is designed to meet both corporate needs and those of the larger community," says Miller. "It's a great medium for these large institutions. We provide a unique opportunity for our sponsors to be part of the UJA Federation family, through trips, sponsorship of divisions and events and media recognition."

One of the program's primary goals is to educate the non-Jewish world about UJA Federation's work. "It is so important for these large businesses to be exposed to UJA Federation. There is so much to be gained on both fronts. It's a winning situation for everyone," notes Sokolowski.

The Partners Program is three tiered – with bronze, silver and gold levels. Each one offers corporate partners a variety of sponsorship opportunities. The Royal Bank of Canada, CIBC Wood Gundy, and Scotia Bank are gold level partners Toronto Dominion Bank and Bank of Montreal/Nesbitt Burns belong to the silver level, and the Toronto Raptors is a bronze partner.

"We are very excited and optimistic about reaching our goals with all the help provided by our corporate sponsors," says UJA Federation's '98 Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar. "This is an incredible moral boost to the community."

"This is only the beginning," adds Miller. "There is an enormous business community that awaits us."

Washington welcomes Corporate Partners

UJA Federation's annual Washington Fly-In received rave reviews from the organization's corporate partners who joined this year's mission. For some it was their first time in the U.S. capital. Others, who are veteran travelers to the city, were thrilled to be part of the trip.

"We couldn't be happier that our corporate partners were able to experience the day with us," said UJA Federation Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar. "It's a terrific way for them to meet people in the community and to see first hand how UJA Federation works by bringing people closer together."

The day was non-stop, the information was plentiful, and the news informative, but by and large, the U.S.Holocaust Memorial Museum played a very emotional and significant role in the trip. Those who toured the Museum often found themselves at a loss for words.

Kathy Apostolou from the Royal Bank believes "UJA Federation presented a wonderful opportunity in such a special way, for the corporate partners to meet one another. For me, the Holocaust Memorial Museum was something I will never forget."

"As soon as I got off the elevator I felt goosebumps – my hair was standing on end. I said to myself what could possibly be ahead - I didn't know what to expect. I had always heard about the atrocities of the Holocaust, but it didn't prepare me for what I saw."

"The Holocaust Memorial Museum puts its mission of showing the world what went on during this terrible time into human terms," observed Peter Drake, Vice-President and Deputy Chief Economist for the Toronto Dominion Bank. "I thank UJA Federation for inviting me on such an informative and educational trip. Both the Canadian and Jordanian Embassies provided me with a more in depth outlook on Canada-U.S.-Israel relations. It seems that no matter how diligently you try to keep track of current news events, you can't beat first hand knowledge from expert speakers," stated Drake, who accompanied Vice-President and Chief Economist Dr. Ruth Getter.

Jim Westell from CIBC Wood Gundy particularly enjoyed columnist Steve Roberts' insights and views, calling his discussion "informative and educational."

"The Holocaust Memorial Museum, namely *Daniel's Story* was especially emotional. To see an entire family disintegrate at the hands of such evil people is hard to put into words," Westell said.

For Kelly Gianopoulos of the Toronto Raptors, her first time in Washington proved to be very educational. "Even though I am not Jewish, I am now more aware and can appreciate the importance of peace in the Middle East. The Jordanian Embassy really shed some interesting light on the difficulties facing the two nations."

(left) Peter Drake and Dr. Ruth Getter, of the Toronto Dominion Bank were glad to be part of UJA Federation's Washington Fly-In.

(below) Partners Program Co-Chair Karen Miller, (second from left), and Campaign Chairman Leo Goldhar (center), welcome representatives of the Royal Bank of Canada. (far left) Tom Lettner, Christine Walker (third from right), Kathy Apostolou and Bill Collier.

(left) CIBC Wood Gundy's Jim Westell(l) and Glen Shear.

(right) Kelly Gianopoulos (l) and Justina Klein of the Toronto Raptors Foundation, all smile at the end of the day.

Renowned French-Jewish artist subject of lecture

Ben-Gurion congratulates Benn at an exhibition in Paris.

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO—Bencjon Benn, an internationally renowned French-Jewish artist, whose works can be found in major museums such as, the Musee National d'Art Moderne of Paris, La Maison de la Bible in Tel Aviv and the Vatican, will be the subject of a lecture and slide presentation Nov. 3, 8 p.m. at Holy Blossom Temple.

Prof. Roberta Markus, who recently retired from the University of Toronto, will present the lecture which she says "will focus on one man's determination to rise above the inhumanity of Nazism and leave a cultural legacy in which Jewish values endure."

Marcus' late husband Prof. Nathan Markus of U of T's faculty of social work was a nephew of the artist, who died in 1990. The Markuses spent a great deal of time with Benn and his wife Ghera, a Russian ballerina.

Born Ben-Zion Rabinovich in Bialistock, Poland in 1905, (he changed his name to Benn in 1928 for professional reasons), the artist displayed exceptional talent as a child. His father, who wanted to become an artist but was discouraged for religious reasons, became a successful architect and builder. He encouraged his son to become an artist and became his teacher in both art and religious studies.

While still a teenager, Benn's works were displayed in Bialistock and Vilna. He won a Polish government scholarship and left Poland to study in Paris at the Academie des Beaux Arts in 1928. He joined a gallery for upcoming artists and although he painted figuratively rather than following the impressionistic trend, his work was accepted year after year. Private galleries invited him to exhibit his paintings which could be seen throughout France and Belgium.

In 1938 Benn became obsessed with rumors spreading about the treatment of Jews in Germany and he began painting what he felt was to come — masses of corpses, blood, vultures consuming humans, and Jews hunted by dogs. These paintings are now in the collection of the Washington Holocaust Museum.

Went into hiding

He was interned in 1943 and placed in a holding camp destined for Auschwitz. After one month, with the help of a gentile friend, he was smuggled out. His parents and his youngest sister and her family perished.

He and his wife went into hiding for two years, and lived at subsistence level in a windowless cellar of an apartment house. During this time Benn managed to produce art with only crayons and a pad of paper.

Not a religious man in the traditional sense, Benn was nevertheless proud of his Jewishness. It was in the cellar that Benn created his first drawings of the work that later became *62 Psaumes et Versets de la Bible – 62 Psalms of the Bible.*

After the war, he offered his sketches to gentile friends in gratitude for hiding him and his wife, and they encouraged him to transfer the sketches to canvas. They formed a group called Les Amis de Benn and collected money for his supplies until he could sell some of his other works. He refused to sell the 62 original biblical paintings which were willed to Israel and France..

In 1968, Canadian Jewish Congress organized the first showing of Benn's biblical work in North America at Man and His World in Montreal.

To commemorate the event, CJC donated a copy of the *62 Psalms of the Bible* to the National Library in Ottawa.

Benn received the Golden Key of Paris, the Legion of Honor in France and numerous medals and honors in Paris, Israel and throughout the world.

The lecture titled Benn, An Artist's Response to the Holocaust, is open to the community.

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- **Esther Enkin**, *Managing Editor and Chief Journalist of CBC Radio News*

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That's exactly what's happening in Israel.

Imagine a Member of Parliament standing in the House of Commons suggesting there be a discussion about how Jews should practice their religion. As members of the Canadian Jewish community, we would do all in our power to see to it that this person was never re-elected. Imagine, just imagine, if he went as far as to actually introduce a bill on the floor. We would take to the streets. Organize letter writing and e-mail campaigns. Talk to everyone we know of influence. Run full-page ads. Spend millions in community dollars. And write letters to our Members of Parliament.

We'd be shouting that this is religious coercion, un-democratic, and against our civil rights. We'd be writing so many stinging editorials, that we would tie up Internet access lines for months.

So why, when this is happening in Israel, when there is religious coercion from a small, but growing minority of ultra-Orthodox extremists, do we sit so passively in North America? We, as Canadian Jews, who have a tradition of democracy and diversity, have much to bring to this issue which affects the legitimacy of all Jews everywhere and the unity of the Jewish people.

The Israeli Government, for political reasons, continues to cede increasing power to the ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) parties. This is why, today, the Jewish State still recognizes only one form of Judaism. Orthodoxy. And the dominance and authority of these parties is growing.

In Israel, the only marriages, divorces and conversions recognized by the State are those that have been performed by Orthodox rabbis. Conservative and Reform rabbis in Israel, who represent the vast majority of world Jewry, have no legal rights to officiate in these capacities.

And now the religious parties are demanding new laws that would in effect overturn key Supreme Court decisions that have begun to open the way for diverse expressions of Judaism in the Jewish State. Laws like these will only encourage Israel's religious extremists, alienate hundreds of thousands of Israelis from Judaism, and drive a wedge between Diaspora Jews and Israel.

These laws strike at the core of fundamental civil rights upon which a democracy is based, threatening the democratic nature of Israel's society. It is a concern for all of us.

Democracy is good for Judaism. And certainly in North America, we have always believed that Judaism is good for democracy. Democracy has also been good for Israel. As Canadian Jews, we must work together with Israelis in this struggle for religious freedom. That is why you should know about the New Israel Fund. The New Israel Fund is one of the most dynamic partnerships today between Israel and the Diaspora. In the 18 years since the Fund was established, it has taken the lead in support of democracy, pluralism, tolerance and social justice in Israel. For further information on these issues, please contact us for our free brochure, "The Struggle for Pluralism and Religious Freedom."

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New Israel Fund
הקרן החדשה לישראל

Seniors urged to take charge of own lives

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Seniors were advised to take charge of their own lives and not sit around bemoaning the failure of others to act, at a workshop on Good Aging at the Lipa Green Building.

"If a son or daughter living out of town doesn't call you on your birthday, don't sit around all day waiting. Make the call yourself," said Anne Balaban, an adult educator for the North York Board of Education.

Balaban told the 125 workshop participants that she is often asked, "Is it all right for me to feel this way at my age?" and her answer is in the affirmative.

As an example, she said seniors often introduce themselves by what station they are at in life, instead of what they like to do. "I suggest you introduce yourself with passion by telling what you are interested in."

Many participants followed her lead. "I love to entertain by singing and telling stories in Yiddish," said Sam Grazer.

Jean Goldstein chimed in with "I need a good reason to get up in the morning."

One man said, "I like gardening and grow all my own vegetables," while another declared, "I like to read about natural feelings and share my knowledge."

One woman said she likes to cook, do needlepoint and keep busy. Her companion said she liked bridge. Still another said she liked to play basketball.

A man told the workshop he likes to watch TV and listen to music while several people said they liked volunteering above all.

"The dictionary should not have the word should in it," said Balaban after recounting that at one of her sessions, a man asked: "At 65, should I be taking off my shoes?"

A U.S. study of a group of people over 100 years old has proven that the ability to get involved lengthens life, she said.

"There is a woman of 102 in Chicago who has had four husbands. She gets up at 6 a.m. and takes the subway to the Salvation Army where she makes breakfast for 400 people. Nobody asked her to do it, she volunteered. Everybody listens to her wisdom, but strangely, very few say thank you after the breakfast."

The favorite advice of this over-100 group is that seniors should belong somewhere.

Balaban told of a 104-year-old man in the group who is so unsteady on his feet he has to hold on to the side of a building as he walks. "Yet he leads an exercise class because his determination is so strong."

The workshop included a fitness break with Yoram Rostas. At lunch, Susan Jackson spoke on Jewish continuity.

The event was coordinated by Barbara Zigler, Bernard Betel Centre; Shelly Rotman, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto; and Arnold Foss of Senior Care. The Baycrest Centre and Jewish Family and Child Service were also sponsors.

מזל טוב

Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Malorie Taylor Appel, daughter of Marni & Jason, was born July 5. Proud grandparents are Kitty & Paul Tepperman, Bev & Stan Appel.

Michayla was born May 6 to Pini & Maja Buium. Grandparents are Nora & John Freund, Sarah & Moshe Buium of Israel; great-grandmother, Illona Heller.

Happy birthday to 5-year-old Morgan Fishman on Sept. 7 and her dad, 30-something Elliott Fishman, on Sept. 8.

Congratulations to Jodi Beth who graduated from York University. Parents are Linda & Garry Wolk; grandparents are Florrie & Ralph Kay and Fay Wolk.

Congratulations to Lou & Hilde Ronson on your 50th wedding anniversary, Aug. 13. Love and thanks from Jeremy, Rhonda and Kiwi.

Mazel tov on the marriage of Ahuva Jesin to Meir Balofsky. With love and best wishes from your family and friends.

Nancy Brown Leibovitch announces the engagement of her daughter Andrea, daughter of the late Ralph Leibovitch, to Michael, son of Anna and Lou Vandelman.

Mazel tov to Hetty Nathan & Michael Shapiro who were married in Toronto on June 30.

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Ukrainian helps restore cemeteries

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A non-Jewish Ukrainian woman who helps restore cemeteries for Holocaust victims spent a recent two-week holiday in Canada as the guest of Toronto brothers who lost their parents and a 5-year-old brother in the Holocaust.

"It's a dream and I didn't believe it," said Neonilla Ivanovna Chyruk, 54, about the holiday invitation from the two brothers, who themselves had been separated for 30 years after the war.

Chyruk, a teacher and assistant mayor of the Ukrainian town of Rokitno, was escorted to Niagara Falls and other tourist highlights by Samuel Levinson (Levin), 72, of Richmond Hill, and Alexander (Joshua) Levin, 65, of Thornhill.

A meaningful moment for her and the brothers came at Toronto's Holocaust Memorial Centre, when she was shown the tiles commemorating Mordecai Levin, his wife, Mindel, and their young son, Moishe.

Chyruk restores monuments in the region of Volyn, Ukraine, which before 1939 was part of Poland.

The brothers first met her in Rotkino in 1995, when they were part of a group of 35 survivors who visited the area on a tour she organized. Chaya, Samuel Levinson's wife, their children, Miriam and Marty, and the two brothers were the only Canadians. The rest were from Israel.

The Levins were on the second tour of survivors to the area. A third, primarily for grandchildren, is planned.

What impressed the brothers on the tour, they said, was Chyruk's tact and diplomatic skill in dealing with a Ukrainian policeman who lived in the house once occupied by the tour's Israeli leader. The policeman denied them entrance to the house until Chyruk convinced him to changed his mind.

"I am a Ukrainian but I have a Jewish heart," she told *The CJN*.

Born in 1943, she had a few Jewish friends when she was growing up. She was the elected mayor of Rotkino when a letter arrived from Israel asking about the state of Jewish cemeteries in the area. She started her volunteer work then, and continued it later as assistant mayor.

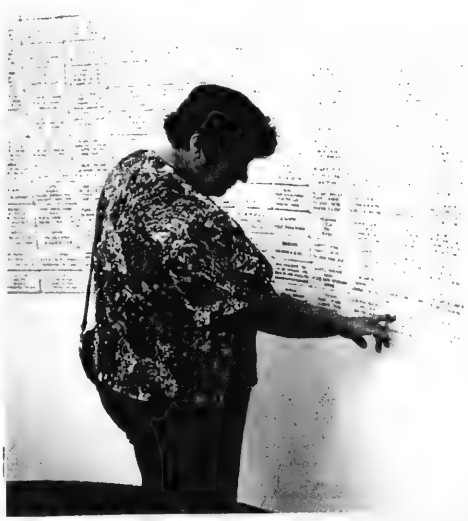
The Israeli-Rotkino connection grew out of the exodus of Jews from that region to Israel in the wake of anti-Semitism when the Soviet Union collapsed.

Rotkino, which had 1,630 Jews when the Levins were born, now has only two, a woman in her 70s and a young man married to a Russian. The house where the Levin family lived was demolished and the site is now a two-storey commercial centre.

The reunion of the Levin brothers is a story in itself. The oldest, Nathan, had escaped just before the round-up of Jews in 1942, to a distant part of Russia. Alexander and Samuel hid for 18 months in the forest of Okopy, a nearby town. Samuel and Nathan arrived in Israel in 1947 aboard the ship *Ben Hecht*. Nathan died in Israel a few years ago.

Samuel and Alexander were reunited in Moscow in 1974, and Alexander joined his brother in Canada a year later.

While here, Chyruk attended mass with Mary Szkambara, Ukrainian Canadian Congress president.



Ukrainian guest at Holocaust Centre.

Israelis and Canadians at restored cemetery at Rotkino.

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On Campus

Orthodox students pay tuition fees under protest

By MARA DRESNER
Connecticut Jewish Ledger

WEST HARTFORD, Conn.– Five Orthodox Jewish students are far from ending their fight against Yale University's housing policy.

While the students will pay their tuition under protest, they "will not be waiving their rights of potential legal action," Nathan Lewin, a Washington-based attorney who is representing the students, said in a telephone interview.

The students risked expulsion if tuition fees were not received by the end of September, Lewin said. Negotiations with Yale are continuing to try to head off a lawsuit against the school for violating the students' religious rights.

The dispute arose after the students requested exemptions from Yale's housing policy that requires all freshmen and sophomores to live on campus unless they are married or over 21 years old.

They asked for a waiver of the $7,000 residential fees, which are included in the tuition costs, because they believe that staying on campus in dorms where both sexes live would not conform with their religious convictions.

One of the students, Rachel Wohlgelernter, got married this month in a civil ceremony, three months before her scheduled Jewish wedding ceremony, in an effort to obtain an exemption.

Lewin has proposed that the students pay the full amount of the residence fee, but that the money be used for alternative housing that Yale deemed suitable for the students.

"The kids don't want Jewish housing," said Lewin. "All they want is respect for their religious convictions. That's a very minimal request."

Yale maintains that residential living on campus is an "integral and important" part of attending the school.

"We've made it clear to the students that we're ready and willing to talk to them about it," said Thomas Conroy, a Yale spokesperson. "There's nothing in the works besides that standing offer."

Not all of Yale's Orthodox students find the housing requirement in conflict with their beliefs and religious practices.

"A point that seems to have been missed is that there is a significant Orthodox community living on campus at Yale and thriving there," said Evan Farber, a junior, who is president of the Young Israel House at Yale. "There's a kosher kitchen, which draws 200 people for dinner every night, daily services, the whole shpiel."

Yale University officials have been cooperative in accommodating Orthodox students in other ways, such as arranging alternatives for students who cannot use electronic keys on Shabbat and holidays, and working with the maintenance department to devise an acceptable way for observant students to use lights in the bathrooms on the Sabbath.

Rabbi Michael Whitman, an Orthodox rabbi who is director of the Young Israel House at Yale, believes an Orthodox Jew can live comfortably in Yale dorms.

The threatened "lawsuit is simply about the right to live off-campus," Whitman said. "This is not about how one can lead a religious life while being a student at Yale."

JTA managing editor Kenneth Bandler contributed to this report.

JERUSALEM FELLOWSHIPS

Jerusalem's Aish HaTorah College of Jewish Studies sponsors the Jerusalem Fellowships each year to develop Jewish leaders of tomorrow. A hand-picked group of young people explore Jewish life and thought in Jerusalem. In the summer of 1997, 17 students from the Toronto area lived and learned in Jerusalem. Seen here from left are Torontonians (top row) Tanya Azeroual, Tara Lindo, Danny Gold; (front row) Stephanie Wiesglass, Sara Webb and Eyal Lewin.

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UJA FEDERATION

Hebrew U symposium explores Jewish identity

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Just as Abraham journeyed at the Lord's command to a land he knew not, so the Jewish people continue that journey into a future we do not yet know, said Rabbi Alan Green of Winnipeg's Beth Israel Synagogue in his opening address to the annual fall symposium organized by the Winnipeg chapter of the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University.

Prof. Ze'ev Mankowitz, director of the Hebrew University's Melton School for Jewish Education, tackled the symposium's theme – Why be Jewish? – from several angles.

Anthropologists, Mankowitz said, would attribute remaining Jewish to the importance of belonging to a specific group and culture with a distinct language. The hole in that theory, he noted, is that Jews live in an increasingly pluralistic world and can have several different identities.

The historical argument, he said, is that after all the centuries of resisting outside pressures to leave Judaism, it would be "undignified and silly" to surrender their identity when Jews are finally free to be whoever and whatever they want to be.

Mankowitz told of a Hebrew University colleague who was asked the question during a lecture tour of Australia. His reply was that the question was illegitimate and anti-Semitic.

"The real question should not be Why Be Jewish?, but rather Why Not Be Jewish?" Mankowitz said. "You have to be something. By being Jewish, you are part of an extended family with 4,000 years of tradition. If you are in trouble, you can rely on your fellow Jews."

The difficulty, he noted, is that Jews live in an unprecedented era of freedom.

"The modern period is wonderful for Jews but problematic for Judaism," he said. "Each of us has a vast array of personal choices and possibilities."

In the last 200 years, he pointed out, the Jewish people have become more mobile than ever, as large-scale migrations to Israel and the west continue.

"Jews have taken to heart the encouragement of the modern state to adapt and live like everyone else," he noted. "When it comes to a choice between adaptation and preservation of our culture, most Jews have opted for adaptation and improving themselves."

As an example, he said, Jewish day schools all over the world have become leaders in secular studies. An Australian survey found that the top five day schools in the country were all Jewish.

Rabbi Green noted the great influence the Jewish people have had on the culture of other peoples. "A universal culture is emerging," he said.

Six Winnipeg students who attended the Hebrew University Rothberg School for Overseas Students hosted the symposium, which this year was co-sponsored by most major Winnipeg Jewish organizations.

"Just Between Us"

שישאר בינינו

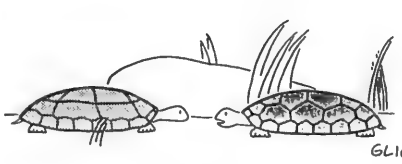
גידי קורן וחברים

אם יצא לכם להאזין לאמצעי התקשורת הקנדיים בשבועות האחרונים, לא יכולתם שלא לשמוע/לחזות בשידורים חוזרים אינסופיים של "הניצחון ההיסטורי" של נבחרת ההוקי של קנדה על זו של ברית המועצות לפני 25 שנה. יד על הלב- הדבר גרם לי ניחוך מסוים בהתחלה- אוי ואבוי אם זה מה ש"היסטוריה" משתמעת. רק אחרי הפעם השבע עשרה התחלתי להבין שאני מזלזל בגלל שלא הייתי כאן, ואין האירוע הזה משמש חלק מהזיכרון הקולקטיבי שלי, ובמחשבה שניה נזכרתי שבעצם רוסיה קשורה גם בזיכרון ההיסטורי שלי, ובשתי הפעמים היה הדבר קשור בספורט: אז ככה, כל אלה מיכם שנולדו בשנות השלושים, הארבעים והחמישים, אני בטוח שאתם זוכרים איפה הייתם ואיפה הקשבתם לנחמיה בן אברהם משדר את משחק הכדורגל בין ישראל-ורוסיה באצטדיון רמת גן, ושכולכם זוכרים איך הבקיע סטלמך בנגיחת ראש את שער השוויון. שאגות הקהל היו כה רמות, שנחמיה בן אברהם הפסיק לשדר ויצר את מטבע הלשון "רשות הדיבור לקהל"....הינה, חלפו ארבעים שנה והרגע הזה עדיין מרגש אותי. ואילה מיכם שעדיין לא נולדו אז, בודאי זוכרים את ניצחונה של מכבי ת"א על צ.א.ס.ק מוסקבה בגמר גביע האלופות האירופי ("הו הא מה קרה, צ-אס-ק אכלה אותה"). אז ככה זה - תרבות היא המון סימנים וזיכרונות קטנים שאנחנו אוספים כל החיים. ולכן אולי אף פעם גם לא נהיה ממש שייכים לכאן, כי הזיכרון הקולקטיבי שלנו מאוד קצר. אבל מה שעוד יותר עצוב- לאט לאט אנחנו גם לא שייכים ל"שם", כי כבר הרבה שנים אין אנו אוספים זיכרון קולקטיבי בישראל. ולכן כשאנחנו באים לביקור הרבה דברים נראים לנו מוזרים, וולגאריים, "חסרי תרבות" זה לא חוסר תרבות. זוהי פשוט תרבות חדשה שלא השתתפנו בעיצובה.לא נעים, אבל שיישאר בינינו.

במלון בעיר זרה נכנסתי למעלית ואיתי עלו שני ענקי אדם צעירים, שהעורף שלהם נראה כמו מגרש בייסבול ושרירי הזרוע שלהם יכולים להזוף מיכלית דלק. עד הקומה העשרים הם הספיקו לומר מספר משפטים שהסגירו את האמת המרה שהרקמה שנמצאת בקופסת הגולגולת שלהם לא זכתה לפיתוח דומה לזה שקיבלו שרירי העורף והזרוע. כשירדנו מהמעלית גילה לי קולגה שאלה הם שחקני קבוצת פוטבול מפורסמת שמשחקת בעיר מחר נגד הקבוצה המקומית ושכל אחד מהם משולם מליוני דולרים בשנה. הקולגה שלי חוקר סרטן צעיר ומוכשר, משתכר בערך ארבעים אלף דולאר בשנה.... איזה עולם הפוך! שעות ארוכות הוא יושב ליד המיקרוסקופ ומנסה בעיניים עייפות להבין איך אפשר לעצור את מחלת הסרטן. ובאותה שעה עצמה מתאבקים קופי האדם האלה זה בזה לקול צהלתם של רבבות צופים, מפעם לפעם הם נפגעים בשריר הזרוע או הירך ומוציאים אותם מהמשחק. מעולם עוד לא שמעתי שהושיבו מישהוא מיהם לנוח כי נגמר לו המוח. תחשבו על זה.

שנה חדשה רק התחילה, וזה הזמן לנסות לסגל כמה מנהגים של חסד. בכבל שנה ושנה, בנסיעותיכם ארצה אתם הולכים לפגוש אנשים שלא ראיתם שנים רבות, ושבזיכרונכם נראים עדיין צעירים ויפים. ההפתעה/אכזבה היא בלתי נמנעת. רובם שמנו התכערו, התקמטו. מה לעשות, - גם אנחנו! בשבוע שעבר פגשתי אישה שלא ראתה אותי מספר שנים והיא נעתה בקול גדול, שגם מי שלא רצה לשמוע שמע: "השמנת משהוא! מה קרה לך!?" Well, קרה לי מה שקרה לכולם, (גם לה). "את דווקא נראית מצויין, אמרתי לה, ירדת במשקל, כל הכבוד!" עשיתי לה את הערב. ואני? זה לא שלא ידעתי ששמנתי, אבל למה צריך להזכיר כל הזמן....

SHMOOZIN



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Jewish groups laud United Church report

By MELANIE COLLISON
Special to The CJN

CALGARY — The Jewish community is welcoming a ground-breaking report by the United Church of Canada on improving its relationship with Judaism.

Entitled *Bearing Faithful Witness; United Church-Jewish Relations Today*, the report seeks to recast interpretations of passages in the Christian Bible that have been used to support anti-Semitism.

The report states clearly that Judaism is an equal sibling of Christianity, and that evangelism and conversion are to be abandoned.

Bible passages from the Christian Bible have been taken out of context since Christianity split off as a separate religion, says Rev. Clint Mooney, minister of St. Matthews United Church, who coordinated the writing of the report.

> *'It's an intelligent and sensitive document'*

"There was a lot of hurt and struggle recorded in the Christian text in the context of the times. The language should be understood in that context," Rev. Mooney said.

"We welcome the paper and look favorably at the fact that it was initiated, and that people have put a lot of research, understanding and goodwill into this project," said Riki Heilik, community relations director for Calgary Jewish Community Council, in a recent interview.

"It's an intelligent and sensitive document, a well-meaning document. There is a very explicit rejection of any kind of missionizing among the Jews," said Dr. Eliezer Segal, a University of Calgary religious studies professor. "The United Church is very open to learning from other cultures and respecting them, and that comes across."

The paper was written in response to a request at the 1988 General Council — the policy-making level of the United Church — for a study on the origins of anti-Semitism, on the heels of the Keegstra affair.

Jim Keegstra, a former high school teacher in Eckville, Alta., was eventually convicted of promoting hatred of Jews, several years after his students told their parents what he was teaching them.

"A lot of American evangelical movements that are looking at the Cold War in the '80s need a new enemy. A lot of the stuff Keegstra was saying is becoming more mainstream. The only element that's missing is naming the Jews as being behind the conspiracy," Segal said.

Rev. Mooney, and the other contributors to the report, Rev. Don Koots, Linda Payne, Rev. Bill Phipps, Carolyn Pogue Phipps and Fritz Voll, "were looking for disrespectful parts of the Christian Bible, to improve relations," Rev. Mooney said, "and we wanted to acknowledge our silence during the Holocaust."

The report proposes that the Church accept its contents as a resolution at its next General Council in the year 2000. At the moment, a study paper is being produced to make the report more accessible to lay people.

"United Church people were very pleased on the whole," Rev. Mooney said. "One praised it as 'a gift' to the Church, but some thought we were so considerate of Jewish points of view that we might be undermining Christian claims."

As a Christian who believes he can learn a great deal by talking with Jews, Rev. Mooney is excited at the growing dialogue between the communities.

"For the first time ever, a significant body of the Christian church is interested in hearing what Jews have to say on the older testament, God and the Second Temple period, and there is a significant segment of the Jewish community that's willing to speak with us.

Heilik is pleased with the way the report deals with evangelical Christianity and groups such as Jews for Jesus.

"I really like what they have to say. They acknowledge the fact that only the Jewish community can say who we are, and they're saying evangelism and conversion should be abandoned in favor of dialogue and mutual witness," she said.

Kosher slaughtering plant to open in Manitoba

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Jewish population of Brandon, Manitoba, which consists of perhaps a dozen families and individuals, may be on the verge of significant growth — with a decidedly Orthodox flavor.

Carvell Trading Ltd., a Tel Aviv-based import-export company, is heading a consortium that is investing $20 million in a vacant meat processing plant in Brandon (pop. 38,000), about 200 km west of Winnipeg.

The Brandon Community Development Corp. is helping with the purchase with a $169,000 forgiveable demand mortgage on the former Burns Meat plant.

Carvell is planning to process 600 head of cattle a day into kosher and halal products for markets in Europe and Russia. That translates into 90 million pounds of fresh meat a year for export through the port of Vancouver or by air.

Winnipeg lawyer Lyle Smordin, a spokesperson for the consortium, expects the deal to close in a couple of weeks. "It will take a while to work out the details," he says. "There is a lot of work to be done in the plant to get it ready. Hopefully, it will be in operation toward the end of 1998."

The renovated slaughtering plant is expected to employ up to 240 people including a number of shochets.

Early last month, the Carvell Group also announced plans to build a multi-million-dollar tourist resort in the community of Pinawa just northeast of Winnipeg. Smordin says that the consortium was encouraged to look at investment opportunities in Manitoba by a Winnipeg Jewish businessperson whom he declined to identify.

From coast to coast

Unique same as distinct: Dion

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Recognizing Quebec as a distinct society is the "same thing" as affirming its "unique character" as endorsed recently by premiers from the rest of Canada, Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Stéphane Dion said here recently.

Speaking at the West-Island Beth Tikvah Synagogue, Dion threw his support behind "Plan A" efforts to build a Canadian consensus that would bring Quebec into the constitutional fold based on the premiers' statement of principles affirming both Quebec's unique character and the equality of provinces.

"Perhaps it's not perfectly phrased, but it's a perfectly acceptable set of principles," he told an audience of 250.

The principle of equality, he said, does not imply uniformity between provinces, but equality of treatment.

"This is a principle we need to support, and if one day it becomes part of the Constitution, that would be great."

But several times, Dion also held out the harder-line "Plan B" card.

He stressed that Quebec's future in Canada has to be based on the rule of law and involve a clear question in the next referendum. It would also require a significant majority vote in favor of secession.

Dion also noted that a referendum, while "consultative," in and of itself carries no legal weight.

"The next time, if you want secession, ask a question on secession," he said.

Canada, he said, would not "try to negotiate with a majority vote that is uncertain."

Dion questioned how separatists accept as an article of faith that Quebec territory is "sacred," while Canadian territory is not.

"If I say, 'my territory is sacred,' then all territory is sacred," he said.

Asked how Ottawa would react in the event of a post-referendum unilateral declaration of independence (UDI), Dion did not answer directly.

But he said any negotiations with Quebec would have to follow three unshakable principles: that no government could resort to force or the threat of force; that any process towards secession would have to take place within a legal framework; and that the same process would have to be "crystal clear."

One irate questioner declared that he was fed up with Ottawa not taking a hard-line approach towards the separatist government.

Dion replied: "You're fed up. I'm fed up too."

But he said keeping Canada united is not an issue of taking a hard line, but a "line of clarity," such as the first step of going to the Supreme Court to establish the legal parameters of secession.

Dion defended the need for Quebec to have the French Language Charter as a means of protecting the French fact in a North American sea of English.

But he also said the late Quebec premier Robert Bourassa made a big mistake in not accepting the Supreme Court decision ruling Quebec's unilingual commercial sign laws as unconstitutional.

Dion said that the separatist movement has given different rationales each decade since the 1960s for the need to secede, ranging from the need to build the Quebec economy and as a means for social evolution to market nationalism.

During the 1990s, Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard has accused Ottawa both of being a government "of too much" when it spent money in Quebec – supposedly interfering with Quebec's autonomy – and for federal cuts to Quebec.

But the heart of the separatist movement, according to Dion, lays rooted in the feeling that "constituting a majority in a province is not enough. You also have to be a majority in a state."

Dion stressed that separatists sincerely believe that they are neither racist nor xenophobic, and that the majority francophone community will build strong relations with the new state's minority members.

But he wondered how separatists can defend the need to be a majority in a state while denying the same right in principle for minorities.

"Can they say: 'We didn't accept being a minority, but you'll have to.'"

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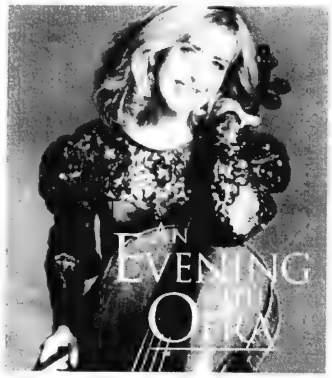

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New shul opens in west Vancouver

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — A new synagogue that will serve the Jews of north and west Vancouver recently opened on the North Shore.

The new home of Congregation Har-El (mountain of G-d) is located at the intersection of Taylor Way and the Trans-Canada Highway in west Vancouver. It will serve about 200 families.

Project includes covered bridge

The first phase of the Har-El synagogue and community centre includes not only a synagogue and sanctuary, but a library, social hall, senior's lounge, activity centres and memorial wall.

The second phase of the project will include a Hebrew school for preschoolers to bar mitzvah-aged students.

Designed by the award-winning local architectural firm of Acton, Johnson, Ostry Inc., the syngogue is located on a scenic site that overlooks the North Shore mountains.

Notable features of the project include a covered bridge which leads across a stream in which salmon spawn; a sloping wall which is clad in huge slabs of Jerusalem stone; a yahrzeit wall and an outdoor chupah. The sloping wall was built to evoke memories of the Western Wall in Jerusalem because according to Ostry, "To us it was a very important reference that people pass through this wall as a kind of memory transition. What we were told when we researched the project, is that the purpose of the synagogue is to transport people to Jerusalem and in addition, it's always supposed to make reference to the Temple of Jerusalem."

The most distinctive feature of the building is an oversized abstract menorah which is visible from the highway.

According to Ostry, the menorah fulfilled Rabbi Imre Balla's request that the synagogue "look like a Jewish building." Not only was Rabbi Balla pleased with the final result, but according to Har-El president Miriam Bergson, the North Shore Jewish community is "absolutely ecstatic" about its new synagogue and community centre.

Israel, Canadian relations on meeting of JCCs

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Strengthening relations between Canadian and Israeli Jewish community centres (JCC) was a theme at the annual meeting of the Canadian Council of Jewish Community Centres (CCJCC), held this year at Winnipeg's new Asper Jewish Community Campus.

As part of the Partnership 2000 project, a joint venture between the CCJCC and its Israeli counterpart, several new initiatives were discussed. One of the most ambitious is a young leadership development program for Canada's Jewish community centres, which would include an exchange program with *madrichim* from Israel.

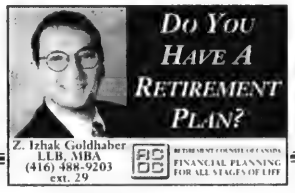
A plan of action is to be drafted by Nov. 1 for presentation two weeks later to the United Israel Appeal Canada, which would be asked to provide funding.

A second new CCJCC project is Hadracha — a professional development and exchange program between Canadian and Israeli JCC staffers.

As well, the Canadian organization is encouraging a bar/bat-mitzvah twinning program which would link Canadian and Israeli families with bar/bat-mitzvah age children. The two families would be in frequent contact with each other during the planning stages and the Canadian family would spend two weeks in Israel culminating with the celebration of their child's bar/bat mitzvah at the Western Wall. The Israeli family would later come to Canada to visit.

Finally, Tamar Barr, program director at the Asper Campus' Rose and Max Rady Jewish Community Centre was asked, along with Adam Minsky of Toronto's Israel Experience Centre, and Shimon Biton and Ami Zinaty of Kiryat Shmonah's JCC, to plan the CCJCC's Etzba HaGalil program in celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary next spring.

The annual meeting attracted about 25 executive directors, presidents and other board leaders from JCCs in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa as well as representatives of the central Israeli body. The annual meeting was last held in Winnipeg five years ago.



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Lebanon security zone protects border: Shahak

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Terrorists would find it easy to reach the northern border of Israel if the IDF was not in the security zone, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak said last week.

In such circumstances, some of the fighting would be waged along the border and some within Israeli territory he said.

Shahak revealed that Hezbollah has received large quantities of weapons in the past few months, including improved anti-tank missiles.

"Hezbollah is always trying to improve itself. It tries to fight in its own way and the best it can," he said.

Shahak spoke to reporters at Haifa's Rambam Hospital last Thursday, night after visiting soldiers who were wounded the day before.

Staff-Sgts. Amir Yoeli, 20, of Zichron Ya'acov, and Fabian Kozama, 20, of Ofarim in Samaria, were killed, and six soldiers were wounded, one of them seriously.

Three members of the South Lebanese Army's (SLA) security apparatus were also wounded in the fighting, which occurred within 200 metres of the border.

Meanwhile, Northern Command continued its investigation of the incident. One of the main questions is how Hezbollah gunmen managed to take cover in an abandoned building just 150 metres from the border, fire anti-tank missiles and light weapons, and then escape unhurt, despite the presence of large numbers of IDF troops in the area.

Security sources said it is believed that there were two squads of gunmen in the area. One was in the house and another had planted a series of roadside bombs that were detonated alongside an IDF convoy minutes after it had entered the security zone. A Golani Brigade officer and a tracker were wounded in that incident.

About an hour later, the gunmen holed up in the house opened fire at a vehicle carrying the three SLA soldiers and simultaneously, mortar crews began bombarding IDF reinforcements and rescue teams.

Yoeli and Kozama were killed when at least one mortar round hit their vehicle and four other soldiers were wounded by mortar shells.

Hezbollah claimed that senior IDF officers had intended to hold a meeting at the SLA's Tel Kahbr position where the reinforcements had gathered, and that one of the main targets of their operation was Lebanon Brig.-Gen. Eli Amitai. The statement said the operation was carried out to mark the anniversary of the assassination of Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shkaki.

Shahak, however, dismissed this as nonsense. "What they said is incorrect. The senior officers they referred to were not there," he said.

"You forget that there's a war in Lebanon," said Shahak, after being asked how terrorists managed to get so close to the border. "The security zone makes it difficult for terrorists to reach the border. Consider what would happen if we were not on that side of the security zone. The terrorists would easily reach the border.

"It's not the first time that terrorists have gotten very close to the border, and there were incidents, some years ago, when they crossed the fence. Therefore, from our point of view, this war has to be fought along the border, inside the security zone and beyond the zone, and that's what is being done."

Hezbollah, designated by the United States last Wednesday as one of 30 terrorist organizations, warned Washington not to take action against its members.

"We have absolutely no doubt of the American administration's sponsorship of organized international terrorism," said a Hezbollah statement read out on the group's television station in Beirut.

"Therefore, we warn of any measures resulting from this list. The Americans should not fall into the trap of the terrorist Zionist instigation because it will have dire consequences."

Holocaust fund delays payments

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Needy Holocaust survivors in Eastern Europe will have to wait a little longer.

Jewish officials had previously indicated that the first payments from Switzerland's Holocaust Memorial Fund would be made this month, but now they say it will be the end of November before the checks are in the mail.

Last month, Jewish officials turned over to Swiss authorities the names of some 32,000 Holocaust survivors, 12,000 of whom were eligible for the initial round of payments from the fund.

The first group of recipients has been limited to Jews living in former Soviet bloc countries – the so-called "double victims" who suffered under both Nazism and communism and never received reparations from the German government.

The delay in allocating the fund has resulted from what officials describe as the complex task of creating mechanisms for distributing the monies.

In addition, the Swiss members of the fund's administrative council have insisted on auditing the names "to check that the list corresponds with reality and was made in the correct way," said Barbara Ekwall, a spokesperson in Bern for the Fund Secretariat, which handles the administrative functions for the fund.

The process of verifying names presumably will be a factor in the delayed payments.

Many of the Holocaust survivors who have been designated to receive payments, meanwhile, have expressed bitterness and impatience in recent weeks as they await checks in the amount of about $1,000 each.

The fund now stands at about $116 million (US). Additional pledges already made by private Swiss companies and the Swiss National Bank would bring the total to some $200 million.

U.S. issues list of terror groups

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

WASHINGTON — In a long-awaited move expected to aid the fight against terrorism, the United States has designated 30 groups as foreign terrorist organizations.

The action was taken under a 1996 anti-terrorism law that makes it illegal to provide funds for designated terrorist groups; bars U.S. visas for their members or representatives; and requires U.S. financial institutions to block funds belonging to the groups.

Jewish organizations, which were instrumental in pushing the legislation through Congress, have been urging the administration to make the designations for nearly a year and a half.

The groups include Hamas, Hezbollah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Two Jewish organizations — Kach and Kahane Chai — are also on the list.

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright called terrorism one of the nation's most important security problems and said the administration hopes to turn the country into a "no-support-for-terrorism zone."

The law mandating the identification of terrorist groups took effect 17 months ago. The process of actually naming the organizations was delayed, however, as preparations were being made for possible legal challenges to the designations, observers said.

Last month, the U.S. House of Representatives, impatient over the slow pace of compiling the list, voted 396-6 to cut State Department salaries and expenses by 2 percent until the list was completed.

Following the designations, Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), chair of the House International Relations Committee, said the State Department's "belated" action sends a signal that the administration "is finally waking up to the serious threat of foreign terrorist organizations."

The anti-terrorism law supplements an executive order President Clinton signed in 1995 blocking assets of 12 Middle Eastern terrorist organizations that threaten to use violence to disrupt the peace process.

CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its second annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter:
Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants:

1. Twelve years old and under,
2. Thirteen to 18 years old,
3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter:
The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem. We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.

We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 3A1.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 18, 1996.

Prizes:
The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified:
"Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Nov. 22, 1996.

When the prizes will be awarded:
The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 5, 1996. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Israel & the Jewish World

Apology by church triggers controversy

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The Vatican's "position on the Holocaust is a clear thing," the Pope told reporters aboard the papal jet taking him to Brazil. "But we must not forget that there have been other holocausts in the world. Let's not forget these others."

Kahn also wondered why the French church had waited so long to issue the apology, which came 57 years after the first anti-Semitic laws were promulgated by the pro-Nazi Vichy regime on Oct. 3, 1940.

"It could have been done earlier. It could have been done when the German church apologized two years ago," on the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

Kahn's reaction sharply contrasted with that of most Jewish community leaders.

Henri Hajdenberg, president of CRIF, the umbrella group of secular French Jewish organizations, hailed the church's mea culpa as a landmark in improving Jewish-Catholic relations.

"Undoubtedly, the historic significance of your statement will break new ground in relations between Christians and Jews," Hajdenberg said in a speech at the Drancy ceremony.

"It gives hope for a more fraternal dialogue and full recognition of the legitimacy of each other's faith.

"Your request for forgiveness is so intense, so powerful, so poignant, that it can't but be heard by the surviving victims and their children," he said.

Hajdenberg also paid tribute to seven priests who spoke out during the war against the mass arrests of Jews in France.

Although there were also some Catholic schools and orphanages that helped hide Jewish children, the church leadership largely backed the pro-Nazi Vichy regime.

Hajdenberg spoke after the statement of apology for the church's silence was read on behalf of the bishops of France.

"The vast majority of church officials, bound up in loyalism and docility that went far beyond traditional obedience to the established powers, stuck to an attitude of conformism, caution and abstention," the statement said.

"By their silence, the bishops of France acquiesced to flagrant violations of human rights and allowed the machine of death to be set in motion.

"Today we confess that silence was a mistake. We beg for the pardon of God, and we ask the Jewish people to hear this word of repentance."

By seeking forgiveness, the French church has joined a season of remembrance in France, the focal point of which is the start of the trial of former Cabinet minister Maurice Papon, who is accused of ordering the deportation of 1,560 Jews, 223 of them children, to Nazi death camps.

Some observers noted that the church may have timed its apology to pre-empt disclosures from the trial, which is expected to re-examine the behavior of different sections of wartime French society, including the church, during the persecution of Jews.

French Jewish philosopher Alain Finkielkraut, while praising the apology as the crowning of a spiritual revolution in the church, criticized its timing as "distressing because it removes the event from the context of its own history to link it exclusively" to the Papon trial.

"A fine ear is not needed to hear the maundering annoyance of some people who are wondering how long this will go on," Finkielkraut told the daily, *Le Figaro*.

Another sore point in Jewish-Catholic relations in France was the involvement of extremist members of the clergy in hiding former Lyon militia chief Paul Touvier from justice for nearly 50 years before he was arrested and found guilty in 1994 of crimes against humanity by a Versailles court. Touvier died in 1996 in a prison hospital.

The Jewish community was further outraged last year, when philanthropist priest Abbe Pierre, who has long been voted France's most popular figure, defended a longtime friend who cast doubt on the extent of the Holocaust.

Despite its alleged imperfections, along with the Papon trial and President Jacques Chirac's 1995 public acknowledgment of the wartime French administration's participation in the arrest and deportation of Jews, the church's apology is one in a long line of gestures that is helping France to close a painful and embarrassing chapter from its past.

Last week, France's police union asked for forgiveness for its role in rounding up Jews for deportation during World War II.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of the church's statement, delivered in the presence of some 20 Catholic bishops and several Jewish officials, was the acknowledgment of the role of Catholicism's traditional anti-Semitic teachings in laying the groundwork for the Holocaust.

"We must, above all, recognize the indirect, if not direct role of the habitual anti-Jewish attitude – which the Christian people are guilty of maintaining – in the historical process that led to the Shoah," said the statement, which was read by Olivier de Berranger, bishop of the Paris suburb of Saint-Denis, located near Drancy.

"On that ground flowered the venomous plant of the hatred of the Jews."

The apology was not warmly greeted by all Catholics in a country that long denied its active role in the Final Solution.

Monsignor Thomas, bishop of Versailles, said several Catholics had protested the church's self-criticism.

"I received a phone call this morning from someone who said, 'You have no right to assume the errors of your predecessors,'" Monsignor Thomas said.

The lull before the storm

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

broken government promises. But already the union, which has much less power than it did 10 or 15 years ago, has tried to bring the country to a standstill with selective daily national strikes. Most workers who took time off when the union called the stoppages did not really understand what they were striking for.

With the exception of the electronics and communications industry, most other business sectors report reductions in output. The all-important tourism sector has also been hard hit by the fallout from the political situation. This year, a 10 percent reduction in foreign currency earnings is expected.

Although many hotels in the main tourist centres still have vacant rooms, their managements fail to offer the kind of incentives that will go a long way toward filling the deficit. The Israeli tourist industry just will not come to terms with the fact that it is much cheaper for Israelis to take their holidays abroad than to stay in Israel. Almost a third of all Israelis do just that.

It is human nature to eat more in a crisis; this year is no exception. Supermarket chains vie to fill pre-holiday shopping baskets. Although there is not a lot of competition as far as prices are concerned, buyers are lured into the supermarkets by extended credit – one chain offers six months of free credit when you spend over $ 235. True competition by price is still in its infancy, because consumers do not demand it.

In one segment of the economy, it is now a buyers market. The property market has always been susceptible to political considerations. In Jerusalem, there is a lot of good property for sale at excellent prices. Property is being purchased mainly by Israelis; foreign buyers are holding off to a certain extent, until there is more confidence in the direction of the peace process. One leading Jerusalem real estate dealer described the Jerusalem market as sensitive and said sellers are being flexible over prices.

Real estate dealers in the Mediterranean coastal cities, such as Netanya and Caesarea report a stagnant market. Many new houses and apartments remain unsold and the short-term prospects seem very gloomy.

This is a season of prayer and self-evaluation. There are few who would not take a moment to pray for peace. Almost every day another family hears that a son or father has been killed in the line of duty. These motivated young Israeli soldiers are not even dying in Israel. The battle is being taken to the terrorists in a tit-for-tat war that has no end in sight, unless politicians can sit down together and thrash out their differences.

When the branches come off the sukkot and the etrogim have been made into jam, reality will return. The harbor has offered a four-week respite, but the waves outside the harbor wall are looking very rough and the sky very stormy.

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The Week in Israel

Oct. 6

• President Ezer Weizman met with U.S. President Bill Clinton at the White House. Weizman was in Washington to meet with members of the American administration and congressional leaders.

Oct. 7

• Foreign Minister David Levy was hospitalized with chest pains following a meeting with U.S. envoy Dennis Ross and PA deputy Abu Mazen. Follow-up talks scheduled for Washington with the PA and the United States were postponed.

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat held a pre-dawn meeting at the Erez checkpoint in Gaza. U.S. envoy Dennis Ross described the meeting as positive.

Oct. 8

• At least two Israeli soldiers were killed in clashes in the southern Lebanon security zone. Forty-one IDF soldiers have been killed in Lebanon since last January.

• The trial of Tatyana Suskin began today. She is accused of putting up posters in Hebron that depicted Mohammed as a pig.

Oct. 9

• Nahum Admoni, former Mossad chief, was asked to step down as chair of the panel appointed by the government to probe the Meshal affair. Admoni had gone on the public record prior to the appointment, commending the operation. Former Air Force commander Dan Tolkovsky replaced Admoni on the committee. At the same time speculation has mounted that Mossad chief Danny Yatom would be forced to resign his position.

Oct. 10

• A Palestinian official said Israel agreed to release $49 million (US) in tax revenues to the PA. The money had been withheld after the July 30 suicide bombings in Jerusalem.

• Jordan's King Hussein said Israel promised him that it would never again attempt an assassination on Jordanian soil. Hosni Mubarak called the attempt "immoral."

With files from the JTA

Iran worries Israel

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

The alarm has been sounded. Iran, with the help of Russia, is well on its way toward acquiring long-range ballistic missiles and an arsenal of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

Mideast Analysis

In the face of this ominous news, Israel has launched an international campaign to nip in the bud Iran's program.

If diplomacy fails, Israel might feel compelled to deal with the problem through more drastic means. Rightly or wrongly, Israel has compared Iran's quest for non-conventional military capabilities with Iraq's efforts in the 1970s and 1980s to build a nuclear device. In response to this potential threat, Israel bombed an Iraqi reactor near Baghdad in June 1981, touching off howls of condemnation but crippling Iraq's efforts to join the fraternity of countries with nuclear arms.

Israel is worried that a successful Iranian bid to develop long-range surface-to-surface missiles, in tandem with nuclear, biological and chemical arms, will upset the balance of power and therefore destabilize the region, with all its possible fallout.

"Iran's efforts to procure weapons of mass destruction and long-range delivery systems may be the most dangerous development in the 21st century," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned in an interview last month.

Israel has pulled out all the stops in an attempt to deal with the looming menace. Two weeks ago, at the United Nations, Foreign Minister David Levy called for a halt in the transfer of Russian missile technology to Iran. Previously, Israel had sent a sharply-worded message to Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov.

Netanyahu raised the question with President Boris Yeltsin in Moscow last March and with U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in Jerusalem in September.

The United States, Israel's chief ally, is also concerned. Last summer, President Bill Clinton dispatched a special envoy to Russia, and more recently, Vice-President Al Gore discussed the issue with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin.

Furthermore, at Israel's behest, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee has expressed support for a congressional resolution urging the Clinton administration to impose selective economic sanctions on Russia if it does not stop governmental and non-governmental entities from assisting Iran.

By all accounts, the assistance is being provided by Russian companies and institutes that were once an integral component of the Soviet Union's military/industrial complex. With military spending having drastically fallen since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, these entities have looked abroad for contracts, and thousands of Russian scientists have offered their services to the highest bidder.

Iran's plans to develop long-range missiles are of special concern to Israel. The Israeli chief of staff has pointed out that Iran will be able to produce missiles capable of reaching Israel within a few years. Indeed, Iran already has carried out tests.

Russia is allegedly helping Iran to develop the missile's navigational and delivery system, as well as its warheads. Moscow denies the accusation.

Lacking the funds to bolster all its forces, Iran has chosen to develop non-conventional capabilities, according to *Iranian Military Power*, a monograph published by the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

Iran is said to be motivated by a desire to attain power, prestige and influence and to strengthen its deterrent capability.

It is debatable whether the Islamic fundamentalist regime in Tehran, notwithstanding its opposition to Israel's existence, would be foolhardy enough to attack Israel with non-conventional weapons. Iran realizes that Israel is a nuclear power and could, with disastrous consequences, strike back.

Perhaps, in light of its 1980-1988 war with Iraq and its poor relations with the United States, Iran is developing a non-conventional force for purely defensive reasons.

WEIZMAN IN WASHINGTON
Israel's President Ezer Weizman lays a wreath at the Holocaust Museum during his recent visit to Washington. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

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Israel & the Jewish World

Records show Nazis looted $8.5 billion in gold

One-third taken from individuals, companies

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Nearly one-third of all gold looted by the Nazis came from individual victims and private businesses, according to a new report issued by the World Jewish Congress (WJC).

The report released last week claims that the amount of such privately held gold amounted at current valuations to $2.6 billion (US), out of a total of $8.5 billion worth of gold looted by Nazi Germany.

A U.S. government report released earlier this year estimated that the Nazis had seized $7 billion worth of gold at today's prices, but made no estimate of the amount of privately held gold involved.

The WJC report, written by international economist Sidney Zabludoff, draws from the scrupulous records kept by Nazi Germany of all the gold it confiscated between 1933 and 1945 from German citizens, European Jews and the treasuries of occupied countries.

"The precision is down to a single bar of gold," said Elan Steinberg, executive director of the WJC, which has been combing archives in the United States and abroad for the past two years, in an effort to locate missing Jewish assets deposited in Swiss banks and probe Nazi Germany's wartime financial transactions.

The report, based primarily on recently declassified documents from the Federal Reserve Bank and the U.S. Treasury, says Switzerland was the first stop for 85 percent of the $5.2 billion worth of gold at current prices that Germany shipped to foreign locations to buy strategic goods and services.

The total amount of gold known to have passed through Switzerland represents $2 billion to $3 billion more than Switzerland returned after the war, the report said, concluding that Switzerland still owes that amount, if it is to conform with a 1943 Allied declaration that all looted gold handled by neutral nations was to be returned after the war.

Under an agreement reached in 1946 with the United States, Britain and France, Switzerland agreed to pay $58 million – worth $580 million today – to the gold pool administered by the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold.

The Swiss government questioned the report's findings, saying that the Swiss National Bank had already opened its records and provided a full accounting of its wartime gold transactions.

"I am somewhat surprised by these results because there is hardly anything that is better known than the gold transactions of the Swiss National Bank," Swiss finance minister Kaspar Villiger told the Swiss parliament last week.

He said he doubted any new facts could emerge that would change the government's position that the 1946 agreement reached with the Allies had fully absolved Switzerland of any future reparation claims.

The WJC released the report in advance of an international conference on Nazi gold scheduled to take place in London in December. The conference, to be convened by the Tripartite Gold Commission, is expected to address, among other things, the question of how the last bit of recovered Nazi-looted gold – 5.5 tons valued at some $65 million – should be distributed.

Meanwhile, James Leach, chair of the U.S. House banking committee, introduced legislation that would authorize the United States to make a $25 million contribution to organizations serving Holocaust survivors in the United States.

Leach said that such a move might prompt countries that received Nazi-looted gold after the war and others to make similar contributions. The legislation also calls for the restitution of artwork looted by the Nazis.

Red Cross apologizes for staying silent during Holocaust

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Add the Red Cross to the list of groups that have recently apologized for remaining silent during the Holocaust.

The director of archives for the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC), George Willemin, acknowledged recently at a ceremony at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem, the organization's "moral failure."

He also delivered 60,000 pages of Red Cross documents to be given to three Jewish museums.

"The ICRC admits — yes — that it has kept silent with regard to the Holocaust, and I would say that this is the heart of the moral failure," he said.

The Red Cross apology came days after the French Roman Catholic Church issued a statement of repentance for its silence during the persecution of Jews in Nazi-occupied France.

The ICRC, which is based in Switzerland, discounted reports of a 1940 mass murder in Lublin, Poland, according to a statement from Yad Vashem.

This was not its only failure. As reports of extermination camps began to spread in 1944, the Red Cross visited the Theresienstadt ghetto in Czechoslovakia at the invitation of the Nazis. The Nazis cleaned up the ghetto by lessening overcrowded conditions by sending prisoners to Auschwitz, and adding a bank, shops and schools.

The ruse worked. The Red Cross reported that allegations of extermination camps were unfounded.

In the latter stages of the war, the Red Cross did work with Jewish organizations in rescuing Jews, according to Yehuda Bauer, the director of research at Yad Vashem.

The documents will be distributed among Yad Vashem, the Holocaust museum in Washington and the Centre for Jewish Documentation in Paris.

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Expansion planned for Carmel Medical Centre

Arrival of immigrants has led to overcrowding

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For nearly 25 years, the Lady Davis Carmel Medical Centre in Haifa has served the population of northern Israel, specializing in community medicine, cardiovascular disease, in-vitro fertilization and medical research.

Now, its new director general, Dr. Yakov Zilberg, wants to upgrade and modernize it, to better deal with the increasing population in the area and the greater demands on its services.

Zilberg, who was in Toronto to meet with the board of directors of Canadian Friends of the Carmel Medical Centre, came to Israel from the former Soviet Union in 1972. Through his work in various capacities, with Kupat Holim, Israel's largest health fund, as well as his own work at the hospital, he said, he got to know the facility very well.

Because Haifa received more immigrants than had been planned for, Zilberg said, the hospital has become overcrowded.

"The emergency room was intended to handle 200 patients over a 24-hour-period. Instead, it handles almost twice that amount," he said. Intensive care has six beds, but needs 12, when one considers the aging population of the area and the amount of heart and vascular surgery done at Carmel.

The 400 in-patient beds have a "100% occupancy rate," and the day hospital treats 100 patients per day.

Zilberg, however, is anxious to institute changes that are not related to money, such as making the staff aware of the importance of continually improving the quality of their service.

Dr. Yakov Zilberg

He wants to penetrate the community by moving services that do not have to be done in the hospital to community centres, "which are more convenient and closer to the population." This might include such outpatient services as pre-and post-operative care, follow-ups, screening, dialysis, and well-baby care.

In the hospital, "there is a lack of space for things we consider necessities, such as a waiting area, toilets and showers. We want to bring it up to late 20th century standards."

Zilberg is proud of the research done at Carmel in basic science, clinical medicine, cardiology, genetics, and molecular biology. In co-operation with the Technion, there is an intensive medical and post-graduate training program.

One of Zilberg's first projects is to improve the facilities for in-vitro fertilization, "which Carmel does more of than any other hospital, especially in the Haifa area."

Longtime Toronto fundraiser Dave Marks is co-ordinator of the just-being-formed Canadian Friends of Carmel Medical Centre. He told *The CJN* that the board of directors is currently in formation, and organizational and fundraising plans are being considered.

Marcus leaves UJA to head fundraising at Mount Sinai

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The goal of providing first class care in the face of government cutbacks has led to the enlarging and reorganizing of the Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation.

On Nov. 1, Paul Marcus becomes vice-president in charge of fundraising, and Carol Seidman becomes vice-president and chief operating officer in charge of community and donor relations.

The new appointments were announced by Nicholas Offord, foundation president, who said the reorganization is needed because of the large increase in the number of donors and the growing responsibilities of the foundation in health care.

Marcus is moving from his job as director of development at UJA Federation to an even higher profile position with the foundation, while Seidman is stepping up from her job as director of community giving, a post she has held for two years.

In 1995, the Friends for Life campaign raised $71 million for the foundation and since then, the foundation has been developing a permanent fundraising operation.

The foundation currently raises $16 million a year and Offord said consideration is being given to a new $75-million campaign, though the planning is still in its early stages.

Paul Marcus

The chair of the campaign will be Lawrence Bloomberg, chairman and CEO of First Marathon.

As always, Offord said, the foundation's main focus will be on supporting the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute, which has won a world wide reputation in genetics and other research.

For every dollar that the foundation is able to give for research at the Institute, the scientists there become eligible for $3 in government research grants.

Foundation revenues are needed to endow chairs for the Institute's senior scientists, to provide operational support, in addition to upgrading hospital facilities.

This last responsibility looms ever larger. Ten years ago, grants from the foundation made up only between two and three percent of Mount Sinai Hospital's total revenues, while in the year 2000, it is expected that the hospital will need the foundation to make up 10 percent.

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BY CINDY WAXER
Special to the CJN

MARKHAM, Ont. — "Filmmaking is very much like a Mennonite community in the 1800s, where on a Sunday, the whole town would come together and build a barn," says filmmaker Stephen Merrick, 30, who, along with a cast and crew of volunteers, is putting finishing touches on his first feature film, *Wind Taken*, a fantasy love story set at the Angus Glen Golf Club here.

The film explores the romantic relationship between Ponchy, a wind spirit, and Solomon, a regular golfer and corporate yuppie. Their precarious union is threatened when Solomon's boss decides to build factories next to the golf course in order to block the wind. If the plan is successful, Ponchy will eventually dissipate.

Rather than focus on the supernatural aspect of the film, Merrick has treated its story line as if it were a modern-day morality tale.

"[Ponchy] reveals things to [Solomon] that he's forgotten... [the fact] that he's actually really not interested in money and that's not his real pursuit or his true dream. He's really an artist," Merrick says.

It's a theme that parallels the career choices of those involved in making *Wind Taken*. Beth Matenko, 27, who plays Ponchy, abandoned a conventional 9-to-5 job to become a struggling actress. Mark Nykoluk, 33, who plays Solomon, walked away from his engineering work to pursue a career that spans film, stage, musical theatre and opera. And Barb Pullen, 27, set aside her work in psychology to act as the film's production manager.

Merrick himself was a builder of custom homes, but decided to pursue his dream of becoming a filmmaker after being inspired by the award-winning foreign feature *Cinema Paradiso*.

"I just said to myself, 'Wow, I can't believe what this filmmaker has done for me.' I think about the film and it really moves me. And I said, 'You know what, I want do that for somebody,'" he recalls.

Shortly thereafter, Merrick enrolled in several film workshops at New York University, where he acquired the skills to create his own films. These include the shorts *Traces of An Image* and *Hot Dog's at Tiffany's*, a 10-minute film which tells the story of two women who, while shopping in Yorkville, adopt the canine victim of a hit and run.

Although the decision to abandon custom home-building for filmmaking might seem unusual, Merrick claims that there are similarities between the two crafts.

"There are usually about 30 people that you're coordinating and you're directing them to put together a [film] project...whereas with a house, you're directing 40 or 50 people: 'You put the bricks there.' 'You paint it that color.' It's very similar and both are equally frustrating," he says.

Produced by Fiction Factory, a production company comprised of Merrick, Matenko and Pullen, *Wind Taken* has encountered its share of obstacles.

Having started shooting in mid-July, the film's outdoor set has been plagued by lightning bolts and sporadic rainfall. "Almost every time we filmed outdoors, it started to rain," says Merrick. With a $15, 000 film budget that doesn't allow for postponements, the cast and crew of *Wind Taken* have had to work around Canada's unpredictable weather by creating tents from rented camera equipment and plastic coverings.

Yet it is precisely this type of collaborative effort that will see the shooting of *Wind Taken* to its completion within the next few months.

Following this, Merrick will attempt to reach audiences through broadcast television, the film festival circuit or a distribution deal.

"I see this film appealing to a European market because it's a story about people and there's no crazy special effects and no violence. It's not your typical film," he says.

Production brings home horror of Holocaust

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The title character in *My Mother's Courage* is so real "it frightens me," said Elizabeth Shepherd who plays the part of Elsa, the Budapest Jew who escaped deportation in 1942 by mere chance.

"It was non-Jews who let Jews go to the ovens, so I feel a special responsibility and I am honored to play the role."

My Mother's Courage is being remounted by Olive Eye Productions at Theatre Passe Muraille mainstage Oct. 22 to Nov. 2 following sold-out performances at Ashkenaz and at T.P.M. in March.

Elizabeth Shepherd

Shepherd's portrayal won her a Dora nomination as best actress in a small theatre play. The designer of the play, Minda Johnston, also was nominated.

Her fascination with Elsa (mother of playwright George Tabori) concerns the dilemma Elsa faced in dealing with the German officer who saved her life. "It was just as hard for her to make that walk to the officer as it was to leave her family and community behind."

That's why, she said, Tabori had his mother say: "Don't look into your enemy's eyes because he may no longer be your enemy."

In preparing for the role, Shepherd said she lived with a video of the film *Anne Frank Remembered*. "The director had gathered real people who knew Anne Frank and this meant so much to me. It brought the Holocaust home."

Original cast members Tom Barnett (as the German officer) and Margaret Lamarre, playing several roles, are in the new production along with newcomers Jon Michaelson playing Elsa's son and the narrator, and Alon Nashman in several roles.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

TALENT SHOWCASED AT CENTRE SPOTLIGHT

Centre Spotlight, a forum for Yiddish and Jewish-style performance in a friendly coffee-house atmosphere, features a cavalcade of talent Oct. 18, 8:30 p.m. at the Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. (five blocks north of Lawrence, east of Bathurst).

Hosted by artistic director **Gloria Valentine**, the evening features emcee **Nathan Garnick** and artists from his upcoming Yiddish Cabaret, tenor **Vital Benrubi**, Russian dancer **Tanya Granovski**, pianist **Paul Mathew**, actor-singer **Howard Jerome**, Yiddish poet **Hindy Nosek-Abelson** and writer **Libby Scheier** with excerpts from *The Max Mandel Jewish Hour.*

Admission $10 for first-time supporters. 416-789-5502. JASS, 416-638-2222.

* * *

Patinkin at Hummingbird: Tickets went on sale several days ago for actor-singer **Mandy Patinkin**, who performs two shows only at the Hummingbird Centre Nov. 22 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 23 at 3 p.m. $27 to $75. 416-872-2262.

* * *

Perlman at Ford Centre: Israeli violin virtuoso **Itzhak Perlman** performs a program of **Mozart**, **Beethoven** and the contemporary composer **William Bolcom**, at the Ford Centre, George Weston Recital Hall, North York, on Oct. 30.

Perlman, who performed the violin solos for **John Williams'** music in *Schindler's List*, has recently released a CD, *Cinema Serenade*, featuring music from the movies.

Coming up in November at the Ford Centre are performances by the **Moscow Virtuosi** with **Vladimir Spivakov** (Nov. 6 and 7), pianist **Nokolai Demidenko** playing **Rachmaninoff** and **Mussorgsky** (Nov. 13), and pianist **Joshua Rifkin**, playing ragtime music. 416-872-2222.

* * *

Staged Reading: Medina Theatre Ensemble performs a staged reading of *The Aching Heart of Samuel Kleinerman*, by Toronto playwright **Marion Andre** and directed by **Sylvia Lennick** in honor of Holocaust Education Week, on Nov. 3. B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St., North York. Andre will be present to answer questions. Free. 416-785-1074.

* * *

Festival of Authors: The 18th annual International Festival of Authors features more than 100 events between Oct. 22 and Nov. 1. Spotlighted authors include **Richard Ford**, **Anne Michaels**, **Nino Ricci**, **Jane Urquhart** and dozens more. Ticket prices range from $8.50 to $25. Box office, 416-973-4000. Website: [www.readings.org].

* * *

Barbara Frum Library: Celebrate Ontario Library Week, as poet **Shula Robin** reads from her collected works, accompanied by **Gladys Aaron**, who will also be reading, and clarinetist **Roy Mezare**. Barbara Frum Library, Room B, 20 Covington Rd., North York. Oct. 23, 7 to 8:15 p.m. 416-395-5440.

* * *

The Galician Woman: The legendary **Topsy Kuppers**, direct from Vienna, stars in this monodrama with music based on the life of **Eva Deutsch**, Nov. 1 and 2, 8 p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre. Kuppers also performs in *Weit Von Wo*, Nov. 2, 2 p.m. Tickets, 416-222- 0234.

***

Tel Aviv Auction: Sotheby's conducts an auction of 19th- and 20th-century European and Israeli art at the Hilton Hotel, Tel Aviv, Oct. 23, 8:30 p.m.

The sale features Hungarian avant garde, German impressionist, Ecole de Paris and Jewish-genre art. Artists include **Hugo Scheiber**, **Felix Nussbaum**, **Max Liebermann**, **Marc Chagall**, **Isidor Kaufmann** and many others.

* * *

Israeli Dance: Hagigah '97 is an intense weekend of Israel dance for people with at least one year of Israeli folk dance experience. It's sponsored by the Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and takes place near Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 31 to Nov. 3. Phone 847-509-0990, ext. 12 or email [dunnfried@aol.com].

* * *

Miscellaneous Notes: Thirty years after the death of Beatles' manager **Brian Epstein**, Liverpool City Council has dedicated the Neptune Theatre in his memory...The North York Symphony pays tribute to **Mel Lastman** in an afternoon of music, fun and a silent auction, Oct. 26, 2 p.m., Moonlight Ballroom, 3235 Bayview Ave...This year's Beach Studio Tour & Sale occurs Oct. 18 and 19 throughout the Beach neighborhood (416-410-6808)...

Filmmaker-actress **Cayle Chernin's** video, *I Am Home*, which chronicles her journey of discovery of her Russian roots, has been scheduled to premiere at the Cape Town International Film Festival. Chernin plays the role of Olive in a female version of *The Odd Couple*, opening next month at the City Playhouse in Thornhill.

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Chamber of Commerce calls for no sanctions

TORONTO — The Israel-Canada Chamber of Commerce called on the Canadian government not to impose sanctions on Israel that would damage economic ties between the two countries following the forged passport affair.

The picture of recent events is far from clear and even when there is a better understanding, there would be no benefit to either side in declaring economic sanctions, said chamber president Yehuda Raveh.

Over the last year there has been a 50 percent increase in bilateral trade, following the signing of a free-trade agreement.

"This is only an initial indication of the huge potential development in trade between Israel and Canada," he said. "It would be totally detrimental to negatively affect this trend, because of one exceptional incident, which has absolutely no connection to trade relations."

TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

TRAVAIL IN AN ARAB LAND

In 1786, the Italian-Jewish scholar Samuel Romanelli (1757-1817) boarded a ship at Gibraltar, expecting it to carry him eventually to his home in Mantua. The vessel stopped at several Moroccan ports, however, and Romanelli went ashore and innocently became entangled in some legal trouble. Consequently his passport was confiscated and to his immense chagrin, his intended brief visit to the Maghreb became an enforced stay of four years.

A Torah scholar and proponent of the Jewish Enlightenment, Romanelli was proficient in 10 languages. The author of numerous poems, plays and essays, he was apparently the first Hebrew writer to mention William Shakespeare and John Milton; he also admired the English poet Alexander Pope. His most popular work was *Massa B'Arav* (Travail In An Arab Land), an engaging account of his Moroccan sojourn that is filled with biblical references and rich descriptions of Jewish life in a remote land.

A horse-drawn carriage on a busy Moroccan street. [Bill Gladstone photo]

I began reading Romanelli's travelogue several months ago on an Air Marac flight to Casablanca, and continued it on the connecting flight to Marrakesh. For several days, I toured the gardens and souks of Marrakesh by day and read Romanelli by night. Then I encountered someone in that dusty city by the High Atlas Mountains whose experiences seemed to parallel those of Romanelli in an uncanny way.

One evening in a rooftop cafe overlooking the Djema-El-Fna, the exotic marketplace that pulsates with jugglers, snake charmers, fortune tellers and throngs of American tourists, I met an Israeli journalist who was in town to cover an international medical congress on maternal mortality organized by an Israeli doctor. He told me a sour story of how the Moroccans hadn't allowed an El Al jet to land as promised, and hadn't permitted the Israeli flag to be flown, though all other national flags were allowed. As one journalist to another, he urged me to contact the doctor to get the full details.

The next afternoon I called Dr. Daniel Weinstein at his hotel and caught him in a state of great agitation. The conference was over and everyone had gone home earlier that day, but he and his wife had not been allowed to go. "They've taken my passport – I'm a prisoner here against my will!" he said.

"It's outrageous what they've done! And for no reason! There are faxes on my account going this minute between David Levy and [Benjamin] Netanyahu. It's going to the Israeli cabinet tomorrow. Your timing is perfect – you must come and see me!"

Naturally I was struck by the parallels between Weinstein's and Romanelli's experiences. Of course I didn't mention this when I met the Israeli that evening; after all, it had taken Romanelli four years to escape, with nothing but the clothes he wore. Did Weinstein know of any reason why he was being detained? Yes. Apparently the conference centre was demanding payment – "but they're the ones holding the money, not me." At his hotel three hours before his scheduled flight home, the front desk staff had politely asked to photocopy his passport, then turned it over to the police.

Weinstein was obliged to stay in Morocco an additional nine days until the conference centre "found" the missing funds and his passport was returned. Back in Jerusalem, where he is head of obstetrics at Hadassah Hospital, he is still attempting to pay off the conference's debts even as he contemplates organizing a second gathering.

History repeats itself, they say, and the more things change the more they stay the same. Travail In An Arab Land would make a good title for Weinstein's unfortunate experiences in a colorful and usually friendly North African country .

* * *

Adventures In Agadir: This built-up Moroccan beach resort on the Atlantic is a fine spot for sun, sand, shops and good indigenous-style eats.

However, the old town was wiped out in a 1960 earthquake and the modern city seems quite plain. Agadir boasts a tiny synagogue and congregation. There is also an English-language bookstore with a few shelves of used paperbacks and an assortment, if you can believe it, of photocopied Coles Notes.It's essentially only a beach place. Side-trips to Essaouira and Taroudant are recommended.

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Decrepit buildings speak to artist

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In Cuba, when Gideon Tomaschoff was photographing old buildings in crumbling neighborhoods for the oils he would put on canvas and board, people came up to him and said, "We have beautiful cathedrals,why do you bother with these?"

But Tomaschoff didn't want beautiful cathedrals. They did not speak to him the way the aged structures and worn streets did.

His series, To and From, a solo exhibition, until Oct. 25 in Yorkville's Gallery 7 at 33 Hazelton Ave., reflects his purpose.

"I grew up in the desert in modern Israel," he says. "All around were archeological digs, where often only a few stones are left from an ancient wall. These remnants became symbols for my connection to the past and a starting point for exploration."

He wants to understand the past while striving, through the creative process, to dissociate himself from it.

A mechanical engineer holding a degree from Ben-Gurion University, Tomaschoff turned to painting in recent years. In Toronto, where he now lives with his Canadian-born wife and young son, he graduated with honors in drawing and painting from the Ontario College of Art.

To and From, inspired by Mexican and Cuban architectural landscapes, is not meant to specifically record what he sees, but to transcend time and place.

The colors project a warmth probably generated by the artist's desert background as well as by the sunlight of Cuba and Mexico. However the Cuban works are often muted, a reminder that there is little money to provide paint for buildings in this hard-pressed country.

Tomaschoff's mastery of texture gives the "feel" of history, while his engineer's affinity for line helps define the setting.

Imprint, a large oil on canvas conceived in Old Havana, reveals the image of a collapsed building fallen against its neighbor. So many buildings are totally neglected, Tomaschoff notes, that he wants to capture what he can before they vanish.

There is exoticism in *La Esqauina* (*The Corner*), discovered during a visit to Oaxaca, a Mexican valley city, home to the greatest number of original Indians in the country, close to ancient Mayan ruins. Here, color is vibrant, as signs painted on shops and homes are replaced by others painted over them when businesses and houses change hands. This custom creates a lively but respectable form of graffiti.

Court-way of the Sun.

Court-Way of the Sun, A Cuban scene balancing abstraction with realism, is featured on the cover of *Slate's Gallery Guide* this month.

While some viewers would regard Tomaschoff's current show as mainly abstract, he argues that his interpretations attempt to combine abstract and representational.

The exhibition is on the recommended list of the art section of the *Toronto Life* October issue.

In addition to Gallery 7, Tomaschoff has had solo exhibitions at Propeller Gallery and The Spanish Centre in Toronto. He has participated in group shows at Idee Gallery, John B. Aird Gallery and First Annual Spring Toronto Indoor Artists' Show in BCE Place, where he received the award for best oil painting.

His works are represented in private collections in Canada, the United States and Israel.

Gallery 7 hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Libby Scheier, TWW director, as seen in *The Canadian Jewish News*

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Nazi-medicine show on CNN

TORONTO — The Cable News Network (CNN) will air part 2 of its story on Nazi medicine, featuring interviews with a prominent Toronto doctor, on Oct. 19 at 9 p.m. (eastern time).

The second instalment of CNN's *Impact* program will look at the Pernkopf Atlas, still used by doctors as a standard anatomical guide.

The atlas is currently under investigation by the University of Vienna. With the aid of Yad Vashem in Israel and Prof. William Seidelman of Toronto's Wellesley Hospital, Israel launched its own probe of the atlas, and found it has a Nazi past.

The program promises fresh evidence that the bodies of political prisoners were sent to the University of Vienna's Anatomy Institute during World War II by the Nazis, supporting long-held rumors that the drawings in the atlas depict people murdered in concentration camps.

As well, Eduard Pernkopf, the anatomist who formed the team that created the atlas, and for whom the text is named, was a lifelong German nationalist and anti-Semite who joined the Nazi party secretly in 1933.

Impact will explore the troubling ethical issues arising from the book's continued use.

In its research, CNN spoke to Seidelman, who has proposed to launch a centre for the study of Nazi medicine at the University of Toronto.

Part 1 of the story, which aired Oct. 5, investigated the story behind 400 brain specimens at the Vienna State Psychiatric Hospital. Their scheduled burial has been postponed while Austrian investigators probe possible murder charges against Dr. Heinrich Gross, who worked at the hospital while some 700 children were murdered there as part of the Nazis' euthanasia program before and during the war.

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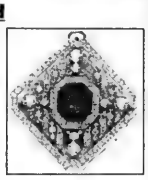

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Charleston synagogue one of U.S.A.'s oldest

By JOSIE NEWMAN-PROVOST
Special to The CJN

CHARLESTON, S.C. — The gracious oak-lined streets adorned by 100 to 200-year-old colonial houses in historical downtown Charleston, South Carolina hardly seem like the location for the second-oldest Jewish synagogue in the United States.

But it is — the congregation of Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim was formed in 1749 and the synagogue was originally built in 1792 on its current Hasell Street location.

Touted as the birthplace of American Reform Judaism and the second oldest existing synagogue in the United States next to one in New York City, Beth Elohim has a fascinating history both locally and in terms of Judaism.

The city of Charleston, established in 1670, was known throughout the English world for its civil and religious freedom and fantastic economic opportunities. The earliest reference to a Jew in local annals was 1695 and up until 1820, the city had the largest population of Jews in the United States.

At that time, Jews were considered to be on a par with Protestant Christians and were much more widely accepted than Catholics. There are currently 1,500 known practicing Jewish households in the Charleston area.

After the original synagogue was burnt in the great fire of 1838, the current Greek Revival structure was erected. Significantly, in 1824, 47 members of the congregation asked the synagogue trustees to change the Sephardic Orthodox liturgy to an English translation of the prayers and a sermon in English.

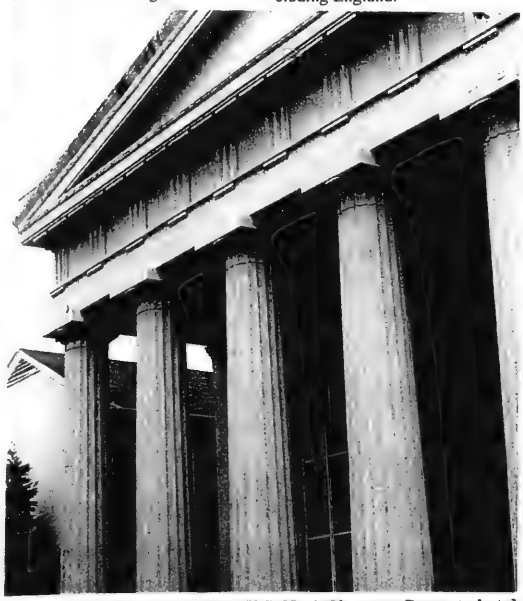
When they were turned down, the members resigned and organized the Reformed Society of Israelites. Influenced by ideas of the Hamburg Reform congregation, the society only lasted nine years but many of its ideas carried into today's Reform Judaism. Members of the society then rejoined Beth Elohim and suggested an organ be installed in the new synagogue, which was completed in 1840.

A liberalized ritual was introduced at the new Beth Elohim, thus giving birth to the first Reform congregation in the United States. It was one of the founding synagogues of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in 1873.

An early morning visit to the synagogue which is normally open to the public but closed on Shabbat showed a handful of elderly members preparing for worship. The members were very friendly; one woman invited newcomers to see the synagogue and participate in the service. The atmosphere was warm and personal, reflective of the attitude of the rabbi and members of his congregation.

Rabbi Anthony Holz, rabbi at Beth Elohim for five years, said in a conversation prior to the service, he will soon have a close connection to Canada as his daughter is marrying a Jewish Canadian.

One of the murals in the central hall of the synagogue, named "The Patriots of Beth Elohim," depicts Francis Salvador, the first Jew known to die in the American revolution. He also served as a delegate to the South Carolina Provincial Congress of 1775 and 1776, and was one of the first Jews to serve in an American legislature. The holding of such an office was denied to Jews everywhere at that time, including England.



Second-oldest synagogue in the U.S. [Josie Newman-Provost photo]

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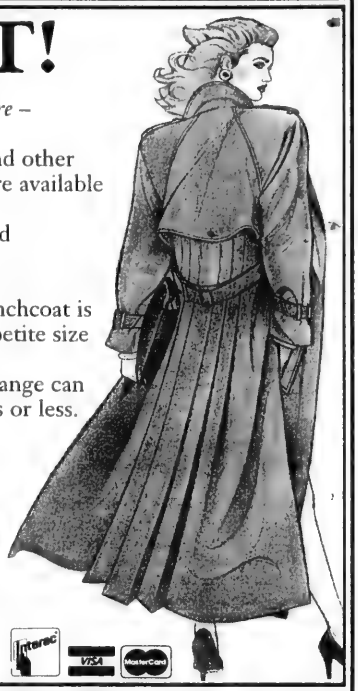

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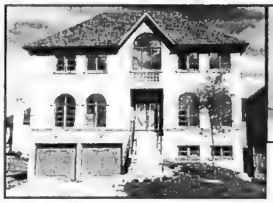

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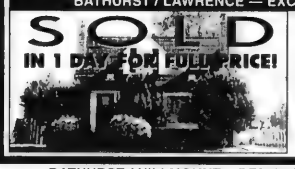

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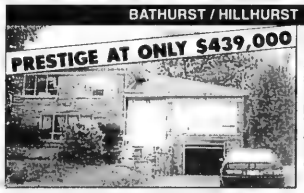

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MICHAELS, Harry - on Sept. 27, 1997, late of 23 Bayhampton Crt.
WAGMAN, Abraham - on Sept. 28, 1997, late of 3000 Dufferin St., #209.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

REIMAN, Samuel - on Sept. 30, 1997.
HEIMLICH, Herman - on Oct. 1, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KINRYS, Sol - on Oct. 1, 1997, late of 17 Lisa Cres.
KOBY, Rachel - on Oct. 1, 1997, late of 90 Fisherville Rd.
GALANT, Moishe - on Oct. 2, 1997, late of 347 Joicey Blvd.
STEINBERG, Morris (Babe) - on Oct. 3, 1997, late of 350 Lonsdale Rd.
NESRY, Rica - on Oct. 4, 1997, late of 36 Antibes Dr.
WASSERMAN, Morris - on Oct. 4, 1997.
OSTFELD, Joseph - on Oct. 5, 1997, late of 1 Shenstone Rd.
WEISZ, Eliezer - on Oct. 5, 1997, late of 104 Roberta Dr.
WISCHNITZER, Pepi - on Oct. 5, 1997, late of 293 Joicey Blvd.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

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335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
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beloved parents, grandparents and great grandparents
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Sunday, October 19th, at 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Mozirer Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
Winston Herzenberg ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 19th, 11:30 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie Dr.
Temple Emanuel Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MARIAN BERK ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 19th, 1:00 p.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Dufferin St., N. of Major Mackenzie
Section EEE, Row A, Plot #46
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

CLASSIFIED INDEX

Call (416) 391-1836
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5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
120 COTTAGE WANTED
124 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
125 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCH.
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
278 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 BRIVA CATERING

Israel & the Jewish World

Friction high between Netanyahu, Levy

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Foreign Ministry virtually boycotts the Prime Minister's Office to the extent that it withholds diplomatic cables and levels false accusations against senior staff, a senior government official told the *Jerusalem Post* last Thursday.

"It's felonious, a crime and a violation of the law," the source said, charging that instructions followed by Foreign Ministry personnel have created a situation in which "they are not cooperating with us."

The source contended there is "an order in the Foreign Ministry not to show us cables." Inferring that this practice has Foreign Minister David Levy's blessing, he said, "This is carrying his tantrums too far."

The outburst of wrath and resentment was provoked by Levy's publicly aired complaints about having been left out of several critical decision-making processes.

Allegedly among them were the dispatch of a Mossad hit team to Amman, the release of Hamas founder Sheikh Ahmed Yassin and the convening of a summit with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"Had I been consulted I would have opposed these actions," Levy said in an interview with Israel Radio, referring to the Amman operation. He spoke from his home in Beit She'an shortly after leaving Afula's Ha'emek Hospital, where he was treated for chest pains.

The source rejected all of Levy's complaints. "He is not in the loop of such decisions anyway," he said. On the other hand, he said Levy knew about the abortive Mossad operation "immediately after it happened."

To the extent that Levy was not updated with the subsequent details, he went on, it could only have been because Rosh Hashanah intervened.

"Any time there is any move at all, Benjamin Netanyahu picks up the phone immediately and talks to him," the source said. "To complain about this or that detail is to ignore the way in which Bibi informs him of everything that relates to foreign affairs."

Levy confirmed on the radio that he has considered resigning and that the chances that he might quit are "50-50."

Foreign Ministry aides were explicit about their boss' grievances.

For example, there was the session in which he joined Netanyahu and U.S. envoy Dennis Ross when the idea of a summit with Arafat was adopted. It was leaked without Levy being consulted or forewarned.

They complain that he was not a party to the deal worked out with Jordan by National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and was not involved in the crisis-management tactics used to mollify Jordan and Canada.

One of the most aggravating instances in which the Prime Minister's Office allegedly preempted the Foreign Ministry's customary role was said to have occurred when Levy met U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in New York to work out terms for the renewal of peace talks with the Palestinians.

Cabinet secretary Dan Naveh announced that the talks would resume even before all the issues were ironed out, an aide to Levy said. "Albright was enraged," a ministry source said.

Naveh could not be reached for comment.

When Levy conferred with Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov in New York, he was astonished to learn that Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, was trying to arrange a meeting with him in Moscow. Lieberman's trip to the Russian capital was canceled last Thursday.

A senior aide to Netanyahu met the official in charge of the Elysée Palace in Paris without notifying Ambassador to France Avi Pazner.

"Sometimes ambassadors are deliberately kept out of the picture," an aide to Levy said, "but this cannot be the practice all the time."

Even petty incidents have caused bad blood between the two ministries. During Netanyahu's visit to London, a seating plan assigned a place to Ambassador Yoav Biran. When his chair was given to David Bar-Ilan, the prime minister's media and political adviser, the Foreign Ministry "not only boycotted the prime minister's entourage, but also informed the British press," the senior government official said.

He conceded that ill will and mutual antagonism between the two ministries has been endemic since the bitter rivalry that existed between prime minister David Ben-Gurion and foreign minister Moshe Sharett. But referring to the attitude of Sharett's current successor, he said: "This is going too far."

The Canadian Jewish news **CLASSIFIED/ SERVICE DIRECTORY**

PLEASE NOTE: Early Deadlines for the following issues:

OCTOBER 30
Deadline Monday, October 20th, 3 p.m.

OFFICE CLOSED
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Hockey books get you primed for season of shinny

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Unlike most other preseason prognosticators, Ted Montgomery won't predict Stanley Cup finalists, winners of major awards or even the first coach to get fired.

Those who do so invariably end up with egg on their faces, he points out. If you want to know who'll hoist Lord Stanley's Cup at the end of the season, wait until June.

For his part, Montgomery offers a refreshing alternative to the season's plethora of guidebooks, one in which he combines a keen understanding of the game with pithy capsule comments spiced with humor and controversy.

At $16.95, Montgomery's *Pro Hockey Play-by-play; The Ultimate NHL Guide*, Macmillan Canada, is pricier than most guidebooks, but if you're looking to get primed for the season ahead, this book is it.

Although it contains a complete regular season and playoff stats package, the book's strength is its team by team and player by player analysis.

Montgomery, who has compiled his guidebook for the past four years, pulls no punches when describing a team's strengths and weaknesses. Players he loves are extolled; others are pilloried mercilessly.

In a refreshing change from Canadian commentators, there's no hometown bias when it comes to evaluating the Leafs and Habs. His advice for Leafs (mis)management is to "dump everyone over the age of 30 and go with the kids. Bite the bullet with youth, although it will mean a few more lean years. Try to mitigate the damage done by four years of bad trades by stockpiling young players until you hit it right... Hire better scouts too; some of the draft picks have been laughable."

Leafs' most underrated player, according to Montgomery, is Todd Warriner, while the team's most overrated skater is Wendel Clark, described as a "cherry-picker," who "hangs high and waits for someone else to do most of the work."

The Canucks' Alexander Mogilny, another cherry-picker, doesn't get off lightly either. "All those tired of hearing Mogilny bitch and moan, raise your hands," Montgomery writes in his sometimes caustic style. "He's a dog of the first order and only plays when the stars are right. He's got great talent, but will only show it every three seasons or so."

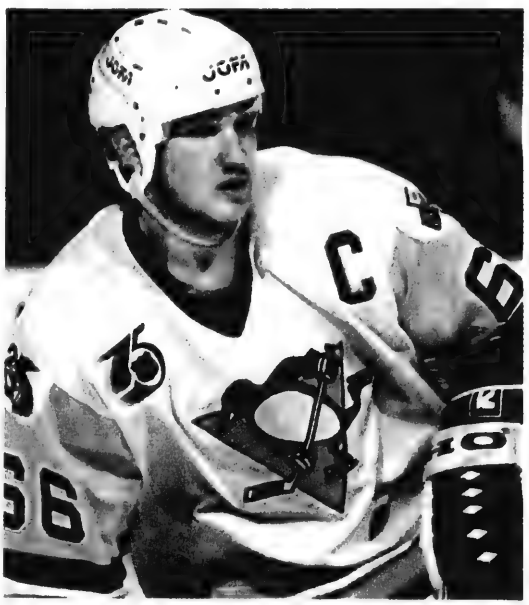
As for Michel Petit, Montgomery points out that nine teams have all "found a roster spot for Petit. Which proves one thing – there's enough poor judgment to go around."

Dave Manson doesn't come off much better. Manson, according to Montgomery is a "nice guy, hard worker, -26. Anything else you need to know? How much worse does he need to get before everyone will stop talking about him like he's a good player?"

Way to go, Ted.

Top 10 lists, color commentary, Ted's notes, draft analyses and playoff reports round out the book, making it a highly enjoyable read.

Another entertaining hockey book is Murray Greig's *Big Bucks & Blue Pucks*, Macmillan Canada, $24.95. It's the affectionately told story of the late, lamented World Hockey Association (WHA), the rival league that merged with the NHL in 1979.



Mario Lemieux

As entertaining as the hockey was in the WHA, the league will no doubt be remembered for the oddball assortment of characters (and their colorful nicknames) who populated it, and the tall tales their antics produced.

A compilation of anecdotes told by ex-WHAers, the book successfully recaptures the spirit of the league, which, in a nutshell, meant fun, camaraderie and freedom for the players.

The WHA lured numerous top-flight skaters to its ranks, beginning with Bobby Hull, the best leftwinger of his day. After grabbing established stars like J.C. Tremblay, Pat Stapleton, Gerry Cheevers and Gordie Howe, the WHA produced an on-ice product that featured wide open, end to end action.

Told with affection and nostalgia, *Big Bucks* will rekindle lots of memories for all those who followed the rival league.

A third early season offering is *Mario Lemieux, Best There Ever Was*, Macmillan Canada, $19.95, a review of the Magnificent One's career by three writers from the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. Full of great action shots and consisting of newspaper columns written during Lemieux's great career, this volume is for the dedicated Lemieux fan.

Here's a quiz to test your hockey knowledge:

1. Name the only man named coach of the year in both the NHL and WHA.
2. Name three current NHLers who started their pro careers in the WHA.
3. Which current NHL referee started out as a goon in the WHA?
4. In the late 1970s, the Birmingham Bulls signed six underage junior stars, who weren't eligible for the NHL draft. Who were the "Baby Bulls?" Who were the Birmingham "Bullies," the goon squad that terrorized the league in the mid-'70s?
5. Many consider the NHL vastly superior to the WHA in terms of the calibre of players and teams. From 1974-78, the two leagues faced off in 67 exhibition games. Which league won more games?
6. Bobby Hull was one of the NHL's all-time leading scorers when he jumped to the WHA's Winnipeg Jets in 1972. Despite playing in the WHA for the league's entire seven year existence, he is not the league's all-time point-getter. Who is?
7. Which WHA goaltender went on to a career as an NHL television color commentator?
8. Fans of the movie *Slap Shot* may remember the "Hanson Brothers," the three tough guys who wore dark-rimmed glasses. Who were they and what is their affiliation with the WHA?
9. The three winningest WHA coaches went on to successful careers in the NHL. Who are they?

Answers:

1. Bobby Kromm won top coaching honors with the Winnipeg Jets in 1975-76 and then with Detroit in 1977-78.
2. Wayne Gretzky is the most famous ex-WHAer. Known for his Hall of Fame career with Edmonton Oilers, he started his pro career with the Indianapolis Racers before his rights were sold to the Oilers. Other ex-WHA players still in the NHL include Mark Messier and Mike Gartner, who started their pro careers in with the Cincinnati Stingers. Other young WHA players who went on to good NHL careers included (WHA teams in parentheses) Kent Nilsson (Jets), Mark Napier (Bulls), Kenny Linseman (Bulls), Terry Ruskowski (Jets), Mark Howe (Houston Aeros), "King" Richard Brodeur (Quebec Nordiques), Robbie Ftorek (Phoenix Roadrunners), Paul Shmyr (Cleveland Crusaders), Dave Langevin (Oilers), Paul Baxter (Nordiques) and Mike Liut (Stingers).
3. Paul Stewart racked up 286 penalty minutes in 63 WHA games as the Stingers' resident tough guy.
4. The Baby Bulls were Rob Ramage, Rick Vaive, Craig Hartsburg, Michel Goulet, Gaston Gingras and Pat Riggin. Ramage later became the first draft pick in the 1979 NHL entry draft, considered one of the strongest ever. Four of the top six picks were ex-WHA players. The Bullies, one of the toughest collection of ne'er do wells ever to lace up a skate, included Frank "Seldom" Beaton, Gilles "Bad News" Bilodeau, Dave Hanson and Steve Durbano.
5. Of 67 exhibition games between the two leagues, the WHA won 33, lost 27, with seven tied.
6. The WHA's career point-leader is Andre Lacroix (Philadelphia Blazers), with 798, followed by Nordiques' Marc Tardif (666). Hull is third with 638, although he holds the WHA single season goal-scoring record of 77 in 1974-75.
7. Hockey Night in Canada color commentator John Garrett suited up for four WHA teams (including Toronto Toros/Bulls) and was rated one of the league's five all-time top goalies.
8. The Hanson Brothers were Steve and Jeff Carlson, who played with the Minnesota Fighting Saints, and Dave Hanson.
9. Bill Dineen, Harry Neale and Jacques Demers were the winningest coaches in the WHA.

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LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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The Inside Back

Scraping away the built-up schmutz

By JORDAN MAX

Last Laugh

I love my barbecue. Perhaps it's a genetic thing, the ancient Jewish love affair with burnt meat going back to the Mishkan, Beth Hamikdash and all that. Or maybe it's just one of those primal things about men and fire. Regardless, I barbecue in a pretty happy-go-lucky way; unlike my kids, the barbecue doesn't ask questions, it needs no motivation or explanation as to why to barbecue. When I'm done, I just turn it off, scrape the grills, let it cool and say good night — no problems, no lingering bedtimes, no stories.

However, when my last barbecue session ended prematurely in a huge grease fire, the meal that had started out as Cordon Bleu quickly became korban blech. I knew that my day of reckoning had finally come. It had been months, okay, possibly years since I had thoroughly cleaned out that barbecue. Naturally, like all unpleasant tasks, I had been putting it off, naively hoping that the mere act of barbecuing the next meal would somehow take care of the previous meal's mess. So when the next Sunday opportunity came, I was compelled to gear up for war with The Thing That Burns.

Inspiration sometimes comes in the strangest places (especially for this writer). As I stood there, half-bent-over inside my barbecue, covered in schmutz, excavating meals past by scraping off layers of carbon and grease with a putty knife, my mind wandered (could it have been the fumes from the "wonder chemical" cleaner I had been using?). The first thing that came to mind was my next teeth cleaning. Okay, I admit, here, publicly that I do not always floss every day and I have a tartar buildup problem. (There, I've said it. I've come out of the closet, so to speak.) Like my dentist doesn't already know?

After about an hour of semi-effective scraping, I started to get that same pain right in between my shoulder blades that I tend to get around the High Holy Days, a condition I affectionately refer to as "Machzor Back" caused by holding a 10-pound machzor while standing in shul for numerous hours. Which of course led me to Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and the concept of tshuvah. If I may get a little pseudo-Kabbalistic here, barbecues are, figuratively speaking, kind of like our neshamahs, our souls.

Over the course of a year, we allow all this schmutz to build up, bit by bit, layer upon layer. Sure, we don't think much of the mistake at the time, maybe an inappropriate word said here, not being sensitive or respectful enough there, yelling at the kids, getting into petty arguments with siblings, parents, friends, neighbors, or colleagues. And, unless we resolve those matters right away, other daily events overtake us and we forget about those particular little episodes. But they're still there, and those episodes begin to add up, layer upon layer. So by the end of the year, you're still left with a lot of schmutz to deal with, which if left unattended, eventually requires a complete overhaul to avoid a total breakdown.

You can either clean the schmutz on a regular basis, by dealing with the issues as they rise. Or you can take the procrastinator's approach and leave it for just prior to the High Holy Days, and work pretty hard to do all that tshuvah— there's no instant tshuvah button to push. This assumes that you can even remember what the mistakes were, before you begin to address them. I'm not sure if this is due to deteriorating memory or daily information overload, but I seem to have a harder time each year merely recalling the past year. So, unless you want to scrape all that metaphoric schmutz, take some advice from a chastened guy with a sore back; clean those "barbecues" regularly. G'mar Chatimah Tovah, y'all.

CABBAGE, KIWI & SPINACH SALAD

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Salad:
2-3 cups torn spinach leaves
2-3 cups shredded red cabbage
1 small red onion, sliced
2 firm kiwis, peeled, cut in half lenthwise; then cut crosswise into 1/2 moons
1/4-1/3 cup raisins
1/3 cup raw cashew pieces
alfalfa sprouts

Dressing:
2 tblsp. cider vinegar
1/4 tsp. dry mustard
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. pepper
1 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. Italian seasoning
4 tblsp. light olive oil
1/4 cup dill

Combine all the salad ingredients; combine all the dressing ingredients. At this point you can refrigerate each separately and combine just before serving. Yield: 4-6 servings.

A MESSAGE TO CJN SNOWBIRDS

If you will be spending all or part of this winter outside of Canada, there are three options available to you regarding delivery of your Canadian Jewish News.

1/ Continue regular delivery to your home, and arrange for Canada Post to forward The CJN on with your other mail each week.

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To make any change in your delivery please call Janice at **416-391-1836**, allowing a minimum of two weeks notice.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I'm a reader of your column in *The CJN*. My request for you is to print this short note in your paper so that I can pick up some Jewish pen-pals. I suffered a stroke about a year and a half ago and now I am a shut-in. All I'm looking for from my pen-pals is companionship. I'm very lonely and my contact with Jewish culture is limited. Jesse, if I can get one or two pen-pals from this letter all I can say is thank you. Jesse, if you have the time, write me back.

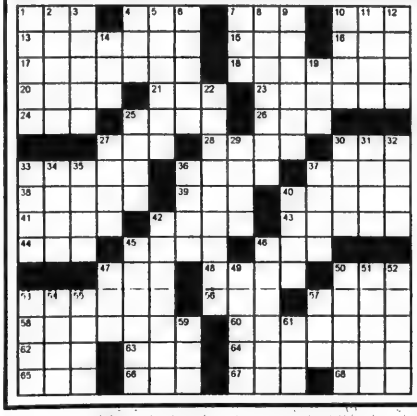
TH

Dear TH,

Your idea of a letter exchange is great. There are many seniors who are alone and for various reasons unable to participate in community events. I invite them to write to me if they are interested and I will make every effort to make the connection.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Fiedler to friends
4. Lemon or Gator
7. 300
10. Sighs
13. King of Swing
15. Reason for shiva?
16. Baseball Berg
17. "The Fountainhead" author
18. Time for new day?
20. Moses' horns?
21. Male swan
23. Acted the Haghaah
24. King and Arkin
25. Actor Mostel
26. Shiva mood
27. Yeled (Eng.)
28. Matzoh maker's need
30. Jewish UPI?
33. Yiddish actress
36. Mt. Hermon need?
37. "The New Colossus"
38. Elephant bone
39. Hebrew sin
40. Covet
41. "__ of Settlement"
42. Hummus holder
43. Jacob's father-in-law
44. Alenu
45. "Shulan Aruch" author
46. Wages
47. Joe Ginsberg stat
48. Chant Torah
50. Sculptor's style
53. Seder sites
56. Hamantasch?
57. Make the tsimmes
58. Ark passengers
60. Biblical land
62. King David?
63. Tet (Eng)
64. Lou Grant actor
65. Imitated Deborah
66. Evil __
67. Nimoy casually
68. Shikker's choice?

Down

1. 100th of a NIS
2. Regal
3. Curtis and Randall
4. Jonas Salk's Org.?
5. Imitated Charisse
6. Witch's dwelling
7. Platters by Bolton
8. Yeshiva offerings
9. Israel at times
10. Minor Prophet
11. Writer Irving
12. Transmit
14. Hadassah employees
19. Acted
22. Bretano shop
25. Jerry Lewis schtick
27. Agadah
29. Need at Ellis Isle
30. David's general
31. Shoe maker
32. Prayer ender
33. Tube
34. "__ the Terrible", Treblinka
35. Mt Hermon climate?
36. Edomite mountain
37. Say the Viddui
40. Dressed
42. Bitter herbs
45. Genesis activity
46. Adloyadah
47. Tu B'Shevat need?
49. Equipment for Baskin
50. Table tennis champ
51. Ezra's swift scribe
52. Tzedakah
53. Tuches?
54. Diarist
55. Isaac on Mt. Moriah?
57. Matriarchs
59. Prophesize
61. Sixth day creation

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 46.)

Italian Month at Korry's

Grand Prize Draw

Saturday, November 15th

Winner receives 2 return air seats to Italy (value $1,000 CDN per seat)

Some restrictions apply

courtesy of:

ALBATours

Schedule of Events

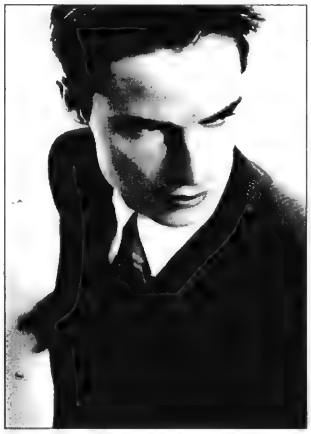
- **Thursday, October 23rd**
  Canali Trunk Show opening night at Korry's.
- **Friday, October 24th – Saturday, October 25th**
  Canali Trunk Show continues at Korry's.
- **Monday, October 27th – Saturday, November 15th**
  Special fashion displays showcasing Korry's Italian collections. Three (3) weekly draws of dinner for two at IL Fornello, 576 Danforth Avenue.
- **Saturday, November 15th**
  Korry's Grand Prize Draw to win 2 return air seats to Italy (Value $1,000 CDN per seat) from AlbaTours.

Why is Italy so important to Korry's? Well, to begin with, the Italians have a unique zest for the finer things in life, an attitude that embraces food, wine, music and dress. They even have a phrase for it, *"fare una bella figura"* — to show a good front.

Beautiful clothing is a major component of *la bella figura.* From an early age, Italians learn to cultivate a sense of style, and grow to admire their own home-grown group of fashion designers and manufacturers. Superb fabrics, tailoring artistry, and just the right fashionable touches are all part and parcel not just of Italy's commercial trade, but of its national pride as well.

In acknowledging this fact with our special Italian Month extravaganza, Korry's is simply paying homage to a people that has produced so many of our civilization's most enduring artists — Leonardo da Vinci and Donatello, Verdi and Puccini, Armani and Gianni Versace, to name only a few.

Essere di moda, bisogno qualcosa Italiano. To be in fashion, one needs something Italian.



Canali Trunk Show

Thursday, October 23rd
5:00 PM — 10:00 PM
Hors d'oeuvres by IL Fornello

Please join Mr. Saul Korman, president of Korry's Clothiers, and Mr. Bruno Mancini, Canali's Canadian representative, here at Korry's for an exclusive evening of fine food and fine fabrics. Featuring the wines of Folonari Soave and Folonari Valpolicella Classico Superiore.

Our staff will be delighted to assist your selection of Spring '98 tailored wear, to be created by custom order at Canali's Italian headquarters.

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Elderly couple with medical problems denied OHIP coverage. *Page 3*

North American Jews don't have many friends, lawyer says. *Page 7*

Opera Brundibar teaches the Holocaust to young children. *Page 14*

National

Lloyd Axworthy plans to visit Israel to make sure passport affair won't happen again. *Page 23*

Arts

Symposium on Being Jewish explores issues ranging from the meaning of creation to Jewish continuity. *Page 44*

Sports

U.S. Maccabi basketball player decides to stay in Israel. *Page 50*

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
Yiddish Corner 17
What's New 20
On Campus 22
Coast to Coast 23
International 37
Health 43
Travel, Arts & Business 44
Classified 47
Sports 50
Dear Susan 51
Crossword 51

Shabbat: Bereshit
Candlelighting: 6:03
Tishrei 23, 5758
Havdalah: 7:08

The record of Khaled Meshal

The man who got away

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

The security source, let's call him Mr. A., leans back in his chair with a sigh. Yes, he says, the Mossad attempt to kill Hamas leader Khaled Meshal was a fiasco.

But after a moment he moves forward and with an intent look changes his tone. "Hamas must know that it won't be protected," he says.

Bravado? Perhaps. But talk to just about anybody in the intelligence and counter-terrorism community and he will agree that Khaled Meshal was a target worthy of assassination.

Backgrounder

As sources in several intelligence services put it, Meshal has become a super-terrorist, responsible for hundreds of deaths both in Israel and abroad. In a largely anonymous organization called Hamas, Meshal stands out as the man with the authority to order terrorism against Israel.

His home has been in Amman, where Israeli security officials say Hamas policy is determined.

It wasn't always that way. Hamas was founded in Gaza in 1987 by Sheik Ahmed Yassin. Meshal was one of the sheik's disciples, born in the Ramallah-area village of Silwad in 1950 or 1956.

Like many other young Palestinians, he was devout and became a member of the Muslim Brotherhood. In the 1980s, he was one of the founders of Hamas' secret military wing, Izzadin Kassam.

In 1990, Meshal went to Jordan. He soon rose in the ranks of the organization to become deputy to Mousa Abu Marzook, head of Hamas' political bureau. When Abu Marzook was arrested by U.S. authorities in 1995, Meshal took over and continues in his post, despite Abu Marzook's recent return to Jordan, following his expulsion from the United States.

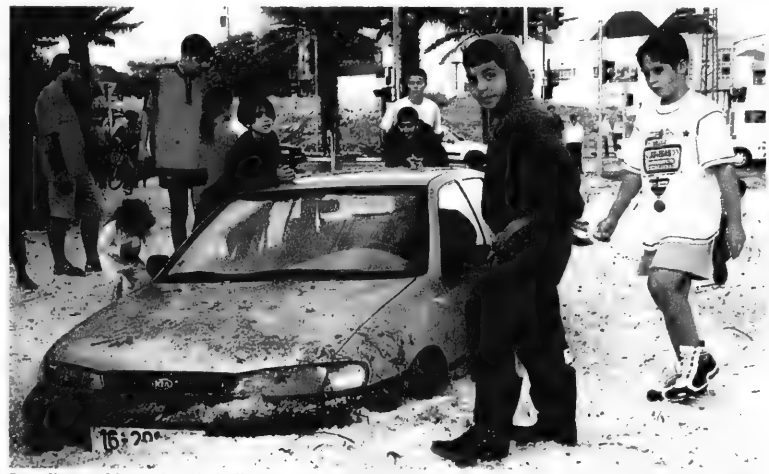
The organizational structure of Hamas is clear, although the division of authority remains in dispute. Hamas' guidance committee is composed of about 10 people, the equivalent of a cabinet, responsible for forming policy, including the use of terrorism.

Once a decision is made by the guidance committee to carry out terrorist attacks, security sources say, the order is relayed to Damascus. The Syrian capital is the headquarters of the political committee, headed by Imad Alami. Alami's job is to relay instructions to Izzadin Kassam in Gaza and the West Bank. Alami's committee orders the timing and the type of the attack.

"Meshal is the equivalent of the prime minister of Hamas," a senior security source says. "The strongman of the organization is Mousa Abu Marzook, but he has been back in Amman for only a few months and is not very involved."

Continued on page 38

Storm kills 11



Israelis stand knee-deep in hailstones on a road in Beersheva last weekend trying to dig out from the flash storms that swept across the country. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN
and Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM — At least 11 people were killed, dozens were injured and at least four children were missing in flash floods or accidents caused by sudden rainstorms over Shabbat, officials said.

A 43-year-old man, Waif Abu Aida, was killed while driving a pickup truck that was washed off a road in the Nevatim area.

Six other people died Saturday when a van skidded on slick pavement, swerving into the opposite lane and ploughing into a large truck near Gush Etzion, police said. Five were believed to be Romanian workers.

Another four people died in the Dead Sea area. Three were killed when their car went off the road after the side of a highway collapsed in the rain. The car overturned and was swept away in a flooded stream, officials said.

Due to the high winds, a 24-year-old woman fell 30 metres off a cliff in a wadi in Qumran on Friday evening. Her body was found the next morning, washed away as far as the Dead Sea road.

The rest of her group survived, some by clinging to the face of a cliff, while others found refuge in caves before being rescued by soldiers in the morning.

In Jerusalem, divers and a helicopter helped search for an 8-year-old Palestinian boy who fell into a sewage canal while playing with a friend in the Wadi Joz area.

Three Bedouin girls were missing in a hilly area north of Beersheva, rescue officials said.

Storms also flooded dozens of homes and destroyed large tracts of cropland in Jericho, where 12 people were injured.

INSIDE

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Israel and the PA quietly negotiating — please see page 37

Feature

Paying respect to our loved ones

By RABBI IRVIN S. BEIGEL

Few prayers elicit the emotional response that the Kaddish does. If you have ever been in shul when even one recital of the Mourners' Kaddish was omitted either by accident or by design, you know how deeply attached Jews are to this prayer.

Guest Voices

Since October, I have been among those who rush to shul twice daily to recite the Kaddish. It is not that I did not regularly attend daily minyan before my mother died, particularly in the morning, but now praying with a minyan has acquired a new urgency, a sense of importance that, even as a rabbi, I did not completely understand before. As is true for other mourners, daily appointments are now scheduled around minyan time.

Recently, I had to schedule airline flights so that I could attend services here before I left and at my destination after I arrived. My experiences in this regard are not unique. They are, unfortunately, shared by many.

What is it about Kaddish that demands such devotion? I reflect on that question frequently these days. My answer is admittedly only a personal one in some respects. Others will, perhaps, find other significance in their recital of Kaddish.

Respect for parents is demanded from us not only when our parents are living, but even after their death. When death comes,we are helpless. Kaddish provides a means of demonstrating our respect (and love) for a parent taken from us. We could not subdue the angel of death, but at least we can do something for our loved one by reciting Kaddish.

Of course, Kaddish does not mention death. It is an expression of kiddush HaShem — the sanctification of God's Name. We declare and ask the congregation to declare with us our faith that God will speedily rule over the world He created. In praising God, we declare our faith in a better future even when our thoughts are on the sadness and gloom of the present.

Whether our loved one died at a young age or an old age, death resulted from the imperfection of the world. Our own inability to cure disease, the cruelty of violence inflicted by other human beings, the tragic mishaps on the highways, all reveal flaws in our world. God who is perfect has not yet made this world perfect.

As we express our faith that God will perfect His world, we simultaneously dedicate ourselves to sharing in that task with Him. We do so even at a time of pain, of doubt, of keen awareness that we ourselves are less than perfect.

The closing statement of every Kaddish brings forth particular fervor from me. *Oseh shalom bimromav* – May He who creates peace in the heavens make peace for us and for all Israel. At the time when life lacks shalom – inner peace, completeness, wholeness, we pray for the restoration of that completeness for ourselves and for all Israel.

Kaddish is sometimes misunderstood. Sometimes it is almost viewed as a magical incantation. That is too bad, because its true value is then overlooked. Kaddish is a declaration of our intent to make this world more perfect, a statement of faith, a heartfelt prayer, a source not only of honor to the deceased, but of comfort and hope for the living.

May the almighty speedily bring comfort to all who mourn amidst the mourners for Zion and Jerusalem.

Rabbi Beigel is a rabbi at Beth Sholom Synagogue in Toronto.

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ON TRIAL IN FRANCE
Accused Nazi collaborator Maurice Papon is accused of having committed crimes against humanity. [RNS/Reuters photo]

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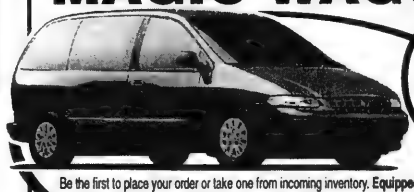

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Elderly couple denied OHIP coverage

Parents in need of medical procedures

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An elderly Ukrainian Jewish couple allowed to stay in Canada on compassionate grounds, has been ruled ineligible for OHIP coverage.

Georgi Ilvovski, 91, has kidney cancer and needs prostate surgery. His wife, Polia, 83, paralyzed on her right side, requires a new pacemaker and urgent dental work. Her original pacemaker, implanted in Kiev, is now 12 years old.

"I can't afford to pay for these operations. I have already paid more than $2,000 in medical bills for them," said their daughter Mila Filatova, 53, a freelance pianist and teacher who has lived in Canada for six years.

"Where is the humanity in allowing them here on humanitarian grounds and then denying them what they need so desperately?"

The Ilvovskis were denied refugee status and citizenship in Canada because they were medically inadmissible, but four years ago were allowed to stay on a minister's permit.

They are not eligible for OHIP because under the federal immigration minister's permit, the Ilvovskis are in a category of people medically ineligible for admission to Canada, said Lily Wheedon, spokesperson for Ontario health minister Elizabeth Witmer.

Immigration spokesperson Kevin Sack said the couple's only recourse is to appeal to OHIP.

Filatova was unaware that she had the right to appeal the OHIP decision. She sent the appeal Oct. 10.

"I've been tossed from one office to another — maybe I don't cry enough," said a frustrated Filatova, the single mother of a 17-year-old daughter.

She broke down in tears at Branson Hospital when there was a delay in admitting her father for a urinary blockage. He is still catheterized at home and Filatova has to pay almost $40 each time she calls home care to assist him.

"I'm still getting bills for hundreds of dollars from Branson Hospital which I cannot pay because I'm already in debt. What [my parents] need is intensive home care but they are not eligible."

She pays the rent for her parents' one-bedroom apartment, located in the same highrise building on Bathurst Street where she lives and teaches her pupils. Her parents are not eligible for welfare or subsidized housing.

Rev. Caroline Miller of Northlea United Church has offered to help organize a fundraising concert to aid the Ilvovskis.

"I really appreciate what people are doing to help," Filatova said.

A dentist, Dr. Arthur Ross, has volunteered to do the dental work her mother requires and the Lions Club has also offered assistance.

When she approached the Jewish Family and Child Service for help, Filatova said, she was told that since her parents had no income, they were not eligible for a supplemental allowance. "That doesn't make sense."

The Ilvovskis come from a hamlet near Nikolayev in the Ukraine. Georgi, a carpenter, was a youngster when his family fled the 1917 revolution. He served in the Russian army in World War II and lost toes on both feet from frostbite when abandoned for 40 days in winter after being wounded. He still has a metal plate in his leg and another in his head. In the Ukraine, he had a pension from the Russian army which he lost when the couple came to Canada.

Broke down in tears

After the war, the Ilvovskis fled to Tashkent where Filatova was born, but they later returned to the Ukraine.

"In the Ukraine, the Jewish Agency wanted us to go to Israel, but we wanted to be with our daughters in Canada," said Polia Ilvovski in Yiddish. (The couple does not speak English.) "We like Canada but we are helpless. We are so sick."

Another daughter, Elizabeth Wiseman, lives in Edmonton, but she is retired and cannot help her parents. They have distant cousins living in Israel.

"I phoned a certain rabbi (I don't want to give his name) for help and right away he asked me how much money I could give his synagogue," said Filatova.

She has appeared several times at Leah Posluns Theatre in concerts with other Russian Jewish artists.

Georgi Ilvovski with his wife, Polia, and daughter, Mila Filatova. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Funding IN ACTION
UJA FEDERATION

For a Jewish student, university life has much more to offer than just lectures and professors. Rachel Melzer knows this better than anyone. Currently studying ecology at the University of Toronto, Rachel's Jewish identity has been heightened through her involvement with the Jewish Student Union, funded by Jewish Campus Services, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency.

NEW GIRL IN TOWN

Originally from Ottawa, Rachel found it difficult, at first, not knowing anyone on campus. "I thought if I started going to lectures and holiday programs at the Jewish Student Union, it would be a great way to meet people." As the year progressed, so did Rachel's involvement and attachment to JSU.

THE NATURE OF THE ISSUE

After her first year at school, Rachel was approached to join the JSU board and spearheaded her own committee dealing with Jewish environmental issues. "The interest of people in this subject is incredible," she says.

The JSU recently sent Rachel to an eco-Zionist conference in San Francisco, where she joined other students from various campuses across North America to learn more about the subject.

"All of our Jewish holidays and laws are based on cycles of the year and responsible resource use. Growing up, I never knew about these concepts. It is only through my involvement with Jewish Campus Services that I was able to make the connection."

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

"Whether it's eating bagels, discussing issues or attending a Tu B'Shvat meal, the Jewish Student Union serves so many people through its variety of programs. It's a great way to meet others," says Rachel.

Jewish Campus Services connects thousands of college and university students to their roots. It's another example of UJA Federation Funding in Action.

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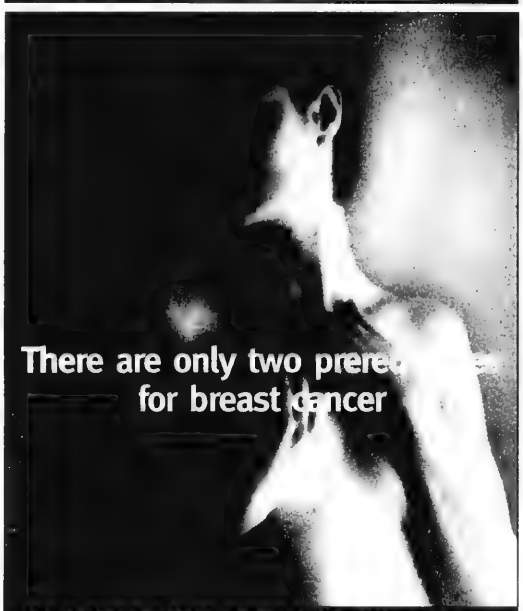

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The happiness of being Jewish

There is more than the summoning of a holiday in the name Simchat Torah. There is as well, in my view, a suggestion for rethinking our approach to the transmittal of Jewish values to our children and to our grandchildren.

I define Simchat Torah to mean "*celebration in and of Torah.*"

By celebration I mean a serious personal affirmation and seeking after something higher, something fulfilling, challenging and true. By Torah I mean a sense of meaningful personal Jewish identity, affiliation, belonging and commitment. I do not mean, although I also do not exclude from this definition, a strict, Torah way of life.

Apart from the many different chassidic groups of Jews, for whom at least originally, simchah (joy, happiness, celebration) was built into the very structure of religious ritual and observance, simchah tends to be the exception rather than the rule in the Jewish way of life.

For many of our children, and for many of their parents – especially those among us with only marginal or no exposure to formal Jewish education – Judaism appears as a complex system of prohibitions. Jewish history unfolds only as a long, suffering sequences of persecutions and pogroms, of tragedies and tears. Most Jewish prayer is sung in the minor key. And the predominant "colors" of Jewish identity are shadings of black.

Is it any wonder then, that so many of our fellow Jews shy away from their Jewishness, or more accurately, from what they perceive to be the dour, lachrymose Jewishness of their parents and their grandparents?

They reject as unappealing, unattractive and irrelevant what they know so very little about.

It is well past the time that we attempted to change this.

I am not advocating a theology of mirth and merriment. I am not advocating that we go outside the framework of accepted Jewish norms. I am not suggesting that we alter the liturgy or the rituals of any of the streams of Judaism: Orthodox, Conservative, Reform or Reconstructionist. Nor am I suggesting that we adopt a form of collective national and historical amnesia by ignoring the events of our past.

Rather I am suggesting that it is time to for all of us – parents, grandparents, educators, rabbis, synagogue officials, youth counselors, advisors, researchers and friends to re-examine how we convey to the younger generation our happiness and deep appreciation at being Jewish.

The festival of Sukkot, in general and Simchat Torah, specifically are appropriate occasions to reflect on this subject.

Sukkot is described as *zman simchatenu*, the season of our celebration (my translation).

The requirement to celebrate during Sukkot is emphasized in the book of Dvarim (Deuteronomy) 16:15 where we read that the Jewish people was told "to be only happy."

The Hallel prayer that we recite every day during Sukkot contains another of the many strong existential directives urging us to adopt a more expansive, a more eyes-wide-open approach to our lives. In short we are directed to celebrate our lives within our Jewish framework:"*Zeh hayom asah hashem; nagilah v'nismicha vo.*" This is the day that God brought about; let us be joyful and celebrate (my emphasis).

It is a profound statement. It tells us essentially that every day is an occasion for celebration.

But celebration, in this context is not a frivolous, partying activity. Nor can it be legislated. Like love and the sense of wonder, it must spring from an individual's deep sense of gratitude at being alive, and in the sense I am proposing, at being alive Jewishly.

The concept of celebration that I am advocating was succinctly described by the renowned teacher and scholar, the late Abraham Joshua Heschel. I have excerpted some of his thoughts from a collection by Ruth Marcus Goodhill.

"To celebrate is to contemplate the singularity of the moment." (If we use this as a starting point, we can therefore say, in Heschel's terms, that to celebrate Jewish life, is to comtemplate the "singularity of the moments" of Jewish life.)

"The demand, as understood in Biblical religion, is to be alert and open to what is happening. Every moment is a new arrival, a new bestowal. How to welcome the moment? How to respond to the marvel? The cardinal sin is in our failure not to sense the grandeur of the moment, the marvel and mystery of being, the possibility of quiet exaltation."

(Every moment of Jewish life, in Heschel's terms, is a new arrival, a new bestowal. If we could only transmit to our peers and to our children the excitement of belonging to an ancient-and-modern people, a dynamic, creative collectivity that helps to advance the cause of humanity!)

"The man of our time is losing the power of celebration, instead of celebrating, he seeks to be amused or entertained. Celebration is an active state, an act of expressing reverence or appreciation. To be entertained is a passive state – it is to receive pleasure afforded by an amusing act or a spectacle. Celebration is a confrontation, giving attention to the transcendent meaning of one's actions."

(Giving attention to the transcendent meaning of being Jewish and of belonging to this interesting people must be thought of in ways that augment and enhance conventional education. In every field of human endeavor – the sciences, the arts and the humanities – Jewish contributions have been monumental. Our contributions to the advancement of humanity are limited only by the shortcomings of our imagination. How can this be brought home to our youngsters?)

"The meaning of existence is experienced in moments of exaltation. Man must strive for the summit in order to survive on the ground. His norms must be higher that his behavior, his ends must surpass his needs."

Heschel posits the challenge in so poetic and so moving a form: "We must strive for the summit if we are to survive on the ground." Indeed he has simply expressed in another way what has always been the guiding force of Jewish life, namely, the mandatory injunction to try to infuse every aspect of our lives with a sense of purpose and meaning, or in biblical terms, of holiness

Ibdu et hashem b'simcha. Serve God out of a sense of celebration.

In this context service of God could not possibly have been intended to mean only ritual practices. I do not gainsay the importance of ritual practice, nor of being precise in every aspect of halachic observance.

But, service of God must have a much broader sweep if it is to light a fire in the imagination of present and future younger Jewish generations. It must by definition also mean serving God by serving one's fellow human beings.

Only then will we be able to fully invoke another of Heschel's understandings of celebration: "To celebrate is to share in a greater joy, to participate in an external drama. In acts of celebration the intention is to extol God, the source of all blessing." *MBD*

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Zundel linked to Internet site

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In a move that caught neo-Nazi propagandist Ernst Zundel by surprise, his estranged wife testified last week that Zundel controlled the California-based Web site that distributed allegedly anti-Semitic material.

Irene Zundel told a tribunal of the Human Rights Commission (CHRC) that Zundel sent monthly cheques to Ingrid Rimland in Carlsbad, Calif., to cover the costs of operating the site. She also testified that Zundel wrote the English and German-language Power Letters that appeared on the "Zundelsite" and that a part-time employee, Marc Lemire, posted Zundel's handwritten material to the Web site. Zundel has maintained that the site was operated by Rimland and was not subject to his control.

Irene Zundel, who now lives in Pennsylvania, married the neo-Nazi publisher in March 1996. They separated last July.

Zundel, 58, is facing allegations he violated the Canadian Human Rights Act (CHRA) by offering material on an Internet Web site that is likely to expose an identifiable group, Jews, to hatred or contempt. The complaint against Zundel was brought by the Toronto Mayor's Committee on Community and Race Relations and by Sabina Citron.

In 1983, Citron first tangled with Zundel when she laid criminal "false news" charges that alleged he distributed lies denying the Holocaust. Although Zundel was convicted of the charge by two separate juries, the Supreme Court of Canada eventually ruled the law unconstitutional.

Ironically, the pamphlet that formed the basis of the criminal charge, a Holocaust-denying tract entitled, *Did Six Million Really Die?*, is one of the Internet postings that forms the subject of the human rights complaint.

That document "is simply the articulation of a Holocaust-denial position," stated Gary Prideaux, a professor of linguistics at the University of Alberta.

Testifying prior to Irene Zundel, Prideaux said he analyzed the text and concluded "it contains many familiar assertions found in Holocaust denial literature and serves to establish a well-defined position...which places blame on the victims of the Holocaust while at the same time portraying the aggressors (the Nazis) as the real victims."

In two days of testimony, Prideaux analyzed several documents, including the tracts *66 Questions and Answers On the Holocaust* and *Jewish Soap*.

He also examined several shorter documents. A Zundelsite "mission statement" and an open letter on the Web site claimed a "Holocaust lobby" exercised "financial, political, emotional and spiritual extortion."

Prideaux said language used on the Zundelsite implies the "Holocaust lobby" consists of Jews engaged in criminal activities and "rackets."

Another Zundelsite posting quotes from Hitler's *Mein Kampf* and adopts the Nazi leader's view of the Jews as "masters of lies."

"The thrust of the assertion is that Jews are liars and creators of lies...and that is the systematic character of the Jews," Prideaux said.

During cross-examination, defence lawyer Doug Christie suggested it was fair to say there is, in fact, a Holocaust lobby. Prideaux said he was unaware of it.

The two also sparred over a passage in the Zundelsite that claimed the Jews declared war on Germany during World War II.

Earlier, CHRC lawyer Ian Binnie laid out the commission's case, saying the Zundelsite's location in California was simply a way for Zundel to "target the Jewish community in Canada and elsewhere [with material] that's likely to expose them to hatred or contempt."

The material is disguised as a "scholarly exchange" but "it's simply anti-Semitism and hate propaganda wrapped up in the flag of freedom of speech," Binnie said.

As the hearing began, the tribunal accepted Canadian Jewish Congress as an intervener in the case. Congress joins B'nai Brith Canada and the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in that capacity.

Early on, Christie asked the three-member panel to disclose whether any of them supported or were members of the intervener groups. Tribunal chair Claude Pensa said he knew of no legal authority to permit that sort of questioning.

The hearing is considered by some a landmark case. It is based on a section of the Human Rights Act that prohibits use of "telephonic communications" to disseminate hate materials. Although the section has been employed to stop use of telephone answering machines that contained hate messages, it has never been used in connection to material on the Internet. In most cases, access to the Internet requires a hookup over telephone lines.

If the tribunal accepts the complaint, it can issue a cease and desist order against Zundel that would have the effect of a court order.

"This is a groundbreaking case, delving into the new realm of the Internet, in effect an uncharted territory for the legal system," said B'nai Brith lawyer Marvin Kurz.

"The case will help decide if the Internet is subject to the same laws as other hate material in Canada," said Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre. He said the centre has identified more than 700 hate sites around the world.

"We are confident the interveners...will be of assistance in helping close down Zundel's Web site, one of the world's largest purveyors of Holocaust denial material," said Moshe Ronen, chair of Congress' Ontario region.

The case resumes on Dec. 11.

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Greater Toronto Area

Former Soviet Prisoner of Zion worries for Jews

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Eduard Kuznetsov surveys the political scene in Russia and he worries. Sure, Jewish reformers serve in prominent government positions and Jews do not currently suffer from official discrimination.

But for Kuznetsov, who served 16 years in Soviet jails for political offenses, history is bound to repeat itself. "Every time there's a turn to the worse, it's a tragedy for the Jews," he said. "Why will there be an exception next time?"

A former prisoner of Zion, Kuznetsov was in Toronto recently to participate in a tribute to Ukrainian dissident Danylo Shumuk, who spent 42 years in prison and exile, the longest-serving political prisoner of the Soviet era. The two shared a prison cell for five years.

Kuznetsov was imprisoned (for the second time) as a key organizer of a phony plot to hijack a Soviet airliner to Israel. He was released in a prisoner swap and immigrated to Israel.

He has visited Russia twice since the Soviet Union collapsed and he attempts to warn the Jewish community there about the peril of living in a volatile time. But "they believe they're clever, special, that the rules of history won't apply to them," Kuznetsov said.

Kuznetsov is sure that Russian Jews will once again be made scapegoats if the situation in Russia worsens. They could face discrimination, expulsion or prison, he suggested.

Editor of a Russian-language newspaper in Israel, Kuznetsov said Russian Israelis by and large "believe in the persistence of international hatred" of the Jews. They believe "it is a real thing" and as a result, are more inclined to support right-wing parties who view peace with the Arabs skeptically.

"They don't believe the demagoguery of the left about a new Middle East and they don't believe in the value of words or the value of a paper peace," he said.

Kuznetsov's own world view no doubt owes much to the years he spent in prison and to his political opposition to the Soviet state. He was imprisoned for the first time as a university student in 1961 for anti-Soviet activities. At the time, he was "a general democrat." But in various penal camps he met Jews who were committed Zionists. "I began to feel a part of the Jewish people. When I left prison in 1968, I tried to go to Israel."

After applying through legal channels for several years and realizing there was "no chance" to receive proper immigration documents, he and other Zionists decided a high profile event was needed to shake up the Soviet system.

The early 1970s were a time of detente, of gradually improving ties with the West, and the Kremlin was hungry for Western currency, contacts and investment, he recalled. His dissident group believed that to get these benefits, the Soviets would have to give up something in return and they determined to make easier immigration a quid pro quo.

They fastened on the idea of attempting to hijack a plane out of the Soviet Union, all the while knowing the KGB would be aware of the plot from an early stage. The KGB had spies everywhere and to find the 16 plotters willing to attempt the hijacking, the group interviewed hundreds of potential accomplices. In that situation, the KGB certainly knew about the plan in advance, Kuznetsov said.

Eduard Kuznetsov

The plotters feared that Soviet intelligence agents would arrest them before they arrived at the airport, scuttling the plan's public relations value. But the KGB, wishing to discredit the plotters publicly, arrested them at the airport, igniting a firestorm of criticism of the Soviet Union. Nineteen Western leaders protested the arrests, giving the freedom for Soviet Jewry movement added weight, he said.

For his part, Kuznetsov was handed a life sentence. "This stupid system put you in the position of being a hero," he says today.

It was while serving the sentence that he met Shumuk. They and three others shared a tiny cell in which they were allotted two square metres each. Recalling a Russian proverb, Kuznetsov said the worst thing about prison is not the bars or the walls but the other inmates. Luckily, he and the others got along well and he and Shumuk never quarrelled in the five years they spent together.

The key to their success was the ability to create a "friendly atmosphere in the camp." They built an underground organization that controlled inmates' behavior and the senior prisoners had "moral authority" over others in the camp, he said.

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Greater Toronto Area

Loftus details litany of dirty tricks aimed at Jews

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Sometimes North American Jews don't know who their friends are, lawyer John Loftus told a gathering at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue sponsored by Israel Bonds.

But then, we don't have many, if Loftus' speech, which garnered him a standing ovation, is any indication.

The British, American and Canadian secret services have consistently undercut Jewish and Israeli interests, sneaking Nazi war criminals into western countries, sabotaging Israeli arms needs and interfering in commerce, Loftus claimed.

His allegations come from an accidental discovery he made while doing research in the secret U.S. archives in Maryland in the course of his work for the attorney general's Nazi-hunting unit.

"I got lost in the labyrinth of the archives," he related, "and I stumbled on files that no one was supposed to see until after 2015."

What he found there so upset him that he resigned from the unit and devoted himself to writing and talking about his discoveries, including making a dramatic appearance on television's *60 Minutes*.

His speech detailed a stunning litany of dirty tricks that had the near-capacity crowd alternately eerily silent and gasping in indignation.

In the dying days of the Third Reich, he said, the British secret service decided that the new danger to the world came from communism and there was a need to recruit eastern Europeans to fight this threat.

"Without telling their respective governments, the Canadian external affairs and U.S. state departments gave passports to the dregs of Hitler's army – most went to Toronto, and the rest went to the United States."

After Loftus' *60 Minutes* expose, Alti Rodal, who worked for the Deschenes Commission investigating Nazi war criminals in Canada, interviewed him.

"I gave her all the information I had, and it was included as an appendix to the commission report. With every word blacked out. That's the truth about Canadian history.

"You've been lied to," Loftus charged. "Next to Argentina, Canada has the highest population of Nazis in the Western hemisphere."

Loftus then turned to the controversy over Nazi gold and the Swiss banks .

During World War I, when the Americans passed the Trading with the Enemies Act, German investments were at risk, both German investment in the United States and American investment in Germany.

The Dulles brothers, John Foster and Allan, Loftus said, began to act for German and American (and Canadian) investors, persuading Americans and Canadians to invest in Germany.

"When the Depression came, millions of their dollars were invested in Germany, money which was used to pay reparations assigned by the Versailles treaty.

"By 1939," Loftus said, "70 percent of the money that had been used to rebuild the German economy came from U.S., Canadian and British investors."

When it became obvious that German investments might be in danger, the Dulles brothers started investing in Switzerland, moving money from Germany and German families (including Jewish ones) to Swiss banks, which by then were protected by the oaths of secrecy.

After the war, he said, Jews not only could not access their own or their relatives' bank accounts, but could not collect on life insurance policies held by Swiss insurance companies, "either because they couldn't prove death [by death certificates] or had let the payments lapse while in the concentration camps."

The whole process, Loftus said, was neither pro-Nazi nor anti-Semitic; it was just about greed.

"Americans and Canadians genuinely like Israel, and your Parliament and our Congress consistently support her."

The problem, he said, is the bureaucrats. "It is in North America's national interest to get a cheap supply of oil. The Arabs have it and Israel doesn't," Loftus said flatly. "So we sold you out. In every war, we worked against you."

Not only did the United States sell Israeli secrets to the Arabs in the 1956 and 1967 wars, but in the 1973 Yom Kippur war, in order to punish Israel for its intransigence in not bowing to Henry Kissinger's peace policies and to keep oil flowing, "Kissinger asked the secretary of defence to hold off sending Israel aid for seven days," by which time, he thought, Israel would be on its knees and would agree to any suggestion.

Israel was saved, Loftus said, by General Alexander Haig, who not only warned of the impending attack as soon as he learned of it, but secretly shipped Israel a highly effective anti-tank missile.

Western sabotage of Israel's interests went back to the very foundation of the new state. In 1944 and 1945, Loftus said, the British Secret Service, suspecting that Toronto Jewry would send money for arms to what was then Palestine as soon as the war ended, asked permission to tap the phones of Toronto's Jewish community. In this way, they found out that arms were indeed being purchased for the resistance to the British occupation.

When word of this activity was leaked to the world press, Loftus said, no nation would sell Palestine arms – except Czechoslovakia.

It was because of a young Czech Jew, named Lev Hoch. "Hoch infiltrated the British Secret Service, and discovered a coup to overthrow the democratically elected, but left-leaning government in favor of a right-wing one that would include former Nazis."

Hoch stole the files detailing the plans, and offered to give them to the Czech government if they would sell arms to the Jews.

"When Lev Hoch died a few years ago, he received a state funeral in Israel. Of course, he had changed his name and done very well for himself in business, although some of his more recent activities were under investigation. Didn't you wonder why Israel would give a state funeral to a crook like Robert Maxwell?"

Canada's treatment of Nazi war criminals, Loftus said, in reply to a question, "will be a permanent stain. Its efforts were underfunded, burdened by inexperienced staff and ignored qualified people. The Deschenes Commission was a complete whitewash."

17TH ANNUAL HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK
OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 9, 1997

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UJA FEDERATION

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The middle road

At a rare Vancouver-held meeting last week of the House of Commons finance committee, Finance Minister Paul Martin outlined the broad strokes of the government's financial and social policies for the short and near term. He pointed out that the federal operating deficit last year was just under $9 billion, the lowest deficit in two decades. Expects that deficit will be eliminated no later than next year. The question thus arises: What should the government do when the budget starts to show a surplus?

Our preferred course for the government is that it cleave to the middle road, that it reject the extremism of either side. It should not dedicate the "new" revenue exclusively to the elimination of the massive cumulative debt; nor should it ignore the cumulative debt in favor of restoring the much-beloved social programs of yesteryear. The government should establish annual targets and explain them to the Canadian people, both for the extent of that year's inroad into the cumulative deficit and for the length of the high road it will travel to reinvest funds for the sake of the young, the old and the most needy.

Malaysian malice

Every now and then a report appears on the wire services that seems left over from darker, less well-informed, more ignorant times. It leaps off the page.We read in disbelief and shake our heads. Such a report appeared last week out of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The economies of the southeast Asian countries along the western edge of the Pacific Rim are interrelated. The "giants" of the area – Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore and Taiwan – influence the "lesser" economies of the area –Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia – by the inevitable industrial and commercial spillover that results from their proximity. In the last decade, an influx of foreign investment caused even the "lesser" economies to enjoy considerable growth. Of late, however, some of these countries, in particular Thailand, the Phillipines, Indonesia and Malaysia, have experienced economic difficulties. The *Globe and Mail* reported that the Malaysian currency, the ringgit, has lost as much as 30 percent of its value in recent weeks. Governments and international organizations are trying to understand why.

In that same *Globe and Mail* article, we were able to read the reasons for the sudden decline offered by the government of Malaysia: "We suspect that [the Jews] have an agenda, but we do not want to accuse. And incidentally, we are Muslims, and the Jews are not happy to see the Muslims progress. The Jews robbed the Palestinians of everything, but in Malaysia they could not do so, hence they do this, suppress the ringgit."

Reaching deep into the cesspool of bigotry, conspiracy and scapegoating, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahatir Mohamad brought out the old "protocols" as the explanation for his countries economic woes.

It was bad enough that he resorted to archetypical, brazen anti-Semitism, thus reviving offensive, age-old absurdities that seem to linger in the dank corners of our society like a festering virus. But his explanation also contained an ethno-religious dimension that is downright dangerous. By suggesting that the Jews may have "sabotaged" the Malaysian economy as part of an anti-Muslim agenda, his malice leapt to a more threatening level.

He immediately gave legitimacy to the Islamic fundamentalist's hatred of the Jew and of the Jewish state. And if the hatred is legitimate, so too, in the distorted, malevolent mind of the hater, must be the violence that regularly accompanies it. We hope that the people of Malaysia will reject their prime minister's economic theories, even as they reject him.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"If you know you are going home, the trip is never too hard."
Chafetz Chaim

Dry Bones

IN ALGERIA WHERE THOUSANDS OF ARABS HAVE BEEN SLAUGHTERED IN AN ISLAMIC REIGN OF TERROR...
FOLKS MUST BE REALLY TICKED OFF BY THE WORLD'S INSISTENCE THAT THE BIG STORY...
...IS THE PLIGHT OF PALESTINIAN ARABS...
...WHO ARE FACED WITH JEWS MOVING INTO "THEIR" NEIGHBORHOODS!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

October 12, 1937 the first issue of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* was published. L.Harry Goldman was general secretary and Myer K. Epstein was managing editor. *(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)*

Fears Congress losing its key role

There was a time when Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) was the heart and soul of Canadian Jewry.

There was a time when CJC was front and centre in advertising the Jewish agenda; a time when Congress was the definition of "Jewish identity," Jewish "activism," indeed, all things Jewish. It was an inclusive family; not only could anyone join its family, its hand reached out to all, fostering a sense of belonging and shared concern.

We, the Jewish family, have hit on hard times. The soul struggles for relevance, even for a sense of its own identity. Where Congress once set the communal agenda, it now serves as the agenda. Activism is now measured by which agency can out-"press-release" its supposed competitors. And worst of all, instead of reaching out, it has become insular and withdrawn.

Who will care for the smaller communities that are struggling on the brink of spiritual and cultural oblivion? Who will champion the cause of Jewish youth in an era where financial considerations dominate the decision-making process? Who will make the case for those who cannot get a hearing on their own?

CJC once was and should again be the "voice of the people," the advocate of Amcha. And if those advocacy efforts have first to be directed at "consolidators and bean-counters," then so be it.

Any contribution I may have made came with a lot of support from Congress. But without Congress having reached out to me a decade earlier, I never would have stepped forward.

David Attis
Moncton, N.B.

Editor's Note: Mr. Attis is the winner of this year's Samuel Bronfman Award for service to the Jewish people.

No kudos for government on education

It is outrageous that Jewish institutions honor members of the government of Ontario, when the current government denies Jews certain fundamental rights provided to many.

It is estimated that thousands of young Jews are not afforded an opportunity for Jewish education, while many families in this community must endure the humiliation of asking for subsidies to fund the escalating cost of a Jewish education. As a community, such a gross inequity humiliates us all and we, including our leaders and institutions, should be outraged and act accordingly. Despite the fact that we all pay taxes, only francophones and Catholics of all lineages have the right to a publicly funded education in accordance with their particular values and needs. That is simply unjust and unfair!

Equity demands that what the government provides to any of its citizens must be made available to all of its citizens on an equal basis. This is the foundation of democratic societies everywhere, it seems, but not in Ontario.

The Ontario government could readily rectify this, but has chosen not to. And why should they? Institutions and members of the Jewish community continue to bestow upon them political benefits and favors, while at the same time avoiding the critical issues at hand: equity and Jewish continuity.

Wayne J. Levin
Toronto

Will war criminals die of old age?

Still another judge from the Federal Court of Canada has withdrawn from presiding over deportation proceedings involving three alleged Nazi war criminals. When one combines the incompetence of staff members in the Ministry of Justice, the tardiness of certain judges, the lack of appreciation of appropriate judicial conduct and the lack of political will to prosecute Nazi war criminals, it will be a miracle if one of these cases is ever heard on its merits.

Notwithstanding the criticism recently levelled by the Supreme Court of Canada on the chief justice of the Federal Court and the associate chief justice, neither appears to be in any danger of a judicial inquiry which might lead to a removal from office. Ted Thompson, former assistant deputy justice minister, has simply been transferred to another department with no loss of pay or job security. Former minister of justice Allan Rock again, notwithstanding, the criticism by the Supreme Court of Canada, is conveniently the minister of another portfolio and is no longer responsible to answer for transgressions within his ministry.

The lawyers defending the three accused Nazi war criminals are happy because their docket meters are running and, of course, the alleged Nazis are ecstatic with each and every delay, because eventually they will simply die of old age never having been confronted with the horrendous crimes of which they are accused.

When the definitive history of Canada's appalling record with regard to prosecuting Nazi war criminals is finally written, there should be two chapters entitled shame on the government and shame on the judiciary.

Bert Raphael
President
Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

LaLa Solika 1820-1834

As retold to The CJN by Rabbi Yehiel W. Ben Ayon

A stone wall separated the two large whitewashed villas, their red tiled roofs crowning them above immaculate gardens, ever fragrant with flowers and citrus blossoms. This was the northern-most point of Africa: Tangier Morocco, in the 19th century.

The two girls' futures, it seemed, were destined from birth. Both were born into a life of the privilege of wealth and social standing. Ould was the daughter of Sidi Ladina one of the largest land owners of Tangier, from a powerful Muslim family, well connected to the royal court. Sol was the daughter of Haim Hatchwel, a proud merchant who had made his fortune importing teas from the far east, and coffee from Brazil. Even as Jews, he and his family were respected and recognized by the Muslims for their integrity and for their benevolence to their workers.

The true story of a young woman's courage

In spite of the differences in their homes and backgrounds, the girls were inseparable. From daybreak till dinner, the girls romped in the gardens and homes as blood sisters. One particular spot was their favorite, a vantage from which the African continent seemingly reached out for Europe. It was a terrace built on sheer rock in the back of the gardens, where they would sit for hours. From there, they would look across the Straight of Gibraltar to the Mediterranean and hear the waves crashing on the rock cliffs many feet below. Between the two, a bond of love and trust was gradually built up, day by day in these, the homes of their birth. Teenagers now, they would sit and talk and share and confide endlessly.

In those years, a girl of 13 was considered of marriageable age. Both were keenly aware of their standing, their social grace, their rare education and considerable wealth. In addition Sol was also extraordinarily beautiful. Her presence was magnetic. Whenever Sol entered a room, silence followed whispers and fuss. This confused Sol and public appearances became uncomfortable to the point where she loathed going out. Ould was always there. She, more than anyone else, listened and seemed to understand.

One particular morning found Sol in a deep gloom. Ould tenderly took her hand into hers and began: "There's something I have wanted to tell you. I think perhaps now is the right time. Please keep an open mind," she warned. "Your beauty and grace are far too great to be had by a commoner. A flawless pearl is destined on the Sultan's crown. Your beauty beckons you. Come with me to the cadi. He can help us. Embrace Islam and every door will swing open before you."

The intensity of Ould's words, the firmness of her hand struck Sol like a bolt of lightning in a cloudless sky. Beyond disbelief and dismay at someone in whom she had always confided, Sol stared into Ould's eyes. With neither sound nor gesture, she pulled back her hand and returned to the house.

It was later in the day that Don Haim Hatchwel heard loud voices in front of the villa. In the courtyard he found himself facing the cadi (Muslim chief of justice) and the pasha (governor) of Tangier. "In the name of Allah and his servant, his Majesty the king, we demand that you release the girl you are holding. Bring her at once and all will be well with you."

Don Hatchwel paled. He had several sons, but only one daughter; surely, they didn't mean Sol. Cautiously he contained himself. "What is this mistake all about? You are most welcome to my home. Please come in, do allow me to serve you some..." We have not come for tea," the cadi smugly interrupted, "but for the girl called Sol. It is our understanding that her desire is to follow the path of prophet Mohammed and embrace Islam. We wish to speak to her immediately."

Tensions were high; passersby and neighbors had gathered in the courtyard. Word had quickly gone out for the heads of the community. They perhaps could intervene. All eyes now seemed fixated on the long cascading stairs, for coming down, clutching her mother by the arm, was Sol. An aura of grace and dignity adorned her. The cadi's eyes widened as he proclaimed in the name of Allah, "We are here to accept you as our daughter and sister, as you yourself embrace us and the true light."

A quivering Sol responded, "Your most honorable Cadi, how humbled I am by this honor which you bestow upon your undeserving servant. I, however, love my family and my people. It is my sincere wish to remain with them. You would best be suited to find one truly worthy."

"Nonsense," said the cadi. "You will come with us; we know your true desire. Your message reached us just hours ago. Perhaps now you are shy before so many. Come, therefore, let us go now."

With that, he turned to leave. Muslim guards surrounded Sol and she was forced to follow. All stood motionless and watched, numb with fright. Walking out, Sol caught a glimpse of Ould. For a fleeting moment their eyes met. Ould dropped her gaze to the ground, unable to face the one whom she had so treacherously just betrayed.

Commotion and sorrow, and a good measure of panic, swept through the Jewish community. It was later learned that after Sol was taken away, she stood before a tribunal wherein she again maintained that she never wished to relinquish her faith. The outcome was a source of great humiliation to the authorities and to the people. Sol had chosen death instead of conversion. Beyond the ramifications for Sol's life, there also came into play the precarious balance of the two communities, Jews and Arabs, which always hung on a fine thread.

After two weeks of confinement and steady refusal, Sol was transferred to Fez the imperial city which was then the capital. Those two weeks had been a time of foreboding and general unrest. The king himself, Abdel Rahman now summoned Sol.

In Fez, the situation took on an ugly national character. For there, in the court of the king, the same steadfast refusal and denial to convert took place. The king, in order to mollify the situation did not accept Sol's refusal. He instructed instead that a series of individuals should approach Sol and argue the case for Islam. None of them had any success. It was rumored that the king's son, the crown prince himself, stole into her chamber and beseeched her to reconsider and indeed to simply feign the faith of Islam in order to prevent the waste of one so beautiful. This also she was not prepared to do.

Wishing to close this ugly chapter, the king now allowed the proceedings for her execution to begin, on the grounds that she had been contemptuous. She was given three days to reflect before her public beheading.

Calls to prayer and fasting went out. The Jews were terror stricken, as this could have potentially led to much bloodshed and plundering of their communities.

On the morning of the execution, the rabbi of Fez, Rebbi Raphael, was allowed to see her. Throngs of men, women and children had already filled the public square when Sol ascended the platform. Fanatic and frenzied curses were heaped on her.

Tranquil amid the torrents of shouts and spittle, she lay her cheek on the block. As the executioner separated her magnificent braids, not a ruffle could be heard. Her neck was first scored by his heavy iron sword. Now bleeding, with her eyes wide to the sky, she cried out Shema Yisrael, HaShem Elokenu, HaShem Echad. With a thud, it was all over.

Later, the Jews scattered coins on the ground in order to distract the onlookers, and quickly they stole Sol's remains. She lies buried in the Jewish cemetery of Fez, where her tomb is a destination of Jewish pilgrimage till this day. Sol's sacrifice has inspired youth. Many girls and women carry her name; plays, poetry and art have all been produced, eternally memorializing this important episode in Jewish Moroccan history.

This tragedy took place in the year 5594, Hebrew letters which when rearranged spell out *tzadeket*, feminine for pious. Sol's name thereafter was referred to as Sol Hatzadika, Sol the Pious.

Rabbi Ben Ayon is the spiritual leader of Magen David Sephardic Congregation in Toronto. (During the preparation of this article, Rabbi Ben Ayon was injured in an automobile accident. He extends gratitude and thanks for the good wishes he received. CJN Editor)

Sol's execution is depicted in this painting by Alfred De Hodeneck called *The torment of the Jews.*

Sol's tomb in Fez and the inscription to her memory.

Opinions

Honoring the Righteous

Flora Heinrich, the youngest of 10 children, was 8 years old when Adolf Hitler's men marched through Frankfurt on the night of Nov. 9, 1938, destroying everything in their path. Her mother, fearing things would only get worse, put her and two of her brothers on a train for the Netherlands. It was the last time she saw her mother alive.

By Viva Press in Halifax

Underground organizations moved her from place to place until she eventually ended up in the town of Kootstertille in the Netherlands. She remained there for the rest of the war years. And it was there she met the Hamstras – Jacob (then 30 years old) and Klasiena (then 37).

The Hamstras risked their lives to hide Heinrich and other Jews from the Nazi regime. And their good intentions were not forgotten.

On Jan. 14, 1996, Heinrich, now Flora Vogel-Lirtzman, sent a letter to Yad Vashem asking it to formally recognize the Hamstras as Righteous Gentiles. On Nov. 5, 1997, in Toronto, during this year's 17th annual Holocaust Education Week, Israel's Holocaust commemoration institute Yad Vashem will present the Hamstras' children and grandchildren with such a medal.

One of the people attending this ceremony will be 23-year-old Jennifer Klasiena Oussoren, a granddaughter of Jacob and Klasiena Hamstra, and one of my roommates in Halifax.

When Jennifer first heard her grandparents were going to be recognized as Righteous Among the Nations, I was getting ready for a trip to Israel.

Jennifer's parents, Fran and Keith, who live in Orangeville, Ont., asked me to take a photo at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem of the plaque honoring the Hamstras. At the time, none of us knew whether the plaque would be completed by the time I reached Israel in early August 1996. When I got there, the Hamstras' story was still being investigated. All that was available for documentation was a file card with the Hamstras' names on it. I took a photograph of the card.

Again this past summer when I was in Israel, I was asked to check up on the process of Vogel-Lirtzman's request. Again, the plaque wasn't ready. The file card was still there.

Now the process has been completed and Jacob and Klasiena Hamstra are to have a plaque in Jerusalem.

Jennifer is humbled by their story, their bravery, the risks they took. She is honored to be the Hamstras' grandchild.

The ceremony honoring the Hamstras for their bravery during the war years will also be a sort of family reunion. Vogel-Lirtzman lived in the Hamstra home like a member of the family. She took on the name Truus Dejong, and told the story that she had fled Holland's south, which was being ravaged by flood waters.

Vogel-Lirtzman lost contact with the Hamstras when they emigrated to Canada after the war. However, through The Hidden Children organization she again found them and managed to visit Jacob and Klasiena before they died. At the ceremony in Toronto, Vogel-Lirtzman will reunite with her adoptive family.

The medal and plaque are symbols of the Hamstras' courage. Jennifer and her family hope to go to Jerusalem one day to see the plaque at Yad Vashem. In the meantime, I look forward to my next trip to Israel. The plaque is ready, and it has to be photographed.

A new 'Jewish renaissance'

Over the past several years, the organized North American Jewish community has forced the issue of Jewish continuity to the centre stage of its priority list. This has obviously been done to combat the petrifying intermarriage statistics that have emerged from Canadian and American Jewish communities. The attempt at damage control has had many interesting traits and ramifications.

By Justin Korda in Jerusalem

The Jewish student community, which has been the subject of this campaign, has definitely become aware of the realities of intermarriage and the threat it poses to the continuation of Jewish life. In this sense, Jewish organizations have been very successful in making the issue known within their targeted population. Unfortunately, it is not the simple awareness of this issue among Jewish students today that is going to keep us from intermarrying and abandoning our religion. This fact too is starting to be realized within the Jewish community and it is this realization that has prompted many philanthropists and Jewish student organizations, such as Hillel, to instead begin striving towards the establishment of a new "Jewish renaissance."

This shift in the means being used to combat the threatening situation in which North American Jewry finds itself is one that is worth examining. The idea of establishing a Jewish renaissance is to package Jewish life as an attractive and exciting deal that students would not want to pass up because it satisfies their own personal and modern needs. This is opposed to coercing Jewish students into being Jewish out of guilt for abandoning the religion of their grandparents and betraying their heritage.

As my rabbi pointed out this Rosh Hashanah, Jewish students will not tolerate being Jewish out of guilt – and rightfully so. However, it can now be said that there is a definite light shining into the dark period of harsh statistics. Although the light may be a small glimmer, it is steadily growing. It is a reflection of the symptoms that have been surfacing, symptoms that do hint at the emergence of a Jewish renaissance. But what exactly does this new catch phrase mean? In answering this question, I wish to make it clear that I am conveying my personal perception.

Judaism an all encompassing religion

Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz stated in a recent speech in Montreal that knowledgeable argumentation, conflicting views and acceptance of one another is the essence of our Jewish tradition. This theory, coupled with the idea that Judaism is an all encompassing religion (meaning that whatever interest one may have, one can find a source in our long heritage that addresses this call), has created the breeding ground for the sprouting renaissance.

I have been hearing about many new Jewish student activities being organized at a grassroots level by Jewish students who are interested in expressing and channelling their own interests within Judaism, or at least among Jews.

Alternative prayer services for the High Holy Days have been created here this year. These services satisfy the spiritual needs of many modern Jewish students by offering services that differ from those in the large traditional synagogue atmospheres. In learning the meaning of the prayers and their practical applications in a relaxed and comfortable environment, the students have been able to absorb the "bottom line" message of the High Holy Days.

Environmentalism, a new and needed fad in the world today, is also being expressed through Jewish activity. A vast array of Jewish environmental organizations have been established in the past several years. These organizations pride themselves on the fact that the Bible clearly states that protection for the environment is an essential quality of Jewish life.

Other initiatives that point to a resurgence of Jewish pride among my peers include Jewish fraternity councils, Jewish feminist organizations, l'chaim societies (use your imaginations for this one) and even a Jewish Lollapalooza-type tour.

Although high intermarriage rates and assimilation may still be a grave problem facing our community, it is important to stress that assimilation is not a cause, it is a result. And if this result is to be remedied, its cause must be stopped. Having Jewish students taking pride in their religion because they see the relevance and guidance that it provides for their personal and every day lives is the surest way to preserve the continuation of Jewish life. With that said, I hope this sprouting renaissance grows into a monstrous rejuvenation.

Two sides of Farrakhan

To those who follow the meandering paths of Louis Farrakhan, minister of the Nation of Islam, it is apparent that this charismatic personage has two distinct sides to him.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

On the one hand, there is an emphasis on important family and moral values, which he preaches with great insistence, and on the other, there is bitter resentment of Caucasians, amongst whom the Jews are his special target. We seem to be the ultimate scapegoat in the panoply of those who do or have done the blacks injustice – notwithstanding our stalwart support of black causes and our incessant fight for racial equality.

I have often been asked by puzzled friends just how these two opposite sides of his preachments can be reconciled. Frankly, I do not know. But it is instructive to know just what he says when Jews and others who are usually condemned are omitted from the speech.

I recently read the report of a respected colleague who was present at an American university town, where Farrakhan was the chief speaker at a banquet. My colleague believes that he was invited because his being Jewish was not known to the sponsors of the banquet, and he came away with an interesting experience. The following are some excerpts from his report of the event:

"I did not know what Minister Farrakhan, as he prefers to be called, would say, but I assumed it would be a reasonably frank sharing of his views, in comparison with a public offering at an auditorium. These were, after all, his selected followers, in a very closed and secure session.

"Farrakhan addressed four topics. He began with the subject of the police. His emphasis was on cooperation with police, support for their thankless and dangerous work and the need to help and respect them.

"On the subject of Jews and Christians, his message was respect and admiration, with emphasis on Islam's recognition of the sacred Torah and the Gospels. When Jews and Christians act poorly, they are betraying their own religious teachings. Not by our Islamic standards, but by their own divine standards must they be judged.

"On the subject of America's sickness, he began with the degradation of religion. Jews and Muslims have holy days. Christians have mere holidays, days off from work. And in America it is worse, for these are mere occasions for getting drunk. Santa Claus has driven Christ from the hearts of children at Christmas. The nation that can send a toy to Mars cannot fix a social problem.

"His major thrust was on social responsibility: the black community has failed its women, its families and its youth. Atonement through action, respect and encouragement was his message.

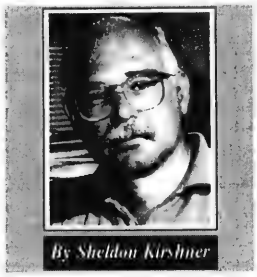
"He spoke of other things but the repeated burden of his message was responsibility, respect and atonement. His language was inclusive and his comments reflected thoughtful, statesmanlike religious leadership."

I only wish that Minister Farrakhan would always talk along these lines and make these ideals his chief objective and the subject of his appeals. So far, alas, that has not been to case.

The Kirshner File

France comes to terms with its past

With the war crimes trial of Maurice Papon now under way, France has taken yet another reluctant step in



coming to grips with its past.

The three-month trial, which began on Oct. 8, a week after the French Roman Catholic church officially apologized for its silence during the Holocaust, will focus on a period of French history — the Vichy era — which virtually all postwar governments tried to sweep under the rug.

Vichy was established in 1940 after France was defeated by Germany. Without much prodding from Hitler, the new regime, led by Marshal Henri-Philippe Petain, promulgated a series of draconian anti-Semitic laws and regulations which disenfranchised the Jewish community and eventually set the stage for the deportation of 75,000 Jews.

Contrary to a much-cherished myth, most of the deportees, mainly of foreign origin, were rounded up by French policemen. Papon played an integral role in this methodical process. He is charged with having sent 1,560 Jews from Bordeaux to Drancy, a camp near Paris. From there, they were shipped by train to Auschwitz, from which they did not return.

Papon, now 87, is the first high Vichy official and only the second Frenchman to be charged with committing "crimes against humanity."

Yet he is not the first French collaborator to be called to account. With the liberation of France in 1944, the wrath of the nation fell on those accused of treason. In an extra-judicial purge, some 49,000 collaborators received prison sentences of varying lengths, 1,500 were executed and 25,000 were stripped of their civic rights. In all, upwards of 150,000 French men and women were penalized for collaborating with the enemy.

Papon, however, eluded his fate, claiming he had been a member of the resistance. And he got away with it. During Charles de Gaulle's presidency, he held top positions in the Paris police force, and in 1980, President Valery Giscard D'Estaing, a conservative, appointed him to his cabinet as minister of the budget.

In 1981, a French Jewish historian, who had been persecuted during Vichy times, found Papon's signature on incriminating documents relating to the arrest and deportation of Jews. But Papon was not immediately brought to justice, having been protected by none other than the president of France, Francois Mitterrand, a socialist who had been a Vichy civil servant himself.

Mitterrand, an admirer of Israel whose chief of staff was a Jew and whose friends included the Holocaust survivor and novelist Elie Wiesel, typified France's postwar attitude of denial toward Vichy. "We cannot," he declared, "live forever on memories and bitterness." To Mitterrand and a generation of like-minded French politicians, the "old wounds" were best left unexamined in the interests of preserving "civil peace."

France, unlike Germany, did not submit itself to national soul-searching. In this spirit of expediency, the state-owned television station refused to screen *The Sorrow and the Pity*, Marcel Ophul's classic documentary expose of Vichy, and school texts claimed that the Germans, rather than the French, had rounded up local Jews.

The spell of this self-induced amnesia, which lasted well into the 1990s, was broken by Mitterrand's successor, Jacques Chirac. Two years ago, in an extraordinary admission, he formally apologized for Vichy France's role in the Final Solution.

But well before Chirac's belated acknowledgement, France had launched legal proceedings against Paul Touvier — a minor functionary who had ordered the execution of seven Jews — and Klaus Barbie, a German Gestapo officer who had persecuted Jews on French soil.

For a fuller appreciation of Vichy France, I suggest you read two recently published books: *Vichy Law and the Holocaust in France* (New York University Press) by Richard Weisberg and *France Under The Germans* (The New Press) by Philippe Burrin.

Weisberg, a professor of constitutional law at Yeshiva University, shows how the French legal system conveniently accommodated itself to the Nazi order. As Weisberg points out, Vichy's anti-Semitic decrees were so thorough that the Germans largely adopted them for use in the occupied zone. In short, *Vichy Law and the Holocaust in France* is a solidly researched, devastating critique which also raises disturbing questions about the ease with which democratic legal systems can be subverted. In this respect, it is a cautionary tale of exceeding importance.

In *France Under the Germans*, Burrin, a Swiss scholar, studies the complicity of French citizens, industry, banks, police forces and institutions with the Nazis. His carefully reasoned work is based on heretofore untapped sources, including the archives of major business enterprises, industrial organizations and of the Vichy police.

Burrin, a professor of history at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, describes the opposition to the German occupation, but concedes that it was no more than marginal. For the vast majority, he observes, "there seemed no alternative but to submit, bow before the triumphant force and adjust one's behavior accordingly." With that as his thesis, Burrin makes his case, and it is singularly persuasive.

In addition to these works, I recommend *Vichy France and the Jews*, which was published in 1981 and written by Michael Marrus and Robert Paxton. It is still the last word on the subject.

The ultimate outsider

Aleksander Wat was an archetypal European intellectual, a poet and a champion of democracy. Although his influence was felt in Polish literary and political circles, little has been published about him, either in Poland or elsewhere. With the publication of Tomas Venclova's *Aleksander Wat: Life and Art of an Inconoclast* (Yale University Press), this omission has been remedied.

Born in Warsaw in 1900, Wat was the son of Mendel Michal Chwat, a traditional Polish Jew. For inexplicable reasons, he did not see fit to pass on his Judaic knowledge to his son. Vencloca, a professor of Russian and East European literature at Yale University, suggests that Wat grew up "without any real grounding in Judaism."

Venclova claims that Wat's Jewish identity was never in conflict with his Polish consciousness. Yet in 1953, six years before his emigration from Poland, Wat and his wife were baptized as Roman Catholics. Wat's conversion was nothing if not strange, since he had been a zealous Communist until his imprisonment in the Soviet Union in the 1940s.

Wat was uncomfortable with the church's record of anti-Semitism. Yet he was drawn to Christianity's teachings, and in his imagination, Christ personified Jewishness.

In the final analysis, Wat's baptism did not lead to spiritual contentment. He was tormented by the wave of state anti-Semitism which washed over Poland in 1967, the year he died. It was an event which upset the balance between his Jewishness and Polishness and burned into his soul, Venclova writes. So it came as no surprise that his last wish was to be buried in a Christian cemetery in Israel, a request which remained unfulfilled.

Venclova's succinct appraisal of Wat is that he was an alien – "a Jew among Christians, a Christian among Jews." In short, he was the ultimate outsider.

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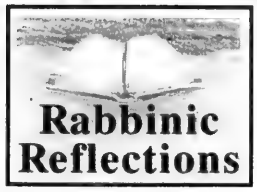


Exploring the Shabbat

By RABBI GARY KARLIN

Every year, we complete our reading of the Torah on Simchat Torah, the day of Rejoicing in Torah. And every year, we begin again, with Parshat Bereshit (Genesis), on Simchat Torah. It is a never-ending cycle that expresses the teaching of the scholar, Ben Bag-Bag, two millennia ago, "*hafoch bah, v'hafoch bah, dechola bah* – turn it over and over, for you will find everything in it. Scrutinize it; grow old and grey in it; do not depart from it. There is no better portion in life than it." (Pirkei Avot 5)

The completion of the reading of the Torah, immediately followed by its resumption at the beginning, has a parallel in another cycle in Parshat Bereshit: the culmination of the week of creation with the creation of Shabbat, followed by the second week. Shabbat, too, has a completion and a beginning: our avoidance of *melachah* (usually translated as "work," but closer in meaning to "creative mastery over the world") at the week's ending, and specific Shabbat behaviors, such as saying kiddush on Friday night or eating three special meals. The former are the "negative" mitzvot, since they prohibit, while the latter are often called "positive" mitzvot, as they prescribe behaviors that sanctify the day.

In the Talmud Berachot (20a), we learn the teaching of Rava, who said that the Torah, in the enumeration of the Ten Commandments in Exodus, chapter 20, tells us to "remember" the Sabbath; in their repetition in Deuteronomy, chapter 5, the Torah says to "observe" the Sabbath. The "positive remembrances" are given as a package with the "negative observances."

These two types of Shabbat commandments, the "positive" prescriptions and the "negative" prohibitions, taken together, add up to a complete day of spiritual rest and renewal. Neither is objectively more important than the other. Shabbat helps us keep our lives in perspective by altering our routine, both the things we do and the things we avoid.

We cannot afford to focus exclusively on the prohibitions of Shabbat: "Don't do this, don't do that." The result of this would be a joyless Shabbat. Similarly, we cannot focus only on the prescriptions: Shabbat is candlelighting, shul, havdalah. This would result in a Shabbat lacking in spiritual power. We must seek to create for ourselves and for those with whom we make our lives, as Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel put it, an "island in time," in which we have the space to pursue the *menuchah*, the spiritual refreshment, of Shabbat.

While we must not hold ourselves or others to an artificial level of consistency, the oftenmentioned "all or nothing" approach to Jewish living, we also should understand the beauty of the Shabbat, with the richness of its varied observances.

Jews from all the religious movements are coming to a holistic view of Shabbat, within our own differing philosophies of Judaism, even as we encourage people to take the individual building-blocks of Shabbat into their lives, one piece at a time. In this way, we can reach towards higher levels of kedushah, holiness, in our lives.

Rabbi Gary Karlin is spiritual leader of Beth Jacob Synagogue, Hamilton, Ont.

Hebrew subscription lists

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Have you tried finding your ancestors or relatives from the Old Country in the so-called *prenumerantn* or Hebrew subscription lists that were often included in rabbinic and Judaic scholarly works printed in the last few hundred years?

In olden times and even down to the present day, an author would ask potential readers to purchase copies of their books long in advance of publication. Funds collected helped the author live while writing the book.

Contributors, listed by town, were gratefully acknowledged in print when the book was published.

To be sure, Hebrew subscription lists are a much-scattered genealogical resource. Berl Kagan (1912-1993), a Lithuanian-born scholar who came to New York in 1950, spent years working on a mysterious project in the vast Hebraic libraries of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Then, in 1975, Ktav Publishing House printed his remarkable work, *Hebrew Subscription Lists, With an Index to 8,767 Jewish Communities in Europe and North Africa.*

Thanks to Kagan, who also edited several yizkor books and a bibliographical reference work on Jewish writers, genealogical researchers can find thousands of *prenumerantn* indexed in one source. If your ancestors came from the town of Brody, for instance, Kagan's book will indicate which books have subscription lists that include the names of people from Brody.

Then it's a matter of locating the original works, reading the lists and, with a bit of luck, finding the names of your relatives.

Making use of Hebrew subscriptions lists can be a bit tricky.

You've got to be able to read some Hebrew to use Kagan's book and the actual lists. Sometimes the lists are printed in Rashi script, a combination of Hebrew and Aramaic textual characters that can be difficult for novices to decipher. Since many of the books involved are old and rare, they can be found only in specialized libraries such as the New York Public Library, Hebrew Union College or the above-mentioned YIVO or Jewish Theological Seminary of America. (Along with Harvard, Yale and a few other big North American universities, the University of Toronto's Robarts Library has an impressive collection of Judaic works.)

Finding a name on a subscription list can be useful in several ways. First, it lets you know that the person was alive and living in a certain place at a certain time. Second, the type of book supported may reveal something about that person's lifestyle and beliefs. Third, many books printed in the first half of the 19th century listed donors according to their old-style Hebrew patronymic names (i.e. Meir ben David), thereby showing two generations at once.

True, those researchers who succeed in making significant discoveries in Hebrew subscription lists are in the minority. However, given the general dearth of source material for eastern European and Russian Jewish communities from the last century, subscription lists can be an important additional source of documentation of our ancestors.

* * *

Census Loophole: Canada's national censuses are taken every decade, but are protected by privacy laws for 90 years. However, a special census taken in 1940 is exempted from the usual privacy requirements and can be supplied (for a fee) for any former resident who has been dead at least 20 years.

Conducted during wartime, the *National Registration of 1940* was an attempt to assess Canada's military potential in case the need arose for sudden mobilization. Adult residents were asked about their age, health, military experience, national background and— of particular value to genealogists — their own and their parents' place of birth by town and country.

To apply, write to Statistics Canada, Census Pension Searches Unit, c/o Roger Marcotte, BIE-34 Jean Talon, Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa ON K1A 0T6.

Provide the name and address (in 1940) of the subject, as well as some proof of death such as an obituary or photo of a tombstone. The fee, inclusive of taxes, is $51.75 in Nfld., N.S. and N.B., $51.28 in Que., $51.30 in Man, and $48.15 everywhere else in Canada. Your cheque or money order will be returned if the search proves unsuccessful.

On body piercing...

By RABBI CHAIM STEINMETZ

Body piercing is not a new phenomenon; the Bible makes many references to nose rings and earrings. In recent years, though, this ancient art has experienced a revival and is moving into the mainstream.

Comparative Law

What does Halachah have to say about body piercing? (Space limitations preclude discussing other halachic issues such as honoring parents, concerns about the safety of certain piercing procedures or a discussion of tattooing, which is specifically prohibited by the Bible).

Jewish law prohibits one from hitting and wounding others. The Talmud (Baba Kama 91b) records a debate about whether a person is permitted to wound himself; the great majority of medieval authorities accept the opinion that self-wounding is forbidden. (Shulchan Aruch Choshen Mishpat 420:31).

At first glance, this Halachah is perplexing. It seems reasonable to prohibit someone from injuring another person when he protests, because that is an obvious breach of one's fundamental rights.

However, why would Halachah prohibit self-wounding? Rabbi S.Z. Zevin answers (L'Or HaHalacha pages 318-338; cf. Minchat Hinnuch 48) that man is not the master of his own body. God is the one who grants life and maintains full rights to the human body. "The Lord gives and the Lord takes" is not a mere phrase, but rather a statement of fact: God owns man's body. Consequently, self-inflicted wounds and suicide are forbidden because the human body belongs to God, not man.

The prohibition against self-wounding would seem to preclude body piercing, but it isn't that simple. Not all wounding is prohibited. Even though a doctor will wound the patient in the course of an operation, it is permitted since wounding for therapeutic purposes is allowed. In evaluating the permissibility of body piercing, we must ask whether wounding for reasons of beauty is allowed.

This question is dealt with by several contemporary rabbis in their responsa. (The context of these responsa is with regard to the permissibility of cosmetic surgery which evokes similar issues.) Rabbi Eliezer Waldenberg (Tzitz Eliezer 11:41) writes that wounding is allowed for therapeutic purposes because the importance of health considerations outweigh any prohibitions against wounding.

Wounding for the sake of beauty, though, is far less important and would not be allowed. In addition, it is improper to tamper with the body God gave us; it is God's will for us to look the way we do naturally. Obviously, Rabbi Waldenberg would disallow body piercing as well. (Perhaps he would allow pierced ears because there are several opinions that the prohibition of self wounding does not apply when there is no bleeding.)

Others take a different approach. Rabbi Moshe Feinstein (Iggrot Moshe Choshen Mishpat 2:65-66) argues that the reason wounding is allowed for surgery and other therapeutic purposes is because it is intended to benefit the person being wounded. He notes that Maimonides (Chovel U'Mazik 5:1) writes that the prohibition against wounding is only when it is intended to pain and degrade the body. Wounding for the purposes of beauty (e.g., plastic surgery) would be allowed.

Clearly, Halachah takes any wounding of the body, even self-inflicted, very seriously. It sees the body as belonging to God, and would prohibit any masochistic behavior. There is even a debate regarding whether wounding is allowed for the sake of beauty. If body piercing is done solely for the sake of beauty, there would be a debate about its permissibility. However, if it is done to associate with a subculture of masochism or self-destruction, it would definitely violate the prohibition against wounding.

A time of endings and beginnings

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

The holiday season is almost over, but there is still time for one last journey on the Jewish Highway as we prepare for the festival of Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/numbers/torah/29352936.htm]**.

Although this holiday is often mistakenly seen as a part of Sukkot, it is actually a separate festival in its own right with its own unique traditions. For a good introduction to the two-day celebrations (one day in Israel) see Rabbi Ari Mark Cartun's essay at **[http://hillel.stanford.edu/Being_Jewish/SimhatTorah.html]**.

Of course, the holiday is best known as the time of endings and beginnings.We complete the annual reading of the Torah and then immediately restart at Bereshit **[http://www.jer1.co.il/education/education/ohr/tw/5755/devarim/vzoshab.htm]**.

According to Succoth and the Festival Cycle, Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah is unique because it represents two climaxes in the Jewish Calendar **[http://www.internet.org.il/succos.htm]**. It comes at the end of the holiday season that begins in Elul and continues through Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot. And it also marks the end of the harvest season which began with Passover in the spring and continued through Shavuot.

One of the key prayers of Shemini Atzeret is the annual prayer for rain: "For a blessing, not for a curse. For life, not for death. For abundance, not for famine." Dr. Ismar Schorsch suggests that although this is a thanksgiving festival celebrated at the end of an ample harvest, there is an "undertone of anxiety. Will this year's rainfall be large enough to guarantee a repetition of last year's bounty?" **[http://www.jtsa.edu/pubs/parashah/5756/sukkot.html]**.

Still on the subject of Israel and rain, to see how your prayers for precipitation are doing, you can check out the weather in Jerusalem at **[http://cnn.com/WEATHER/html/JerusalemIsrael.html]** or **[http://www.msnbc.com/news/wea_front.asp?faa=jrs]**. And one final rain note: it seems that the El Niño weather pattern which is wreaking havoc around the world may actually be helping Israel **[http://www.eurekalert.org/E-lert/current/public_releases/deposit/elnino2.html]**. Dr. Dan Yakir of the Weizmann Institute of Science **[http://www.weizmann.ac.il/]** found that the appearance of El Niño in the Pacific has usually corresponded to above-average rainfall in Israel. And the absence of El Niño saw drier seasons or even droughts in Israel. And that prompted Dr. Yakir to ask "Could Pharaoh's seven bad years have reflected an ancient period devoid of El Niño events?"

Well, that's a question I guess we can ponder until...Passover. Until then, chag samayach.

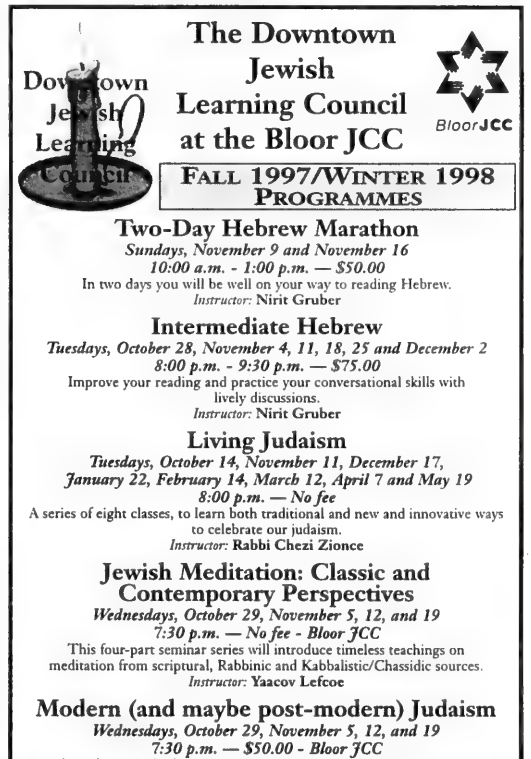
* * *

I recently asked for recommendations about your favorite sites. Joy Mendleson of Halifax e-mailed me about her own site with several hundred Jewish links **[http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/~ab522/jewish.html]**. And Montreal's Rabbi Zalmen Marozov is founder of TorahFax's Torah on the Spot for People on the Go. Updated daily since 1992, it's quite an achievement **[http://www.NetAxis.qc.ca:80/torahfax/]**.

Do you have a favorite Jewish site (or even your own) that deserves recognition? E-mail me at the address below.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].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Brundibar set for second season

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

From left: Daniel Abrams, John-Michael Erlendson, Helena Fine and Ariella Fine at a rehearsal of *Brundibar*.

TORONTO — Teaching the Holocaust to young children can be a challenge, but children's entertainer and educator Helena Fine sees it as a mission.

Fine, the producer of *Brundibar*, a children's opera written in1938 by Czech-Jewish composer Hans Krasa who was a concentration camp inmate, is in rehearsal at B'nai Brith Canada headquarters.

Magical Basket Productions (Fine's company), in cooperation with B'nai Brith Canada and The Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto, will be presenting the children's opera for its second season.

"I believe that the most effective way of reaching children is through live performances," says Fine. "From being in [the play] and experiencing it, and by watching their peers perform, the children become more involved and feel part of the experience."

In addition, she says, "There are very few organizations where children can experience the Jewish arts and at the same time be involved in a professionally staged opera."

Brundibar will be performed by 40 children ages eight to 14, at the Holocaust Memorial Centre in the Lipa Green Building from Nov. 9 to 13, with six performances targeted for school children and two for the community.

The opera will also be performed at Temple Sinai on Nov. 11 for senior Hebrew school classes and on Nov. 23 it will be performed for supplementary school students. Other performances will take place at the Downtown Jewish Community Centre and the opera will tour public schools where there will be student interaction.

Development money has been provided by a grant from UJA Federation's action committee for Jewish continuity.

The opera was first performed in the Jewish orphanage in Prague and then when the children were taken to Theresienstadt with the composer and director, it was performed more than 50 times, in an attempt to inspire and relieve the fear and pain of those around them.

The Nazis portrayed Theresienstadt as a "resort town," Fine says, and *Brundibar* was performed for the International Red Cross in 1944, as a showcase of how well the Jews were treated.

"They were deceived," she says, "and shortly after, [the performers] were all transported to Auschwitz where most of them, as well as the composer and director, died.

Brundibar, Fine says, is an allegorical tale of two children, Pepicek and Aninka, who go to buy milk for their sick mother. Seeing that the local organ grinder Brundibar earns money with his music, the children sing a gentle song but earn no money. With the help of friends and animals that come to life, they perform and earn some money. Wicked Brundibar steals their money, but after a chase, they are victorious.

Fine says the opera is a fairy tale, where evil is defeated by goodness and cooperation, and the final victory march is a symbol of the victory over the oppressor.

The program will also include readings of poems by Czech/Jewish writer Norbert Fryd and composer Karel Reiner, who wrote poems for children in the orphanage. They both survived Terezin and other camps and became prominent in their fields in Czechoslovakia.

Their works, titled *The Flower Horse*, a collection of poems set to music, were created to teach the children the alphabet and other educational material, as there were no books or pencils in the camp.

Pnina Zilberman, director of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee says that with Fine's artistic direction and understanding of the arts, "I am confident that students from across Ontario will benefit from seeing this highly professional production."

Fine noted that in the spring, she and other artists will go to public, Catholic and Hebrew schools, where they will work with children teaching the Holocaust through *Brundibar*.

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At the evening, traditional Shabbat melodies will be interspersed with Hasidic & contemporary tales told by **Yitzhak Buxbaum.**

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Time: **8:00 p.m.**
Place: **645 Castlefield Ave.**
(at intersection of Bathurst and Castlefield)
Information: **416-488-0688**

Yediday Shabbat is a humanistic and egalitarian *havurah* that gathers on designated Friday evenings to celebrate Shabbat. The group is a beneficiary of a grant from the Action Committee for Jewish Continuity, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

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TOWARD RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING

An open letter to the Jewish community

Dear Community Member:

The continuing debate about religious conversion legislation in Israel has, once again, created the potential for dissension among Jews in our community and across North America.

UJA Federation is dismayed by the prospect of this issue diverting us from the common cause of social justice, alleviating Jewish distress around the world and furthering the rescue of Jews in danger.

At the same time, UJA Federation reaffirms its opposition to any legislation which would change the current situation regarding recognition of conversions in Israel and urges all parties to seek a compromise solution. We share the anguish of Jews who feel disenfranchised by recent events.

With all our differences, we are still one people, bound by a sense of responsibility for each other. Our community's worldwide reputation for compassion and adherence to Jewish values has been built on a foundation of mutual respect and support. Our achievements will only endure if we continue to treat every single Jew with dignity. These are the principles through which UJA Federation conducts the community's work.

Through the Jewish Agency for Israel, UJA Federation is devoted to fostering understanding among all streams of Judaism. This year, the Agency will be spending over $14 million on programs promoting tolerance, religious diversity and unity.

UJA Federation believes that what we have in common counts for more than what sets us apart. Our response to issues threatening Jewish unity must be based on understanding, respect and a reinvigorated commitment to Jews who so desperately need our help.

We welcome all community members to work with us in overcoming our challenges.

Joseph M. Steiner

Joseph Steiner
President

4600 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M2R 3V2
Telephone (416) 635-2883 Toll Free 1-888-635-2424 www.feduja.org Fax (416) 635-9565

Greater Toronto Area

Teen donates bar mitzvah cash to help CHAT

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When Eli Cadesky earmarked a portion of his bar mitzvah money to tzedakah, he decided to give a sizable donation to Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT).

The Grade 8 Associated Hebrew School student said that he chose CHAT because he hoped that the money might in some way help a disadvantaged Jewish child attend the school.

"My mom and uncles went to CHAT, my sister is a student there and I too wish to go there. I always had a Jewish education and it helped me a lot. I hope that my donation will enable another kid to go [to CHAT] too."

He said he had been inspired to give to a Jewish educational institution three weeks before his March bar mitzvah, after studying teachings that emphasized the importance of Jewish education.

"The Torah teaches us that a child with no knowledge of the Torah is like a child whose father has buried him alive. If a child grows up in a house with no Jewish education he is called a captured child, because he has no idea why he is Jewish, like a soldier that is captured and has no clue of what is going on in the outside world."

Although he is a good student and enjoys school Eli is also very keen on golf and basketball, he said. Although most of his bar mitzvah money went into the bank, he splurged on a new set of golf clubs, he added.

Eli Cadesky

He credited his grandfather Abe Cadesky — he bought Eli his first set of golf clubs — with teaching him to play golf.

Eli said he plans to study economics, math and business at CHAT with a long-term plan of going into his grandfather, Eli Mucher's, luggage business.

Eli's mother Dianne Cadesky said she was proud of her son and pleased that he chose to give the money to CHAT. "We encouraged him to donate to some Jewish cause."

Rabbi Marvin Pachino, head master at CHAT said "I think it's an extremely generous and wonderful gesture. Hopefully it will set a precedent for many other people celebrating b'nai mitzvot. It's a recognition of tzedakah."

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Yiddish Corner

ייִדיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

דער אַשכנז-פעסטיוואַל אין טאָראָנטאָ

פון ש. סימכאָוויטש

אין משך פון אַכט טעג, פון 25-סטן אויגוסט ביזן 1-טן סעפטעמבער, איז אַפגעהאַלטן געוואָרן בייַ אונדז אין שטאָט דער צווייטער „אַשכנז-פעסטיוואַל פון דער ניי־יִדישער קולטור", אין האַרבּאָראָנט־צענטער, ביים בּרעג פון אָנטעריאָ־טייך (לעיק אָנטעריאָ). דער איניציאַטיוואַל, ווי דער פּריערדיקער, איז צושטאַנד געקומען אַ דאַנק דער איניציאַטיוו פון אַ גרופּע יונגע לײַבהאָבער פון יִדישער קולטור־יִרושה פון מזרח־אייראָפּע, בּראש מיטן 37־יאָריקן מוזיקער דוד בוכבינדער. דער פעסטיוואַל האָט אַרויסגערופן גרויס אינטערעס אין שטאָט און איז געווען גוט פאַ־פולאָירידט אין דער פּרעסע, אויף דער ראַדיאָ און אין אַ ספּע־ציעלער קאָלידפולער בראָשור, וואָס האָט געזאָלט באַשריבן אַלע פּראָגראַמען אין משך פון די אַכט טעג.

אַ באַזונדער בכבודיק אָרט צווישן די פאַרשיידנאַרטיקע פּראָג־ראַמען האָט פאַרנומען דאָס יִדישע פאָלקסלידּ, געזונגען פון די באַקאַנטע אַמעריקאַנער און קאַנאַדער זינגער: עידיטן קופער, טעריסאַ טאָווא, לענקא ליכטענבערג און גלאָריאַ וואַלענטין. אַ ספּעציעלער קאָנצערט ווען די שאָפונגען פון דער ניי־יאָרקער יִדישער דיכטערין אָן קאָמפּאָזיטאָרין ביילע שעכטער־גאָטעסמאַן, מיט דער באָטיליקונג פון די זינגערינס בעטי־ען קאַל, סטעלאַ וואָקער א.א., איז אָפּגעהאַלטן געוואָרן אין מאָלסאָן אַמפיטע־אָטער. דער טאָראָנטער יִדישער פאָלקס־כאָר האָט געגעבן אַ קאָנצערט פון יִדישע לידער, דיריגירט פון באַקאַנטן קאָמפּאָזיטאָר אָן דיריגענט זלמן מלאָטעק. די יִדישע דיכטערין אָן פּראָפעסאָר־שרי־בערין, חוה ראָזענפאַרב פון מאָנטרעאַל, איז אויפגעטראָטן בייַ אַ ספּעציעלן אָוונט, מיט פאָרלייענונגען פון אירע ווערק אין יִדיש אָן ענגליש. אויך דער שרייבער פון די שורות האָט פאָרגעלייענט עטלעכע לידער פון זיין נייעם בוך „פונקען אין זשאַר".

וואָס שייך יִדישער מחזק איז דער אויסוואָל געווען אַ גאָר ריכער. עס זיינען פאָרגעקומען אויפטריטן פון קלעזמער אָן פּידל־קאַפּעליעס פון די פאָראייניקטע שטאָטן, קאַנאַדע אָן מדינת ישראל. אַ באַזונדערן רושם האָט געמאַכט די „דיבוק" פּאָרשטע־לונג פון עקספּערימענטאַלן פּוילישן טעאַטער „ווערשאַלן" פון ביאַליסטאָק, וואָס האָט געגעבן דריי פאָרשטעלונגען פון אַנסקי־ס קלאַסישער דראַמע אין ענגליש אָן איינע אין פּויליש. עס זיינען אויך געווען אַרויסטריטן פון יִדישן טעאַטער אין סאַן פראַנציסקאָ („דער לעצטער יִדישער פאַעט"), ניו־יאָרק („די מעמואַרן פון גליקל פון האַמעלן") אָן נאָך.

אַ ריי יִדישע פילמען זיינען געווען געוואָרן: „איך ווייל זיין אַ באַרדער", פ.ש. 1937; „בעני קרינק", ראָטן־פאַרבאַנד 1926; „פּרי־לעכע קבצנים", פּוילן 1937; „עי טיקל אין דזשי האַרט", דיטש־לאַנד 1996, אָן נאָך. אויסער די טעאַטער־ און פילם־אימפּרעזעס זיינען אויך פאָרגעקומען אויפטריטן פון טאַנץ־גרופּעס, לעקציעס אָן פאַנעלן וועגן יִדישער קוסט, הומאָר, ווי אויך באַזונדערע קינדער־פּראָגראַמען. אין משך פון די לעצטע טעג פון פעסטיוואַל איז אינגאַרדנט געוואָרן אַ מאַרק פון יִדישע ביכער, טאַשמעס אָן פּלאַטן, ווי אויך חפצים אָן אַנדערע אַנדענק־זאַכן. די גאַנצע צייט זיינען אָפן געווען אויסשטעלונגען מיט מאָלעריי־ען אָן פאַטאָ־בילדער פון קאַנאַדער יִדישע קינסטלער אָן פאַטאָגראָפן.

איינע פון די הויכפונקטן פון פעסטיוואַל איז געווען דער אַשכנז־פּאַראַד, וואָס, דעם 31־סטן אויגוסט, מיטן אָנטייל פון הונדערטער קינדער אָן דערוואַקסענע, וואָס האָבן זיך חדשים־לאַנג געגרייט צו דער אימפּרעזע. דער אָפיציעלער שלוס פון פעסטי־וואַל איז פאָרגעקומען מאָנטיק, ליבאַר־דעי פאָרנאַכט, וועו אויף דער בינע פון גרויסן מאָלסאָן אַמפיטעאַטער זיינען אַרויסגעקומען אַלע אַרטיסטן אָן אָנפירער פון פעסטיוואַל אָן מיט גענאַנג בציבור פאָרעגדיקט דעם גרויסן קולטור יום־טוב.

דער קאָלעקטיוואַר אָנשטרענג פון הונדערטער יִדישע אַרטיסטן, יונגע ענטוזיאַסטן וואָלונטירן איז אַ בולטער אויסדרוק פון אַ טיפער גאָרונג בייַ אַ טייל פון יונגן דור צו דערקענען אָן שעפּן פון די קוואָלן פון דער יִדישער קולטור־יִרושה איז מזרח־אייראָפּע. עס באַווייזט אויך דעם גרויסן שפּעראינציאַל, וואָס מיר פאָרמאַגן, די טאַלאַנטן אויף אַלע געביטן פון קוסט אָן קולטור, מיט וועלכע אונדזער יִדישע יוגנט איז געבענטשט. דאָרפן מיר זיי באַגריסן אין דערמוטיקן צו פאָרטיפן זייערע יִדישע קענטעניסן, איינגעשלאָסן יִדיש־לשון און די ריכע יִדישע ליטעראָטור.

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CANADA

Jewish National Fund of Toronto

is proud to invite the Toronto Community to the

1997 Negev Dinner Tribute

in honour of

Edward Bronfman

in recognition of
excellence in communal leadership and dedication to Israel

Sunday, December 7, 1997 at the Sheraton Centre, Toronto

Reception: 5:00 p.m. Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

Tickets to the Dinner are $107 per person with a minimum contribution of $360 (for which a tax receipt will be issued)

DINNER CHAIRMAN
DONALD CARR, Q.C.

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A special project will be initiated on the occasion of Toronto's 1997 Negev Dinner Tribute saluting Edward Bronfman. Proceeds from the Dinner will be used for **land reclamation and project development at Kibbutz Neot Semadar**, in the southern Arava region of the Negev Desert. The young *pioneers* of Neot Semadar require our assistance to help ensure economic stability and a bright future for them and their children in a very barren area of the wilderness known as the Arava, just north of Eilat.

In saluting Edward Bronfman, the Jewish National Fund will assist Neot Semadar in reclaiming hundreds of dunams of land for agricultural use, help develop an Artists Centre, develop roads to the Kibbutz and within the Kibbutz, and assist the construction of a fifty thousand cubic metre reservoir. A resort area to promote tourism will also be developed. This undertaking will surely be a source of great pride to all who will have participated in this very worthy project. **Together, we can all help to make the *desert green*.**

For further information contact
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF TORONTO
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Date	Facilitator	
Nov. 1	Prof. David Goldberg	Director of Research & Education, Foundation for Middle East Studies
Nov. 22	Mordechai Ben-Dat	Editor - The Canadian Jewish News
Dec. 13	Moshe Ronen	President Canadian Jewish Congress, (Ont.)
Jan. 10	Genya Intrator	Social Activist
Jan. 31	Yehudi Kinar	Consul General of Israel
Feb. 21	Rabbi Moshe Stern	Rabbi of Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue

All programs begin at 7:00 p.m.
(416) 221-3433

NCSY teen volunteers in Ukraine

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Rachel Mechanic, centre, and Jessica Mishali of Florida are seen at camp with their 14-year-old translator Naftali, a native of Kharkov.

TORONTO — Rachel Mechanic travelled to Kharkov, Ukraine this summer to teach children at a Jewish camp; by the end of her three-week stint, over a dozen campers had adopted her Hebrew name as their own.

Mechanic, 18, was the only Canadian among a group of 29 National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY) students to take part in NCSY's JOLT (Jewish Overseas Leadership Training) program. The other high school students, with the exception of one from Mexico, were from the United States. They also visited Poland and London, England.

Their task was "to teach everything there was to know about Judaism in three weeks," said Mechanic. (In addition to the JOLT participants, 15 Israeli staffers taught the high school-age campers.)

"Each night would be a different chag. We had a Pesach seder one night, we had a mock wedding, Shabbat candlelighting [and] a Purim carnival." A pajama party was the springboard for teaching the Shema. Teaching Tefillah and Chumash through young translators, Mechanic learned that "a language barrier really isn't a barrier."

A graduate of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto and a member of Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, Mechanic is now a first-year student at York University and plans to apply to its Jewish teacher education program.

The Kharkov summer camp, co-sponsored by the Orthodox Union and Israel's Yeshivat Sha'alvim, opened in the early 1990s.

Mechanic's experience there was very different from camps Shalom and Moshava, where she spent five summer sessions and one session respectively.

This summer, her camp day started early in the morning and continued until the early hours of the next morning as she and her peers planned the next day's lessons after the children's bedtime.

Camp activities included arts and crafts, sports, swimming and canoeing in a leaky canoe, Mechanic said.

The 135 Ukrainian Jewish children at the camp were like children anywhere, she recalled. "They were great. We loved them."

The children in turn thought the NCSYers were "like kings. Most of us had more spending money than their parents would make in a year." She insisted she wasn't exaggerating.

Campers were housed in two three-storey buildings, with staff in the same building as the high school-age students.

Did she miss Canada? "You have no idea!" was Mechanic's heartfelt reply, as she recalled intermittent electricity, a dearth of hot water for showers and a preponderance of second-hand smoke – but she'd still like to go back.

Camp lessons emphasized fun, but there was a lot of Jewish content and Mechanic noted the campers "had to want it." Pre-camp interviews screened out those who didn't.

From the sound of it, they couldn't get enough. "A lot of the boys were having a bar mitzvah or a bris [subject to parental approval]. One boy who was there for a week and had returned home, heard the mohel was there and had his mother drive six hours so he could have a bris."

NCSYers gave as many male campers as they could, donated kippot, tzitzit and tefillin. Some of the volunteers gave up their own belongings so the campers could have them.

The girls were given the opportunity to adopt Hebrew names.

Volunteers advised them to choose a name from the Tanach or after someone they know. A number of them wanted to know Mechanic's Hebrew name. "Now there are about 15 girls walking around with the name Rachel Marmel in the Ukraine."

If the Canadian Rachel Marmel gets her wish, she will return to the Ukraine to work with Jewish children again.

Morning:
Children's Storytelling Concert
10:30 - 12:00 noon

✶ **Yitzhak Buxbaum**
"Mystic Teachings Mystic Tales"
10:00 - 12:00 noon

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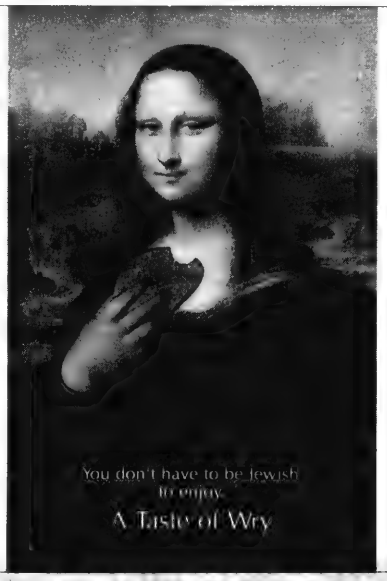

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North York Central Library
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Sunday
October 26, 1997

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Greater Toronto Area

Solel to celebrate 25th anniversary

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —The idea for Congregation Solel was born at a Passover seder in Mississauga in 1973. Today, celebrating its 25th anniversary year, it has nearly 300 families hailing from Dundas to Thornhill.

When Solel held its first Shabbat service in what was once a monastery and a girls' boarding school, it conferred on Mississauga the distinction of being the first city in Canada to have a Reform congregation as its only synagogue.

Members celebrated recently by walking nearly two miles from the original location to the new building bearing a sefer Torah, one of 1,564 rescued from the Nazis in Czechoslovakia, donated to the congregation by Rabbi Lawrence Englander and his wife, Cheryl.

Though some of its letters have faded and thus it is considered unsuitable for religious services, the sefer Torah is housed in a new cabinet in the congregation's foyer and Rabbi Englander feels it has "come home" to a Jewish family.

The 49-year-old guitar playing rabbi led Solel's first service 25 years ago as a student rabbi. By coincidence, the rabbi and his wife are observing their own 25th wedding anniversary this year.

Rabbi Englander, son of Ruth and the late Norman Englander, learned to play guitar in the folk music scene of the '60s. He is the embodiment of the innovative spirit of the sprawling city of Mississauga, which has grown to more than half a million people.

His guitar playing and singing are a hallmark of the Temple, which has hosted more than 400 bar and bat mitzvahs.

A highlight of the anniversary celebration was the planting of a flowering almond tree at the temple by Rev. Harry Oussoren and Rev. Kathy Toivanen of Erin Mills United Church.

"They picked that tree because it is the first to bloom in the spring in Israel," Rabbi Englander said.

Greetings were brought by Rev. Victor Shepherd of Streetsville United Church and Elaine Goldberg, both active in the Holocaust Remembrance Committee.

The guest lecturer in residence at the Nov. 7 and 8 weekend will be Rabbi Ellen Nemhauser of the Union of Hebrew American Congregations in Philadelphia, a native of Missisauga and former student of Rabbi Englander's. She was married at Congregation Solel.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Oct. 27, is deadline for Nov. 6 issue and Monday, Nov. 3, is deadline for Nov. 13. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Oct. 25

DARCHEI NOAM MOVIES

Congregation Darchei Noam's double-header, **Louis Brunel's** *St. Simeon of the Desert* and *Lubavitch* (a biography of the Rebbe). Havdalah 7 p.m. followed by the movies, pot-luck dessert, discussion.

Sunday, Oct. 26

THE HOLOCAUST

One day seminar, Teaching the Holocaust in a Christian Context, organized by Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto (CJDT) in cooperation with the Holocaust Education Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, at Lipa Green Building. Keynote speaker **Rev. Canon Peter Gratton**, a former chair of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of CJDT. Participants include **Harold Troper, Bernie Farber, Stephen Bloom, Margaret Wells.** 691-4560.

PERFORMING FOR UN DAY

The Ensemble Singers of the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir perform in the Rotunda of Metro Hall at 3 p.m., in a ceremony commemorating the 52nd anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

AN EVENING OF JAZZ

Etobicoke study branch, national Council of Jewish Women presents An Evening of Jazz featuring the Harvey Seigel Band, 7:30 p.m., performance 8 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. Wine and dessert served. $20. 633-5100.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling Arts annual Jewish Storytelling Festival, A taste of Wry, North York Central Library, 10 a.m. author **Yitzhak Buxbaum** Mystic Teachings – Mystic Tales; 10:30 a.m. Children's concert, **Rich Glauber, Leslie Robbins;** afternoon stories by **Vida Hellman, Sheldon Oberman, Leslie Robbins, Helen Porter;** swapping ground 5:30 p.m.; evening cabaret. **Sandra Whiteley** 461-0597 or **Alec Gelcer** 699-8914.

POLISH JEWISH CULTURE

Yiddishe Kultur Geselschaft presents **Ellen Kelman**, lecturer of Yiddish, University of Toronto, speaking on Jewish Life and the Renewed Interest in Jewish Culture in Present-day Poland, 8 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. $3.

TEA AND FASHIONS

Adath Israel Sisterhood presents Soft Elegance – a Tea and Fashion Show, 2 p.m. (doors open 1:30 p.m.). Tickets through synagogue office 635-5340.

FALL COOKING CLASS

Beth Tikvah Synagogue culinary class featuring recipes for warm comfort foods. 4 p.m. Pre-register, $20. 221-3433.

LIFE AFTER DEBT

Temple Sinai seminar, Life After Debt, with **Frank Kisluk**, Toronto trustee in bankruptcy, 10 a.m.

GRAND SOCIETY

GRAND Society support group for grandparents/seniors seeking access to their grandchildren, meets 1-4 p.m., North Toronto Memorial Community Centre, 200 Eglinton Ave. W. Speaker **Leonard Rubenstein**; topic Taking Charge of Your Life. $5 non-members.

Monday, Oct. 27

OSTEOPOROSIS

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood panel discussion on Osteoporosis with **Dr. Jerry Tennenbaum,** rheumatologist; **Fran Berkoff**, dietician; **Marwen Thomley,** physiotherapist. Moderator is **Fran Wolfe**. 8 p.m. 633-3838.

MEDICINE & HOLOCAUST

History of Medicine Program, University of Toronto seminar series, Medicine and the Holocaust, starts off with The Nuremberg Doctors' Trial: Errors and Omissions, **Prof. Michael Marrus,** 4-6 p.m., The Great Hall, 88 College St. 978-2124.

[Cont'd. on page 21]

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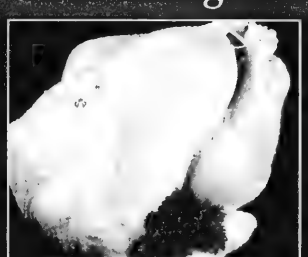

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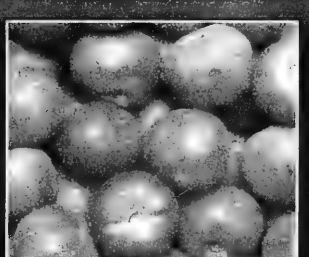

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

PILLAR OF FIRE

Israeli television documentary, *Pillar of Fire*, Chapter 1X, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. 633-3988 Canadian Zionist Federation or 633-5500 Beth David.

CHAPTER SOLEIL, JWI

Femmes juives francophones: Il existe à Toronto depuis 21 ans un chapitre francophone de l'organisation Jewish Women International. À la prochaine réunion, la conférencière est la gynocologue **Mme Dr Suzanne Bensaquen,** qui nous parlera de: Hormones ou Non, Voilà la Question. 226-2190.

Tuesday, Oct. 28

PLANTING TULIP BULBS

In memory of the Jewish children who were victims of the Holocaust, students from Brown School and Deer Park Public School plant 800 Anne Frank Tulip Bulbs, 10 a.m., Amsterdam Park, Avenue Road and St. Clair. Assisting are Consul General of Israel **Jehudi Kinar** and Consul General of the Netherlands **Paul W.A. Schellekens**. Co-sponsored by Holocaust Remembrance Committee, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto and the Dutch/Canadian Association of Greater Toronto.

OSLO IN CRISIS

Canadian Friends of Peace Now second annual Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lecture, Oslo in Crisis: Scenarios and Options, with **Mark Rosenblum,** political director of Americans for Peace Now, 7:30 p.m., Temple Sinai. 905-764-3997.

Wednesday, Oct. 29

HADASSAH BAZAAR

Hadassah-WIZO 73rd annual bazaar, new and used clothing, jewelry, books, toys, food court, auction, designer clothing, and lots more, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Automotive Building, Exhibition Place.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement speaker, **Dr. Leslie Goldenberg** of the Walking Nobility Clinic, at noon. Bring lunch. $1.

EXPLORING JUDAISM

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich discusses Do I Have to Live in Israel to be a Good Jew? The Land of Israel and the Jew, 7:30 p.m. Pride of Israel Synagogue.

MEMBERSHIP NIGHT

Elan chapter, Jewish Women International, membership night, learn dance steps to disco, techno, country songs, 8 p.m., Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, Clark Avenue West, Thornhill. **Susan** 905-881-4047 or **Rochelle** 905-707-8770.

Thursday, Oct. 30

HOPE AND TRIUMPH

Jewish Women International of Toronto program, The Light After the Dark, six true stories of triumph after all hope is gone, by author **Alvin Abram**, 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue. $5. **Fern Sussman,** president, 905-882-8862.

MEMORY AS COVENANT

Prof. David Roskies, Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, speaks on Memory as Covenant: The Shaping of Vilna in Jewish Collective Memory 1573-1973, to commemorate Holocaust Education Week, 8 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

Marking Holocaust Education Week, Toronto Public Library, Palmerston Branch, 560 Palmerston Ave., presents **Leslie Robbins** of Jewish Storytelling Arts, 7:30 p.m. 393-7680.

JEWISH SINGLE PARENTS

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Jewish Single Parents' Group presents Relationships, The Dos and Don'ts with **Dr. Eric Grief**, 8:30 p.m. Open to ages 30-50. $5. 633-5500.

KOFFLER GALLERY

Koffler Gallery opening reception 8 p.m. for two Jewish artists – **Mindy Yan Miller**: Chorus, and **Jason Schwartz**: The Ghosts That Haunt Us. In the Loggia Gallery. Miller will give an artist's talk Sunday, Nov. 2, 2 p.m. 636-1880, ext. 268 or 270.

And What Else Is New

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Dorot (Hebrew for Generations), a journal of contemporary Jewish literature, is looking for pieces with Jewish themes – short fiction, poetry, short non-fiction, script excerpts, cartoons and sketches. Submission deadline is Oct. 31. For details, Jewish Student Federation, York University, 736-5178.

MOVIE SCREENING

Israel Cancer Research Fund screening of *The Wings of the Dove* Wednesday, Nov, 5, 7 p.m., York Cinema, 101 Eglinton Ave. E. Followed by a private party at Shark City, 117 Eglinton. $20 by Friday, Oct. 31, $25 at door, $15 party only. **Talia** or **Cindy** 487-5246.

MINCHAH MINYAN

Starting Thursday, Oct. 30, Markham Minchah Minyan runs daily, Monday through Thursday, 1 p.m., 35 East Beaver Creek, Unit 1A (Hwys. 7 and 404), Richmond Hill. 905-886-7700, ext. 290.

TORAH IN SPANISH

Torah in Spanish, Wednesdays 8:30 p.m. at Aish HaTorah, 949 Clark Ave. W. Analysis of Torah topics by **Rabbi Abraham Bartfield, Paulo Rosenbaum**, and guest speakers, all in Spanish. (Brazilians welcome). 905-764-1818, ext. 350.

YIDDISH CABARET

Yiddish Theatre School Ensemble presents Yiddish Cabaret, comedy, klezmer, chassidic and Israeli song and dance, directed by **Nathan Garnick**, music by **Yitzhak Argaman** Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 28 and 29, 8 p.m. Leah Posluns Theatre. $10 in advance, $15 at door. 635-0720.

RICK CARDONNE

Rick Cardonne composed and conducted the music for **Cayle Chernin**'s film *I Am Home*, to be shown in the Capetown, South Africa, International Film Festival, Oct. 25-Nov. 9. The music was recorded by the Toronto Klezmer Band which performs at Temple Anshe Sholom, Wednesday, Oct. 22, 6:45 p.m. for Simchat Torah.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Do Your Children Have Trouble Making Friends? Groups for parents and kids (ages 6-18) begins Oct. 30.

Adult Children Losing a Parent begins Oct. 30; Looking Ahead for individuals recently separated/divorced, begins Oct. 21; The Challenge of Anger: For Women, begins Nov. 3; Stepparenting: Coping with His, Hers and Ours, begins Oct. 29.

FOR SENIORS

The Caring Community's Our Fall Gathering, Monday, Nov. 3, 1:45 p.m., Holy Blossom Temple. Entertainment by The Heritage Singers directed by **Edith Narvey Kosimar.** $5 non-Temple members. Reservations/transportation **Leslie** 789-3291, ext. 233, by Wednesday, Oct. 29. Information **Toby Isaacs** 782-4265, **Daisy Jacobs** 256-0136, **Debby Vigoda** 787-0487.

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting, Thursday, Oct. 30, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Speaker **Dian Goldstein**, topic, We Care About Long-Term Care. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Washington, Atlantic City, Oct. 26-31; Seminar ABCs of Fraud, Nov. 4, 10 a.m.; Buffalo shopping, Nov. 5; Square One Shopping Centre, Nov. 19; *Showboat* matinee, Dec. 3, members $55, non-members $60; Casino Rama Dec. 17, members $15, non-members $20, includes lunch. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: *Mr. Holland's Opus* Nov. 3, 1 p.m.; opening musical luncheon Nov. 10, 12:30 p.m., entertainers **Ivory** and **Silver**, art exhibit of works by club members. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club: Registration for Miami trip 1998, **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Centre open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Simchat Torah party Saturday, Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m., members $8, non-members $10. Thursday, Oct. 30, lecture by **Avner Meiri**, The Origin of the Israeli People, followed by movie on the subject. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Literary Luncheon Monday, Nov. 3, noon to 1:30 p.m. Psychologist/lecturer **Anne Balaban** reviews *The Heart of a Woman* by **Maya Angelov**. Members $8, non-members $10. Book review only $5.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, Oct. 28, 1:30-3 p.m. Pharmacist **Yuen Chan** focuses on Medication and Calcium Supplementation – Will My Questions Be Answered? Resource person **Joan Turner**.

Hearing Assistance Clinic conducted by **Brenda Vernon** of the Canadian Hearing Society, Thursday, Oct. 30, 1:30-4 p.m. Book appointment.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, nostalgic sing-alongs, dances, bingo. Oct. 28 program is bingo. **Anna**

Movie *The Nutty Professor* Sunday, Oct. 26, 2:30 p.m.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band Sunday, Oct. 26, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Wednesday social Oct. 29 features musical show with **Fern Dworkin** 1:30 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Oneg Shabbat Luncheon Friday, Oct. 31, at noon. Guest artist **Cantor Esther Ghan Firestone**. Tickets at information desk. **Teme**, ext. 364, Senior Adult Services.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Reserve patron tickets for the opening of **Simcha Jacobovici**'s film *Hollywoodism: Jew, Movies and the American Dream* on Nov. 24 at Princess of Wales Theatre to inaugurate the L'Chaim Capital Campaign Kickoff. $180 includes reception and post-gala party. Regular seats $36 include reception.

Marilyn Lighstone one-woman show Thursday Oct. 30.

Listen to Bloor JCC Calendar Fridays 10:05 a.m. on Chin FM.

Donate a mezuzah at Bloor JCC. **Renee**.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club: Thursday, Oct. 30, **Michael Scobac** speaks on Cults and Missionaries: What is the Jewish Response? **Judy.**

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DR. DAVID G. ROSKIES

Professor of Jewish Literatrure, Jewish Theological Seminary

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Thursday, October 30, 8:00 p.m.
Memory As Covenant: The Shaping of Vilna in Jewish Collective Memory, 1573 - 1973
Beth Tikvah Congregation, 3080 Bayview Ave., Willowdale
telephone 221-3433

Friday, October 31
In service training with faculty and students
United Synagogue Day Schools
telephone 225-5928

Shabbat, November 1, 9:00 a.m. Shabbat Services
Memory As Chronicle: The Underground Oneg-Shabbes Archive in Warsaw, 1939 - 1944
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda, 100 Elder St., Downsview
telephone 633-3838

Motzi Shabbat, November 1, 8:00 p.m.
Memory As Ideology: The Model of the Montreal Jewish Community, 1914 - to the Present
Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation
55 Yeomans Rd., Downsview, telephone 633-5500

Sunday, November 2, 10:00 a.m.
Memory As Stone: The Workmen's Circle Cemeteries in Queen's, N.Y., 1920 - 1970 (slide lecture in Yiddish)
Beth Tzedec Synagogue, 1700 Bathurst St., Toronto
telephone 781-3511

Dr. David Roskies, a native of Montreal, is a product of its Yiddish secular schools. He received his doctorate from Brandeis University. His major concern is the world of East European Jewry; its achievements, its confrontation with modernity, its destruction and its living heritage.

Now in its second century, The Jewish Theological Seminary is the spiritual and academic center of Conservative Judaism worldwide with programs in North and South America, Israel, Hungary and Russia. JTS is a university-level, educational institution with undergraduate, graduate, rabbinical, and professional programs. No other seat of Judaic scholarship can match its set of commitments to knowledge and practice, to past and present, to the individual and the community, to Jew and non-Jew.

For further info, call the Jewish Theological Society (416) 789-2193

Rabbi Schwartz gets Kolel position

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz

TORONTO — When Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz was an economics student several years ago, he gave up a semester's worth of lunch hours to examine liturgies in preparation for his upcoming marriage.

It occurred to him that he'd never given up his lunch for economics, and the realization reinforced his desire to enter rabbinical school after he completed his master's degree.

As the new assistant director of Kolel: a Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning, Rabbi Schwartz, 37, is combining lunch and work in at least one project this year -- a series entitled Sex, Money, Power and Lunch, to be held on campus three consecutive Tuesdays in November. (The series is scheduled to run at both York University and the University of Toronto; a one-session program is tentatively scheduled for Ryerson Polytechnic University.)

About one-third of Rabbi Schwartz's work is campus-related; the rest is divided between teaching "regular" Kolel and Kolel for singles in their 30s and 40s. The adult study program, established in the early 1990s, offers "informal, fun, relevant" study of Jewish texts, said Rabbi Schwartz.

Although Kolel director Rabbi Elyse Goldstein has run programs on campus, Rabbi Schwartz' newly created position represents the first ongoing liberal Jewish presence on Toronto campuses.

The Conservative movement has had a campus presence for the past year, with Koach fieldworker Adam Silver working out of Jewish Campus Services (JCS). A fledgling Orthodox Vaad had its first meeting recently, with JCS's Rabbi Michael Skobac as adviser.

"We've discovered that [the student population] is an important population and one that's easy to lose," said Rabbi Schwartz. "We have to work at keeping them interested and getting them ready to be [part of the adult] Jewish community."

This year's first campus Kolel program was to be held this week at U of T (Tues.) and York (Wed.). The program combines a study of the patriarch Abraham's hospitality with the welcoming of Roma Gypsy families for lunch in the sukkah and collecting clothing for them.

Although the rabbi does not have an office on campus, he has staked out a weekly spot at York and U of T. On Tuesdays from 3 to 5 p.m. he can be found at U of T's Diabolo's coffee shop, and on Thursdays from 3 to 5 at Company's Coming in York Lanes. He can also be reached through the Kolel office or JCS.

Kolel's program is geared to "liberal" Jewish students, but everyone is welcome, said Rabbi Schwartz. "When people come with different perspectives, I think that's exciting."

Rabbi Schwartz himself was raised in a Conservative home in Minneapolis and was ordained at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College earlier this year. He served as editorial assistant on the forthcoming Reconstructionist Machzor.

"By high school I had a notion that I wasn't a Conservative Jew in that mold [in which I had been raised]. I'd heard about Reconstructionism and kind of filed it away."

One of the things that appeals to him about Reconstructionism and other liberal Jewish movements is "a real openness to theological searching."

Theological searching

Rabbi Schwartz was "very excited" to hear of the Toronto position earlier this year. "This was definitely one of the kinds of work I was interested in."

On a Shavuot visit here, he was impressed by the attendance at Temple Sinai services. "In the United States it's rare to find a Reform or Conservative synagogue packed on Shavuot morning. Toronto has a very rich community, a really committed Jewish community."

In his new role, he hopes to "help people enrich their lives with Jewish learning." On campus specifically, he wants to get students involved, have them realize that Judaism and Jewish texts have something relevant to offer, and build Jewish community.

"I believe Torah in the broad sense of the word is an ongoing process of people striving for understanding of good and what's right in the world," he said. "I teach Torah as a searching rather than as an answer."

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Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Location: The Hospital Grounds

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Community Address - 12 noon
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Hospital, Community & Political Leaders

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Levy's 'apology' accepted; Axworthy to visit Israel

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy plans to visit Israel, partly to patch things up following the forged passport affair, but mainly to make sure it never happens again.

Axworthy is scheduled to travel to Israel before the end of the year, according to a ministry spokesperson.

And Canada's ambassador to Israel, David Berger, who was recalled to protest Israel's use of faked Canadian passports in its failed assassination of a Hamas leader in Jordan, returned to his post last week, saying it's time to resume "business as usual" with Israel.

"We consider the matter closed," Berger told reporters on arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport. "I am happy to be back in Israel."

He said Ottawa is satisfied with what he called a written apology to Axworthy from Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy, which "goes beyond any commitment we have received before, and we expect them to meet that commitment."

Axworthy announced his plans to go to Israel following Levy's apology, as it was, over the passport fiasco.

Axworthy called the letter, whose contents were kept under wraps, an apology. However, in Israel, a spokesperson for Levy said the note wasn't a "direct apology," but "an Israeli expression of regret," adding the document was "formulated to the satisfaction of both sides."

Lloyd Axworthy

Axworthy used the same term — "expression of regret" — to describe what Levy had said in a telephone conversation the two had earlier this month. That apparent lack of full-blown contrition on Israel's part had opposition members of Parliament fuming, and calling for possible sanctions against Israel.

'Clarification committee'

Now, whatever the posturing and semantics, Axworthy said Canada is accepting the letter as an official apology for the Mossad's use of forged Canadian passports.

"The minister first apologized for the fact that any misuse of our passports may have caused inconvenience or problems of safety for any Canadian citizen," he told the House of Commons. "Second, [Levy] agreed that Israel will now undertake measures to ensure it will never happen again."

Aviv Shiron, a spokesperson for Levy, was quoted as saying that Israel "sincerely regrets what happened and we are hoping that the future will be better."

Axworthy said the apology, coupled with Israel's pledge never again to use Canadian travel documents in spy operations, is the first step to restoring good relations between the two countries.

He would not divulge the contents of Levy's letter, nor did he table it, citing diplomatic protocol. But David Cooper, a spokesperson for Israel's embassy in Ottawa, told *The CJN* that Axworthy's paraphrase of the note in the Commons was "almost a verbatim" summary.

Axworthy said the letter "meets the conditions we established, both to assure that we would have measures put in place and to demonstrate a real sense of concern and apology about the impact it may have had on Canadians."

In Israel, a three person "clarification committee" has begun investigating the Mossad's botched assassination of Hamas leader Khaled Meshal.

Mossad chief Danny Yatom was the first witness to appear, and he reportedly stated that Meshal was on a long list of potential Israeli targets.

According to Israeli media reports, Yatom repeated his claim that the decision-making process leading up to the attempted hit on Meshal had been thorough. It's not known whether Yatom had anything to say about Canada having been consulted.

Officials in Israel say Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu may also be called to testify.

The passport scandal was not the first time the Mossad became entangled in Canadian affairs. A member of an Israeli hit squad that mistakenly killed a Moroccan waiter in Norway in 1973 had posed as a Canadian.

In 1992, John Bassett, then chair of the Security Intelligence Review Committee, a civilian group that oversees the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, told a parliamentary committee that in 1990, the Mossad had conducted activities in Canada without Ottawa's permission.

The activities were never described as illegal, but the agents were reportedly reprimanded by Canadian officials.

Also last week, Norman Spector, Canada's former ambassador to Israel and now the publisher of *The Jerusalem Post*, continued his contention that Mossad and the Canadian intelligence agency worked closely together for years, a charge vehemently by officials at Foreign Affairs.

Meantime, a leading hotel chain in Israel is compensating Canadians for any hardship caused by the passport scandal.

The Carmel chain is giving Canadian passport holders a 25 percent discount for the rest of this year to show good will, in the words of Carmel director David Ashkenazy.

— With files from JTA

The unveiling of a monument
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REVA SOLOMON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 26,
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Relatives and friends are invited to attend

OSLO IN CRISIS
Scenarios and Options
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with Mark Rosenblum, Political Director of Americans for Peace Now.

Tuesday, Oct., 28
7:30 p.m. sharp
Temple Sinai
210 Wilson Ave.

שלום עכשיו PEACE NOW

For more information, call
Canadian Friends of Peace Now
at 905-764-3997

Mark Rosenblum is the Founder and Political Director of Americans for Peace Now. Currently an historian at Queen's College of the City University of New York (CUNY), Rosenblum is the Director of the Harrington Centre for Social Change (Queen's College) and the Editor of the Harrington Centre's Middle East Policy Papers. Mr. Rosenblum has recently returned from a fact finding tour of the Middle East, where he met privately with Prime Minister Netanyahu, Chairman Arafat and King Hussein.

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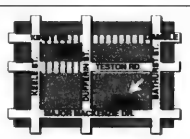

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Deblins Linens offers "boutique quality at warehouse prices"

It may sound like a catch phrase, but "boutique quality at warehouse prices" is exactly what you'll get when you shop at Deblins Linens.

Headed by President Ellis Chitiz, Deblins' three stores have a dedicated staff who maintain a level of service that keeps regular customers coming back. Deblins also draws many referrals, including some hard-to-convince customers who comparison shop before they decide.

When Ellis created Deblins' Warehouse Superstore at 39 Orfus Road in 1994, he wanted to offer his customers the four things which had enabled his business to grow over the years: quality of merchandise, selection, low prices, and service.

Home decor solutions

At Deblins Linens, you will find exactly what you want and need in a huge variety of bedding, table linens, bathware and accessories — and helpful, well-informed staff to answer all your questions and advise you on matters like color co-ordination. You'll find this especially useful when decorating your home. By the time you're done at Deblins, "home sweet home" will be much more than a figure of speech.

Need sheets? If it covers a bed and it's fine quality, Deblins has it, in a **full** range of sizes, patterns and colors. Headlining a host of famous names are Fieldcrest, Revman, and Bibb, for which Deblins carries not only a full range of regular patterns, but also some luxurious designer sheets. Deblins' Fieldcrest collection includes designs by Ellen Tracy and Adrienne Vittadini; their Revman line, designs by Laura Ashley, Di Lewis, and Katja; their Bibb group, designs by Jessica McLintock.

Deblins also carries Wamsutta, Croscill, Crown Craft, Springmaid, Burlington, and other brand names, including the Veratex line from Israel. New styles of sheets, like the T-shirt style that's now in hot demand, are constantly being introduced. There are even sheets for odd-sized mattresses.

Prices so low they don't even offer discounts to designers

Deblins' wide assortment of ready-made drapes, curtains and valances are chosen to match all sheet designs — thus making it easier for you to beautify your entire home by buying all your dry goods at Deblins.

There is an abundant stock of first-quality pillow coverings, duvets and duvet covers, with six different styles of duvets, and nine different styles of pillows. White Canadian goose down duvets are available in all weights and sizes, at exceptional prices, and with a host of complementary coverings.

How about towels? Deblins' vast selection includes Fieldcrest Royal Velvet, stocked in 24 colours, and matching accessories. For those who prefer patterns, there are Jacquard towels and printed towels — all quality brand names, always at the lowest possible prices.

There are plenty of bath accessories, like soap dishes, tumblers, tissue and lotion dispensers, and toothbrush holders, all of which can be coordinated with the towels. Of course, there is also a wide assortment of shower curtains, linens and mats.

If you're looking for tablecloths, napkins, napkin rings and table pads for your Sabbath table or everyday dining, you can find them at Deblins. In this department too, the top brand names are always in stock, at the lowest prices anywhere.

In fact, Deblins' prices are so low they don't even offer discounts to designers. At the same time, they carry only the best quality — no irregulars or seconds. For this reason, Deblins does not match prices: "If you can find it cheaper elsewhere," says Ellis Chitiz, "buy it." He is confident that when you compare price and quality, you will find that Deblins offers the better deal.

Sabbath table well covered

"When you walk out of our door, " says Ellis, "you will be carrying quality linen, at probably the best price in the city; and you will definitely have enjoyed the best service. If you have a problem with any one of these three, let me know."

Along with quality, selection and pricing, Deblins adheres to the tradition of personal service. If you have any questions about product or fabric care, staff will answer them promptly and expertly. In the rare event you don't find what you want or need in stock, staff will order it for you, or custom-make it at an excellent price.

Deblins' largest store is the Superstore at 39 Orfus Rd., with 10,000 square feet of merchandise: **(416) 782-2910**. In addition, Deblins has stores in the Promenade Mall at Bathurst and Centre St., **(905) 709-0007**, and the Mississauga Home and Design Centre at Winston Churchill and Dundas St., **(905) 820-1509**. All three stores are open seven days a week.

IF YOU FIND LINEN AT A BETTER PRICE ANYWHERE ELSE

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A lot of stores today offer a *price guarantee.* That means if you find a lower price anywhere else, they'll match it. So after running around to find a better price, all you're left with is the option to pay the same price somewhere else.

But isn't *the best price* what you're really looking for? Then shop at Deblins Linens. We don't match prices.

Our goal is to offer you the lowest price in the first place. Sure, you might find an odd item at a lower price in another store, but don't come rushing back to Deblins to pay the same price. Just buy it. We're confident that when you compare both quality and price, nine times out of ten you'll get the better deal at Deblins .... not just the same deal.

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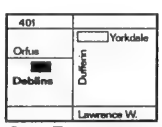

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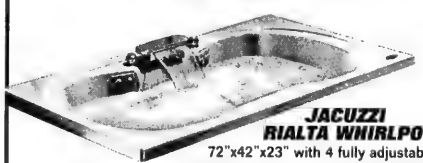

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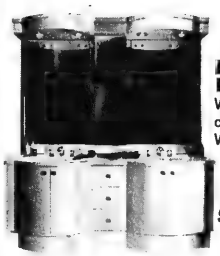

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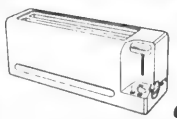

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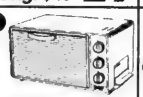

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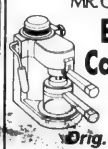

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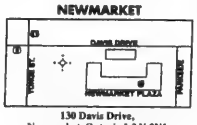

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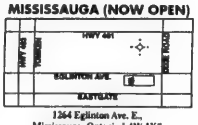

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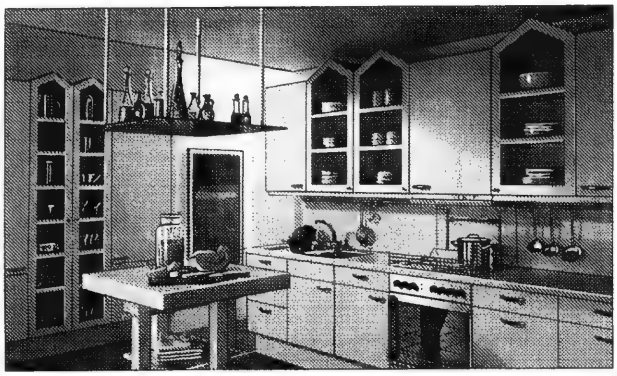

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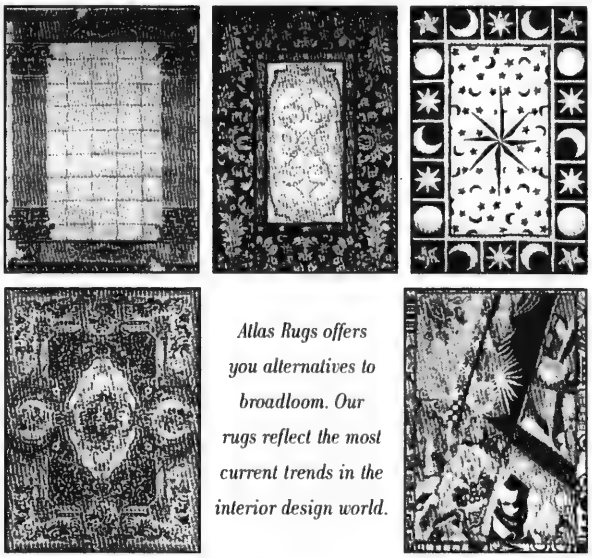

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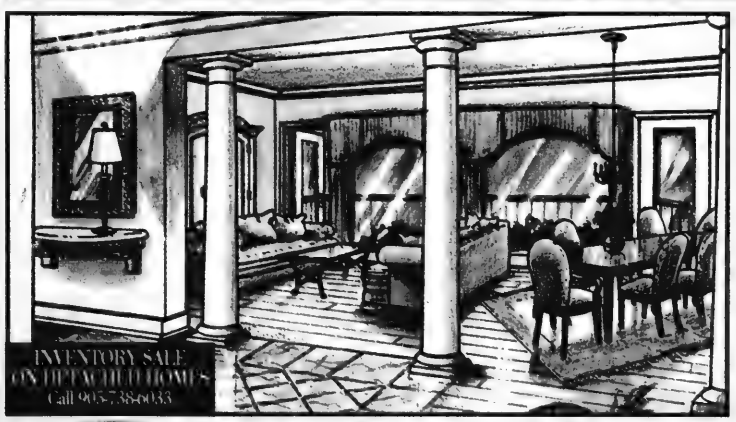

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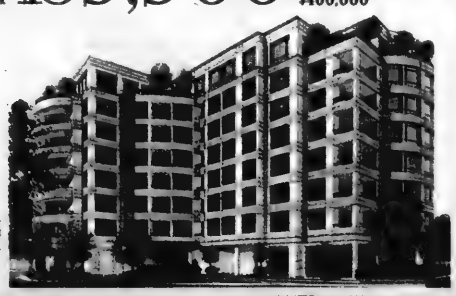

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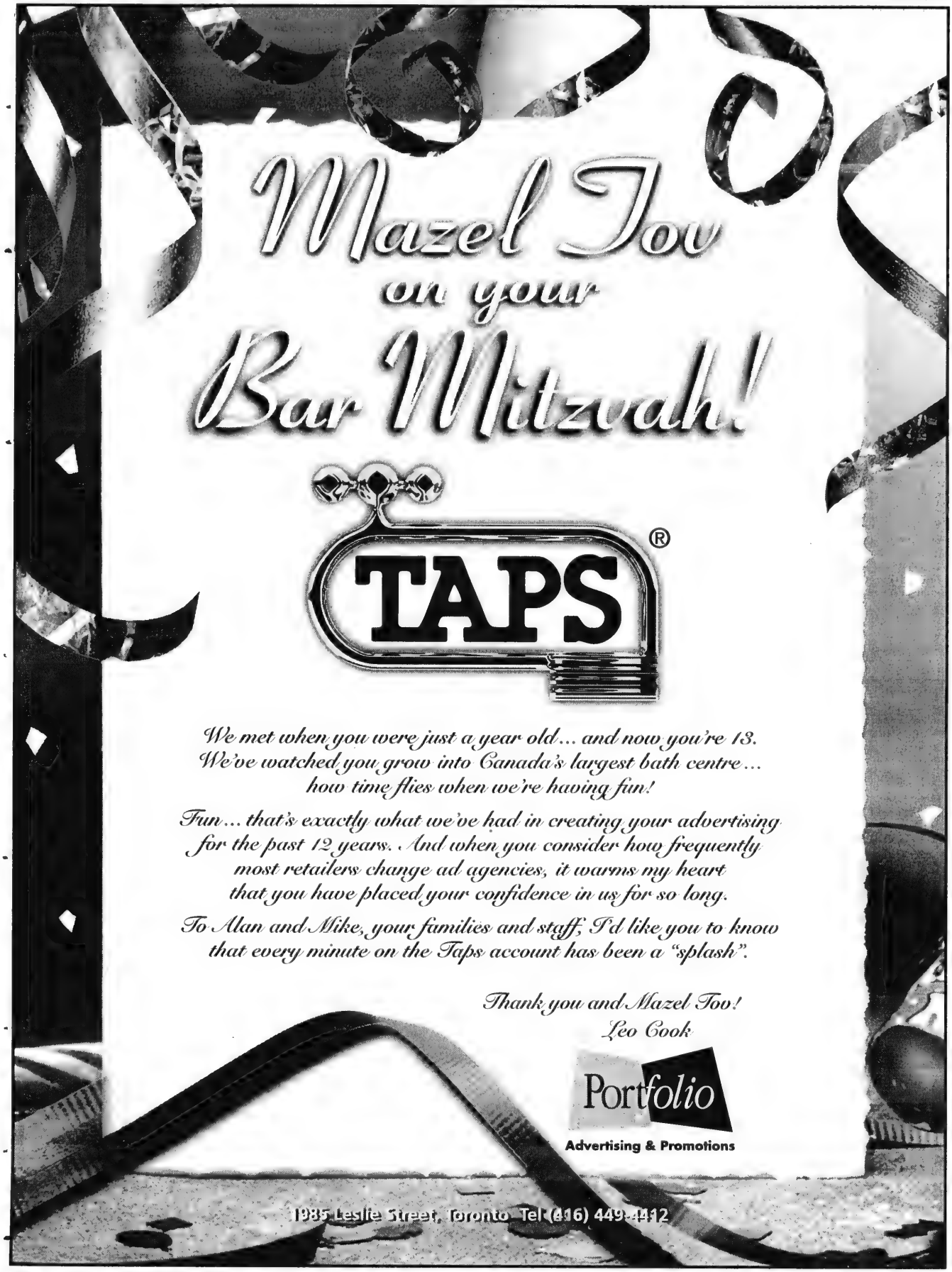
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From coast to coast

CFHU conference calls for creation of fundraising body

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — A proposal calling for the formation of a national fundraising committee was one of the highlights of the recent Canadian Friends of Hebrew University's (CFHU) annual National New Leadership Conference, held last month in Winnipeg. The committee would be composed of the outgoing co-chairs of each chapter.

Attending the conference were the co-chairs from each chapter — there are currently chapters in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver — as well as the national executive — a total of 15 people. Delegates were given a tour of the new Asper campus, attended the Winnipeg Jewish Theatre's current production, *Cecil and Cleopaetra,* took part in a symposium on Jewish continuity and were treated to a Shabbat dinner featuring a presentation from Dr. Ze'ev Mankowitz of the Hebrew University.

New chapters being planned

The conference featured workshops on communications, membership and fundraising. Delegates heard about the CFHU's new Connecting to Excellence fund. Previously, donors had to contribute an initial $1,000 before they were able to designate where their contributions to the Hebrew University went. Now, a record will be kept of all donations. Once a person's donations reach $1,000, the money will become an endowment fund with interest directed anywhere in the university that the donor chooses.

Each year, the donor will receive a card outlining where the money went.

National chair Kevin Glassman of Vancouver and vice-chair Bernie Malinoff of Montreal donated $50 in honor of each conference participant. They hope that the delegates will match the donation and start their own endowment funds.

The New Leadership Division was first established in Winnipeg in 1985 and became a national organization in 1990 through the efforts of the Winnipeg chapter. It is meant to provide a forum for young adults (25-40 years old) who have a commitment to the Hebrew University and Israel, and want to reinforce their Jewish identity. The National Division holds annual conferences, in conjunction with the parent body at its biennial meetings and alone on alternate years. New chapters are being planned for Calgary, Ottawa and Hamilton.

Anne Frank exhibit opens in Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Winnipeg's new Marion and Ed Vickar Jewish Museum of Western Canada and Holocaust Education Centre recently held a gala reception to kick off Anne Frank In The Works 1929-1945, its first major exhibition.

Over 100 people, including corporate sponsors, members of the Dutch community in Winnipeg and representatives of major Winnipeg Jewish organizations, were invited to the reception which featured speeches by museum president Gerry Posner; Barbara Goszer representing the community's Holocaust Remembrance committee; Bill Zweep, president of the Dutch Canadian Society of Manitoba; and Cor Suijk, international director of the Anne Frank Centre U.S.A.

"We had a brief official opening ceremony on Sept. 7 to tie in with the official opening of the Asper Jewish Community Campus [in which the museum is housed]," said Lara Rykiss, the museum co-ordinator.

The museum is a joint effort of the Jewish Historical Societies of western Canada. It received its impetus at a meeting of the societies in April, 1995 and was made possible through a $3.65 million grant from the federal government and a $1 million contribution from the province. At the time, Harry Gutkin, then president of the Jewish Historical Society, envisioned a museum that would educate younger members of the Jewish community about the rich Jewish life in western Canada over the past 150 years as well as to serve as a bridge to other cultures and help promote tolerance and harmony.

The Anne Frank exhibit has appeared in 36 countries and has been viewed by more than six million people. It tells the story of Anne Frank and her family, gives an overview of the Holocaust and cites examples of prejudice and discrimination in the world today.

The exhibit will be on display at the museum until Nov. 28. "We are getting quite a few calls from schools to arrange tours. We have 4,000 students booked to come through already," said Rykiss.

In designing the museum, Rykiss said, the key word was flexibility. The permanent exhibit, Diversity and Vitality: Preview, a history of the Jews of Western Canada, was constructed to be mobile within the museum space.

"We want to be able to show temporary exhibits alongside our permanent display," Rykiss says. In December, the museum will exhibit the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada's 100th anniversary touring archival display.

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From coast to coast

Hard times hit Cape Breton Jewish community

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

GLACE BAY — Arthur Zilbert was like so many Glace Bay Jewish teens growing up in the 1950s and 1960s.

He had a Jewish education in a vibrant community but when it came time to make post-secondary education and career decisions, Glace Bay was not in the plans.

"My father ran a grocery store," says Zilbert, now an obstetrician and gynecologist in Halifax. "He had no expectations of me coming in with him. He ran the store with his background but hoped I'd be able to do other things. The community feeling generally, for all the young people, was 'go away, get educated and do something else.'"

Zilbert attended McGill University, earned his medical degree at Dalhousie University and stayed away from his home town.

Dozens of other Glace Bay youth made similar decisions and today, the Jewish community of the Cape Breton mining town is on its last legs.

"We have about 20 members now, the majority well along in years," says Ellie Marshall, a retired retail clothing merchant who has been president of the Orthodox Sons of Israel Congregation for the last several years. "Now that we're in the middle of the High Holidays, and we see guests and families at our shul, we have a spark of light, but we're not naive enough to think the inevitable won't happen. The reality is there. It could be within a year that the synagogue closes."

Zilbert admits it's virtually impossible for the community to recover.

"The economy won't lure Jews to Cape Breton. There is no business to speak of — unemployment is high."

He says the town was lucky that eastern Europeans moved in early in the century "with a strong sense of Judaism and the ability to daven and read Torah. It was a wonderful town in which to grow up."

Today, he says, it's sad to go into the shul and see a handful of people.

"They continue to carry on the routine but it's with more effort each week."

Marshall, who is moving to Ottawa next spring to be closer to family, is proud that the doors have remained open this long and that Shabbat services are held weekly, even in winter when several members go south.

Sidney Lipkus, in his 40s, isn't about to give up the ship. He's been a vice-president of the shul and is president of the Chevra Kadisha.

"I'll fight to keep the shul open at least until the year 2000. I'll keep it open until the last possible day. Then I'll go to Sydney (20 km away) although unfortunately, some older members of our congregation may not be able to, because of health or lack of transportation."

For the past 15 years Glace Bay has been a town of 15 Jewish men but Zilbert says in the 1950s and 60s, he had as many as 50 classmates from the 70 or 80 families at the Hebrew School.

"But 95 percent of those 15 men show up at weekly minyan. That's dedication. Where else in the world would you find 95 percent of your congregation attending weekly services?"

He recalls the Shabbat a year ago, six weeks after his son Nathan's bar mitzvah in Halifax, when the Zilbert family returned to Arthur's roots.

"We arranged for Nathan to daven and do the haftorah. It was a great experience for me. Nathan and (daughter) Leah were very touched by the kindness and warmth of the congregation. That small town friendship and camaraderie won't be experienced again."

B'nai Brith to honor Monty Hall

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Monty Hall, one of Winnipeg Jewry's best known former sons, will be honored by B'nai Brith Canada with its 1998 Humanitarian Award at a tribute dinner here March 18.

Humanitarian Award

Best known to the North American public as the host of the long-running TV show *Let's Make A Deal*, Hall is renowned for his charitable work. He has raised over $450 million for countless charities and organizations. He is also a tireless campaigner for Israel Bonds, United Jewish Appeal and other Jewish and Israeli-based organizations.

The lifetime international chair of Variety Clubs International, he has been honored numerous times, but the presentation of the B'nai Brith Canada Humanitarian Award may be his first testimonial dinner in his home town, says Lyle Smordin, president of B'nai Brith Canada.

"He is very pleased," says Smordin of Hall, "and his brother, Bob, who lives in Toronto, is also very excited."

Hall has been back in Winnipeg often over the years to emcee various events and he even has a street named after him. Previous Humanitarian Award winners include Israel Asper; Lloyd Axworthy, Canada's foreign minister; and Manitoba Premier Gary Filmon.

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From coast to coast

Frum compares her mother to Princess Diana

By ROBERTA STALEY
Jewish Western Bulletin

VANCOUVER — Barbara Frum's daughter Linda Frum says her broadcaster mother's death from leukemia had a similar impact in Canada to that of Princess Diana's death worldwide.

"In some of the commentary that was on CBC [after Diana's death], a guest was asked by one of the hosts if he thought there was anybody who could die in Canada who could produce the same feelings of grief and sadness in Canadians as Diana," said Frum, the key speaker at a recent Vancouver Hadassah-WIZO luncheon to kick off the Jewish new year and welcome new members.

"And the guest said: 'No, they couldn't think of any one at all,'" Frum continued. "But I thought that wasn't true. In fact...about the time that my mother died, there was a very similar kind of outpouring," the 34-year-old said of her mother, a leading broadcast news interviewer.

Barbara Frum died of leukemia on March 26, 1992. She was 54.

Frum said her mother would be mortified at being compared to a princess, "because in any Jewish home, to call someone a princess was about the worst thing you could say," she said, drawing chuckles from the crowd of 250.

Nonetheless, there were other parallels between Princess Diana and Barbara Frum, her daughter said.

Both had the ability to turn a "great difficulty into the inspiration to become a better person. In Diana's case, I'm talking about her divorce. In my mother's case, I'm talking about her illness and the way she carried on her life after she found out she had leukemia.

"She took this essential death sentence that she received and turned it into a more noble and dignified way of living" said Frum, author of a the 1996 book *Barbara Frum A Daughter's Memoir*.

Frum, a Toronto resident, drew other comparisons between her mother and Princess Diana. The princess, because of what Frum deemed her vulnerability, was able to empathize with others who had suffered. Her mother's natural kindness toward others was enhanced by the suffering she endured from leukemia, said Frum.

Princess Diana "belonged to the constituency of the rejected," Frum said quoting Diana's 33-year-old brother Charles Spencer. "And in my mother's case, I think she felt a real affiliation for what I would call the constituency of the sick and the fearful."

She recalled how her mother sent a huge package of vitamins, painkillers and condoms to the Russians she interviewed for a CBC story.

"It was one of the million gestures she would make over her life," said Frum.

Another key speaker at the Hadassah-WIZO luncheon was national executive vice-president Lily Frank.

Nationally, Hadassah-WIZO has a membership of about 17,000. It is affiliated with World WIZO, the Women's International Zionist Organization.

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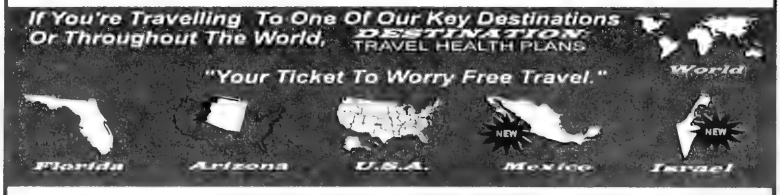

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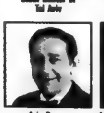
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Breaking ground: Ottawa Mayor Jacquelin Holzman flanks campaign chair Roger Greenberg (left) and Regional Chair Peter Clark.

Ottawa JCC underway

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The long awaited ground-breaking for Ottawa's expanding Jewish Community Campus took place amid fanfare on Sept. 7.

Under the direction and guidance of community capital campaign chair Roger Greenberg and associate campaign chair Stephen Victor, division chairs, volunteers and staff members solicited and collected pledges from nearly 2,000 donors to make this community dream a reality.

Though once the centre of Jewish activity in Ottawa, the present Jewish Community Centre (JCC) and communal offices no longer meet the community's needs. Few Jews live in the area; the building is in dire need of updating and refurbishing; and parking is a major problem.

After many meetings and consultations with professionals, the decision was made to follow the trend of building an integrated campus that will include a 68,000-square-foot community building together with the recently refurbished day school building (already being used as the west end campus of the Jewish Community Centre); Tamir Home for Jewish developmentally handicapped adults; and eventually a brand new Hillel Lodge, home to Ottawa's Jewish elderly.

In addition to the many individual and corporate donations, several major donors have taken specific dedications. The building for which the sod was turned, the new home for the JCC, Vaad offices and Jewish Historical Society, will be known as the Joseph and Rose Ages Building. The JCC will be known as the Hy and Ruth Soloway Jewish Community Centre. The building that will hopefully one day house the new Hillel Lodge will be known as the Bess and Moe Greenberg Building. Sibyl Mirsky and her children, Lorne, Reesa and Stephen Greenberg have linked their names to the refurbished school building. Herb and Dorothy Nadolny and Lyon and Dundi Sachs will be naming the gymnasium and main lobby of the new campus building respectively.

Local, provincial and federal politicians were in attendance at the ceremony, including Ottawa-Carleton regional chair Peter Clark, a Hillel Lodge supporter, and Ottawa Mayor Jacquelin Holzman who has been an active and dedicated member of the local Jewish community for many years. Israeli Ambassador David Sultan was there as well.

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From coast to coast

Libman hails court ruling on referendum law

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Robert Libman hailed his success in having sections of Quebec's Referendum Act that regulate campaign spending ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of Canada "a fantastic political victory that anyone who believes in democracy or free speech should rejoice in."

The Supreme Court unanimously decided that these sections are not a reasonable limit on the freedoms of expression and association guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms because the restrictions on third-party spending in a referendum campaign are "so restrictive that they come close to being a total ban."

The Court said better alternatives could be found to fulfil the law's objective of campaign fairness. It could allow citizens, either individually or in groups, to spend a certain amount as they see fit to communicate their points of view, without having it counted as regulated expenses and therefore subject to the approval of the two official committees conducting the Yes and No campaigns.

The judgment overturns a decision by Quebec Superior Court in 1992 that the limitation was justifiable because controlling campaign expenditure is necessary to promote an equal hearing of the two options offered by the government (Yes or No) and to prevent the debate from being dominated by those with the most money – ideals seen as in the higher interest of democracy than individual expression.

That judgment was upheld in a 2-1 decision of the Quebec Court of Appeal in 1995.

Groups or individuals who wish to participate in a referendum campaign must either join or affiliate with one of the two national committees (which are headed by the leaders of the two main parties, the Parti Québécois (PQ) and the Liberals) and have any activities involving spending approved by those committees, which control regulated expenses.

The only unregulated expense allowed to those not under the umbrella of either committee is a maximum of $600 for organizing or holding meetings.

Libman's lawyer, Julius Grey, argued that if Libman wants to take part in the referendum campaign independently of the national committees, his "freedom of political expression will be limited to unregulated expenses ($600).

"Conversely, if he wishes to be able to incur regulated expenses, he will have to join or affiliate himself with one of the national committees."

Libman, while leader of the Equality party, launched his case in anticipation of the 1992 Charlottetown Accord referendum because he found it absurd that he would have to affiliate with the No committee headed by PQ leader Jacques Parizeau, because he was, at the time, against the proposed Charlottetown accord, though for reasons diametrically opposed to those of the PQ.

The Supreme Court in its 50-page judgment agrees that limiting campaign spending is essential to ensure the fairness of a referendum. The Referendum Act has laudable objectives, the Court found, because its "primary purpose is to promote political expression by ensuring an equal dissemination of points of view purely out of respect for democratic traditions," and does allow the vast majority of people favoring one of the options to participate actively.

However, the Court could not accept the act's spending restrictions on individuals or groups who cannot or do not wish to join or affiliate with a national committee.

"The forms of expression provided for in (section 404) are so restrictive that they come close to being a total ban. There are alternative solutions consistent with the act's objective that are far better than the exceptions set out in s. 404."

The judgment makes suggestions on how the act could be amended to allow this freedom, while preventing abuse, such as the pooling by individuals or groups of their spending caps.

The Court said it is not its place to decide what the maximum amount on independent spending should be, but it will "have to be fair while being small enough to be consistent with the objective of the act."

On the issue of freedom of expression, the Court insists it must be interpreted broadly. "Unless the expression is communicated in a manner that excludes the protection (of the Charter), such as violence, any activity or communication that conveys or attempts to convey meaning is covered by the guarantee of (section 2[b])."

However, protecting the fairness of referendum campaigns will "necessarily involve certain restrictions on freedom of expression," namely that of the most affluent who could, if their spending was not regulated, have the most influence.

Libman said he would be very surprised if Premier Lucien Bouchard invokes the notwithstanding clause to override the charter. "Not if he considers himself a democrat: It would be difficult to justify overriding freedom of expression. Certainly, it would never be understood internationally." Grey hinted that if it came to that, he would consider taking the matter to the United Nations.

"The decision was not political, it's totally juridical," Grey said. The decision approved the basic policy of the government to restrict spending as long as certain fundamental rights are not violated."

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Israel, PA quietly negotiating a 'package deal'

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) are quietly negotiating a halt to Jewish housing construction in the territories in exchange for the delay or cancellation of further IDF redeployment in the West Bank, a government official said last weekend.

The official, who also is participating in the current Israel-PA negotiations, said the focus of these efforts are in Washington, where with the help of U.S. mediators, both sides are working on what he called a package deal. The proposed accord would link all Israeli and Palestinian concerns raised over the past year.

The key to the deal, the negotiator said, is a trade-off between a Palestinian demand for a halt in settlements with an Israeli demand that the further redeployment in the West Bank be delayed.

"Right now, we are working on questions of how long there should be such a halt in settlement and whether we can trade that with a delay or cancellation of the redeployment," the negotiator said.

The negotiator said the current committee talks in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem will not be concluded until an agreement is reached in Washington.

A PA official confirmed the assessment and said the negotiations in Washington with State Department officials and envoy Dennis Ross will determine the outcome of the committee talks. The Washington negotiations are to be held from Oct. 27 to 31.

Ross arrived yesterday for talks with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, President Ezer Weizman and PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

So far, both Israeli and PA negotiators agree that the talks have been inching along. For example, an Israeli source said, talks on the opening of a Palestinian airport in Gaza are stalled, with the PA refusing Israeli demands for an IDF presence at the facility, instead offering electronic surveillance.

"This is simply not acceptable to us," a senior negotiator said. "We need a physical presence. There is no replacement for that."

PA negotiator and minister Saeb Erekat said the forthcoming Washington agenda is composed of several points. They include a Palestinian demand for Israel not to take unilateral steps that will affect the final status of the territories, implementation of Israeli further redeployment in the West Bank, security cooperation against terrorism and completing the work of the nine committees currently discussing various issues that concern previous agreements.

"I think that Mr. Ross will help us this time implement what has been agreed upon," Erekat said. "We don't want the negotiations to be for the sake of negotiations. All these negotiations have been agreed upon. All we have to achieve is the mechanism for implementation. We hope the Israeli government will have the political will to have the accurate implementation. So far, the negotiations are just going around in circles."

The PA cabinet said last week that the newly resumed negotiations with Israel are stuck, and expressed the hope that Ross will press the Netanyahu government to implement the interim agreements.

"The resumption of committees hasn't shown any Israeli willingness to change its position in the interim stage," said a statement by the PA cabinet, which met last Saturday in Ramallah. "It is clear that the Israeli side doesn't want American participation in the work of the committees."

The statement said that Israel and the PA had finished negotiations on the interim agreements early this year, but that Netanyahu has refused to implement them. PA ministers expressed concern at what they termed the "empty circle" of negotiations that does not lead to results.

"It [Israel] continues to maintain the negative position, only to talk about security, terrorism and violence," the cabinet statement said.

"The Palestinian leadership express its concern that the security agreement, the redeployment and the halt in settlement are the issues that are linked together."

At the same time, Netanyahu voiced hope for peacemaking progress on the eve of Ross's visit, but vowed there would be no letup in a war to the death on terrorists "who seek our annihilation."

"In the last weeks there has been progress," Netanyahu told Israel Radio. "We hope this progress will continue and not be halted. Of course, if it is stopped this will greatly hamper parallel progress in the peace process."

Netanyahu pledged a "war to the death" against terrorist groups, saying, "The only way to fight terror – there is no other way – is to strike at it incessantly, every place, in order to sap its capabilities and undermine its belief that it will achieve its aims."

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Israel & the Jewish World

Fallout uncertain from failed assassination attempt

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The Hamas military wing then recruits the terrorists and provides the material needed. Communication can be done by phone, fax or even e-mail and Internet. Meanwhile, the political committee reports back to Amman on planned terrorist operations.

Meshal's role has been to coordinate Hamas' activities with those of other Islamic terrorist groups, including the Iranian-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon. A security source charges that Meshal helped Hezbollah in the bombings in Buenos Aires of the Israeli Embassy in 1992 and the Jewish federation building in 1994.

The source says Meshal is believed to have helped arrange the shipment of the material needed for the bomb that leveled both buildings, or hired the services of former Mujahideen fighters in Afghanistan. In the 1980s, the Mujahideen battled the Soviet Red Army; today they are available for services ranging from fighting in Bosnia or executing terrorist operations in Paris or other western capitals.

The suspicion of Meshal's involvement in the Argentine bombings has been raised in intelligence briefings, a senior government official says. But other intelligence sources maintain that there is no hard evidence of this yet.

Reuven Paz, a Haifa University researcher on Islamic movements and once head of the research department at the General Security Services, is skeptical. "Khaled Meshal was not mentioned as a liaison with Islamic extremists abroad until two weeks ago," he points out. "Regarding the bombings in Argentina, nobody in the security establishment knows exactly who was behind them."

Intelligence sources say the role of the Hamas organization based in Jordan, in terrorist attacks in Israel, has increased since 1996. They say that Meshal and his colleagues in Jordan are now the source of all orders to carry out terrorist operations. The Damascus political committee implements policy, they say, but does not initiate attacks.

The sources say that Hamas in Jordan has been so intent on executing terrorist attacks that it has ignored the appeals of Hamas activists in Gaza for a temporary ceasefire. Such a ceasefire was requested earlier this year by Hamas in the territories. But Meshal's group refused, saying terrorist attacks represent the most important weapon of the organization.

A Hamas leader in Gaza refuses to confirm this although he acknowledges that certain activists have been pressing for a ceasefire for the last year, mostly to avoid a confrontation with the Palestinian Authority.

A senior Israeli security source insists that Meshal's group has been responsible for all terrorist operations in Israel for the last year, and that he was also behind the effort to conceal Hamas' involvement in the Jerusalem suicide bombings, although he penned the Hamas communique found in Ramallah, claiming responsibility for the September 4 triple suicide bombings in Jerusalem's Ben-Yehuda Street.

Terrorism requires money and Israeli security sources say Hamas has plenty of it. They estimate the organization's budget at between $60 and $70 million a year. Most of the money, they say, comes from charities in the Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia. The work there is said to be coordinated by Palestinian businesspeople.

Some of the money for Hamas also comes from Islamic funds in the United States and Europe. This includes the Holy Land Foundation in the United States (which is controlled by Hamas, based in Houston, Texas), Interpal, The Muslim World League and the Islamic Relief Fund based in London, France and Germany.

Several countries contribute to Hamas, particularly Iran and Saudi Arabia. But Israeli security sources believe neither country controls the organization.

The large majority of the funding is slated for Hamas' so-called civilian sector. The establishment of kindergartens, schools, sports clubs, clinics and welfare funds ensures Palestinian support of Hamas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Much of this money is also reserved for the families of Hamas terrorists. A small amount, perhaps 10 percent, goes for the operations themselves.

Israel has tried to persuade Jordan to limit Hamas. Instead, the Islamic organization has grown in stature in the Hashemite kingdom and is now even offering to be a mediator in efforts to resolve the poor relations between King Hussein and the Islamic opposition parties in parliament, which are refusing to participate in next month's elections.

Israeli security sources say the Jordanians are concerned over any action against Hamas or the Islamic political leadership in Jordan, which has traditionally supported King Hussein. "The Jordanians are very careful over anything that might disturb the internal balance with the Islamic fundamentalists," another senior source says.

"But the fact is the hard core of Hamas lives in Jordan."

Collective leadership

What would Meshal's death have done to Hamas, had the assassination attempt been successful? Even the most ardent supporters of assassination would not have expected the organization to crumble. Hamas has a collective leadership based in several countries, and can replace Meshal — a situation unlike that of Islamic Jihad, whose leader Fathi Shkaki, killed in 1995 in Malta, has left a void in the organization so deep that the group barely functions today.

But the consensus is that Israel cannot ignore the fact that Meshal is a mass murderer with the blood of hundreds of Israelis on his hands.

Unlike Israel, the United States claims it ended its policy of assassination 20 years ago.

In contrast, Israel does not have the political or economic resources to fight terrorism using U.S. methods. Israeli security officials say their weapon is not recruiting support against a rogue state but in being able to execute finely-honed operations to kill terrorist leaders. This includes the killing of numerous PLO leaders in the 1970s and 1980s, the last of whom was reportedly Khalil Wazir (Abu Jihad) in Tunis in 1988.

Take away that option, they maintain, and Israel remains helpless against terrorism. Worse, they say, the Israeli people will conclude that their government has no means of retaliation.

What happened this time instead, they complain, is that Meshal was saved by Israeli hands and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu freed Hamas leader Yassin. The sheik is now in Gaza and Israeli security sources agree that the Hamas movement has reached a turning point.

The conclusion that the leadership in Jordan will now decrease in stature, is shared by Hamas leaders in Gaza.

Haifa University's Paz goes even further. He asserts that Hamas decisions on terrorism have always been taken in the territories and that individual cells, responsible for each region of the West Bank and Gaza, are autonomous. Hamas militants abroad may provide financial and political support and public relations, but not direct orders. The return of Yassin, Paz believes, will only cement this situation.

"There is a chance or danger that Hamas in the territories will gain even more prominence," Paz says. "There could be a split and there will be several wings of Hamas, each of which speaks in a different language. The pragmatic wing of Hamas could be strengthened by the return of Yassin."

Israeli security sources say they do not intend to allow the Palestinian Authority to take advantage of Yassin's return to Gaza by reopening the Hamas institutions Yasser Arafat ordered shut down last month.

The sources say they will also oppose any attempt to free detained Hamas suspects, some 100 of whom are in detention.

"Arafat started out well and Hamas is nervous," a senior security source says. "If Arafat continues [cracking down] this will be good. He has completed the arrests and is now investigating the suspects. We are following this up to ensure that the pressure on Hamas continues."

A senior security source says that Israel has information about Hamas' plans to carry out revenge attacks for the assassination attempt of Meshal — this despite the understanding in Hamas not to provoke the PA into another crackdown like the one against the Islamic movement last month.

"We can't be sure whether Hamas will indeed act rationally and not attack or assume that the PA will tolerate such attacks as it did previously," one intelligence source says.

Hamas' future, however, is unclear. Some experts, such as Paz, say the organization remains a mystery. He says the Israeli security organizations view Hamas in the same way they viewed the PLO in the 1970s, a group with a clearly defined leadership and decision-making process. But despite its wealth and huge support, Paz says, Hamas continues to be a decentralized movement. "I don't think we know what the decision-making process is in Hamas," he says. It is difficult to define the command of the military wing, where I think there is a hierarchy."

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The Week in Israel

Oct. 13

• Israel released nine more Arab prisoners as part of the deal worked out with Jordan to secure the release of the two agents who attempted, but failed, to assassinate Hamas leader Khaled Meshal. Israel is expected to release a total of 60 prisoners eventually.

• The Orthodox parties advised Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu they would bring down the government if it did not proceed with the two religious bills – on conversion and the membership of religious councils – when the Knesset reconvenes on Oct. 27.

Oct. 14

• Israel's High Court overturned the conviction of former Jewish Agency chair Simcha Dinitz. Dinitz had been convicted of misusing public funds. He was suspended from his job at the agency in 1994.

• Israel and Poland signed a military agreement despite requests from Poland's incoming government to wait. The agreement is worth around $800 million (US).

Oct. 15

• Rabbi Menahem Froman from Tekoa travelled to Gaza to meet with Sheikh Ahmed Yassin. He handed Yassin a letter from Chief Sephardi Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron asking Yassin to prevent the further shedding of blood. Froman also handed Yassin a letter from Yehuda Wachsman, whose son, Nachshon, was abducted and killed by Hamas in 1994.

Oct. 16

• President Ezer Weizman was reported to have canceled a state visit to China. The Chinese government was said to have considered the decision a diplomatic slight.

• The consumer price index decreased in September 0.1 percent. It was the first time the index had registered a decline since March 1985.

Oct. 17

• Canadian Ambassador David Berger returned to his post in Tel Aviv. He said a high priority was to ensure that Israel honors its assurances that it will no longer misuse Canadian passports.

With files from the JTA

The Meshal affair

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

The Mossad's failed assassination attempt on Hamas political leader Khaled Meshal in Amman last month has had six broad consequences.

Mideast Analysis

• Israel's pivotal relationship with Jordan, its best friend in the Arab world, has been weakened, but to what degree still remains uncertain. King Hussein regarded the botched Mossad operation as a personal betrayal, and would have closed the Israeli embassy if Israel had not given Jordan an antidote to save Meshal's life and released Hamas' founder, Sheik Ahmed Yassin, as well as scores of Islamic militants. The upshot of the affair is that Jordan closed the Mossad station in Amman and reduced security cooperation with Israel. Yet even as the crisis unfolded, Israel's new ambassador to Jordan presented his credentials and the commander of the Israeli air force paid a visit.

• The Mossad's reputation for operational excellence has been irretrievably tarnished, though this is not the first time the agency has committed a major blunder. In order to patch up relations with Canada, which recalled its ambassador in the wake of the Amman operation, Foreign Minister David Levy had to promise External Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy that Israel would never again use forged Canadian passports, thereby compromising the Mossad's ability to mount future missions.

• Hamas, an organization which opposes the peace process and is ideologically committed to Israel's destruction, has been strengthened at the expense of the Palestine Authority, Israel's only Palestinian partner. If Hamas grows stronger, Yasser Arafat may have no alternative but to harden his conditions for peace with Israel.

• With Hamas having gained a greater role in Palestinian policy-making, Benjamin Netanyahu now probably realizes that it is not in Israel's interest to undermine Arafat, a force of moderation compared to Yassin, whose terms for a ceasefire were the stuff of a dreamer with his feet off the ground. This may account for Netanyahu's first meeting with Arafat in eight months.

• The agreement to free upwards of 70 Palestinian prisoners, most of them identified with Hamas, undercuts Israel's war against terrorism.

• The widespread perception that Netanyahu is a bumbler has been reinforced. He displayed questionable judgment in ordering an operation on Jordanian soil. It was also a violation of Israel's 1994 peace treaty with Jordan.

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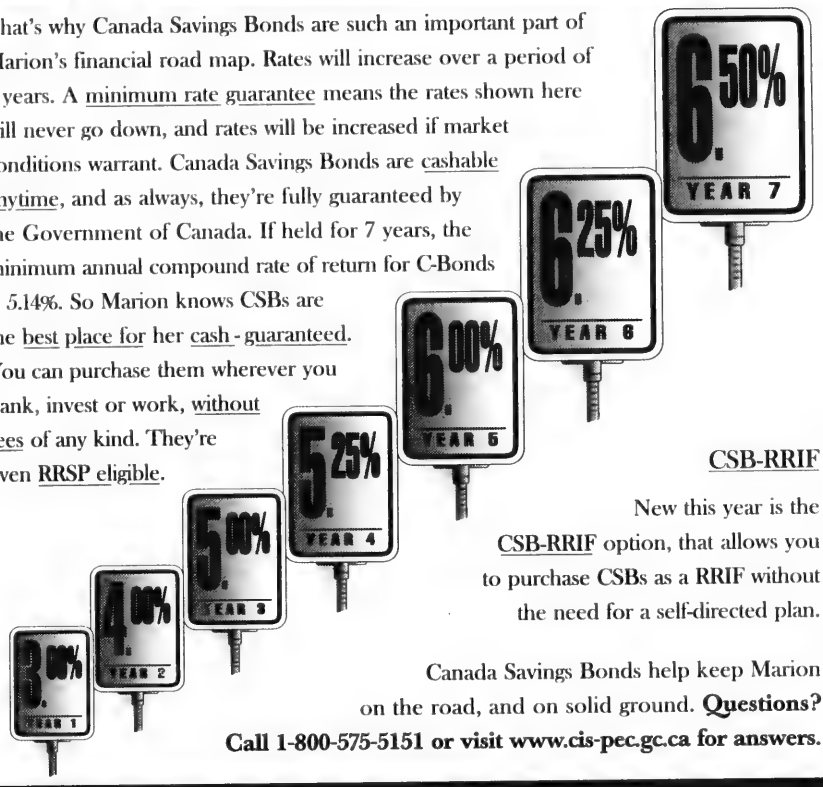

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Scholar specialized in Jewish thought

By MICHAEL GELBWASSER
The Jewish Advocate

BROOKLINE, Mass. — Jews around the world are mourning the death of renowned Harvard scholar Rabbi Yitzhak (Isadore) Twersky, who also served as the Rebbe of Boston's Talner chassidic dynasty.

Rabbi Twersky, a Brookline resident, died recently at Massachusetts General Hospital after a year-long illness. He was 67.

Memorial services were held at Congregation Beth David in Brookline, a shul established by Rabbi Twersky's father, and at the Maimonides School in Brookline, which was founded by the late Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, Rabbi Twersky's father-in-law.

Rabbi Twersky was buried in the Mount of Olives Cemetery in Jerusalem.

Born in Boston, a young Yitzhak Twersky attended the Boston Latin School and earned a bachelor of arts degree magna cum laude and a master of arts degree, as well as a doctorate, from Harvard University. He was also an ordained rabbi. In addition, he earned a master's degree in Hebrew literature from Hebrew College.

During his life, Rabbi Twersky earned international acclaim as a scholar and as a spiritual leader. From 1956 to 1965, he served as an instructor, assistant professor and associate professor of Hebrew and of Jewish history at Harvard.

In July 1965, Harvard named Rabbi Twersky its second Nathan Littauer Professor of Hebrew Literature and Philosophy. While holding that position, Rabbi Twersky chaired Harvard's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literature for six years; he was also on the faculty of the Department of Comparative Literature. From 1978 to 1993, he directed the Harvard Centre for Jewish Studies.

Maimonides and Jewish thought were Rabbi Twersky's primary research interests, and he published several books and articles on these topics. One of his books, *An Introduction to the Code of Maimonides (Mishneh Torah)*, which Yale University Press published in 1980, earned him two awards: the Jewish Book Council Award for a book on Jewish thought, and *Present Tense* magazine's Kenneth Smilen Literary Award for the Best Book in Religious Thought. In addition, the World Congress for Jewish Studies in 1981 devoted a plenary session to an assessment of the book's importance.

Jay Harris, the Harry Austryn Wolfson Professor of Jewish Studies at Harvard, said that Rabbi Twersky's research on Jewish thought attempted to "redefine Jewish spirituality" to include "all areas of Jewish learning."

Rabbi Twersky also wrote extensively on rabbinic history. In recent years, he was studying the 16th through 19th centuries.

In addition to his sons, Mosheh of Israel and Mayer of New York, Rabbi Twersky is survived by his wife, Dr. Atarah Twersky, and his daughter, Tzipporah Rosenblatt.

PM's racist remarks censured

By PETER EPHROSS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — American Jewish groups have reacted angrily to anti-Semitic remarks recently made by Malaysia's prime minister.

The World Jewish Congress said last Friday it would complain to the UN Human Rights Commission about the remarks of Mahathir Mohammad, who blamed Jews for his country's financial troubles.

The Anti-Defamation League, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre and the American Jewish Committee (AJC) all released statements criticizing Mahathir.

"The prime minister's slanders are from a detailed script – a history of racist invective that has hounded and brought destruction to Jews for centuries," said a letter the AJC sent to Malaysia's ambassador to the United States.

Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, said that by playing "the stereotypical racist card, [Mahathir] will only bolster extremist forces throughout the Muslim world."

While speaking Oct. 10 before a crowd estimated at 10,000 in a Muslim village, Mahathir said he suspected Jewish groups had an "agenda" to block the progress of Muslims.

Mahathir added that the recent decline of Malaysia's currency, the ringgit, could be the work of Jews.

As he had on previous occasions, Mahathir singled out George Soros, a wealthy Jewish investor and philanthropist, for deliberately trying to hurt the Malaysian economy by indulging in currency speculation.

Mahathir again drew criticism when he denied the comments the following day.

"I only made a statement, but the press went on to say that I was accusing the Jews. We cannot make such wild accusations," he said. "They will twist our arms."

Meanwhile, opposition politicians in Malaysia have criticized the prime minister's remarks, as have newspapers in Australia and in the Pacific Rim.

"The Malaysian prime minister is a dangerously irresponsible racist and a major threat to the stability of the southeast Asian region," the Sydney *Morning Herald* newspaper said in an editorial.

The Thai newspaper the *Nation* ran an editorial saying Mahathir is a "racist" who has "outlived his usefulness."

Observers believe that by attacking Jews, Mahathir is trying to shift the blame for the recent slide in the ringgit.

Approximately 20 million people live in Malaysia. More than half of them are Muslims.

Malaysia and Israel do not have diplomatic ties, and Israeli citizens are not allowed to visit Malaysia.

JTA correspondents Tom Tugend in Los Angeles and Jeremy Jones in Sydney contributed to this report.

Argentine investigators criticized

By SERGIO KIERNAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina's investigations into two terror bombings that targeted Jewish sites earlier in the decade were criticized during a recent meeting here between local Jewish representatives and President Bill Clinton.

The meeting, which brought representatives from all major Argentine Jewish organizations together with Clinton for more than an hour, focused almost exclusively on the two bombings.

The Jewish leaders told Clinton, who was joined by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and 10 other American officials, of the need to battle terrorism.

They did not criticize the Argentine government's inability to find those responsible for the bombings.

But five relatives of the bombing victims who were present at the meeting gave Clinton a five-page letter saying, "The very poor performance of the Argentine judiciary and security agencies is an invitation to terrorism to strike again."

Last week, before the Jewish leaders spoke with Clinton, Argentine President Carlos Menem met with them and asked them not to criticize the government when they spoke with the American president during his visit to Latin America.

Menem apparently was seeking to avoid embarrassment over his government's continued inability to solve the March 17, 1992, bombing of the Israeli Embassy and the July 18, 1994, bombing of the Argentine Jewish Mutual Aid Association, also known as AMIA.

The attacks in Buenos Aires killed 115 people and left hundreds of wounded.

Emergency Services CLOSING

Monday, Nov. 3, 1997

The **Emergency Department**
at the former Northwestern General Hospital
will **close** at 7:30 a.m.
Monday, November 3, 1997.

A new **Ambulatory/Walk-in Service**
will open at 7:30 a.m. on
Monday, November 3, 1997
at the same location, the Keele Street site of
Humber River Regional Hospital (HHRH), 2175 Keele Street.

HRRH's new Keele Street Ambulatory/ Walk-in Service will provide non-emergency medical care to those in need of medical attention. The Walk-in Service will operate from 7:30 a.m. until 10 p.m. seven days a week.

The Church Street (formerly Humber Memorial Hospital) and Finch Avenue (formerly York-Finch General Hospital) sites of HRRH will continue to provide emergency services 24-hours-a-day.

HRRH will relocate other programs and services this fall. These changes are outlined in Humber River Regional Hospital's *Service Update*, which will be published in local community newspapers October 26 and 28. To obtain a copy, or for more information on hospital program and service changes, call our Patient Services Information Line at (416) 658-2044.

Humber River Regional Hospital was formed January 1, 1997 with the voluntary merger of the former Northwestern General, Humber Memorial and York-Finch General Hospitals.

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Finch Avenue Site
2111 Finch Avenue W.
Downsview, Ontario
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2175 Keele Street
Toronto, Ontario
(416) 651-6111

HR
Humber River
REGIONAL HOSPITAL

For more information, call the Humber River Regional Hospital Patient Services Information Line at (416) 658-2044.

IDF's 1997 Lebanon death toll rises to 39

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Two deaths last weekend brought to 39 the number of IDF soldiers who have been killed in action in south Lebanon since January. Over 70 have been wounded.

According to news agency reports, some 50 gunmen from Hezbollah and the Amal Shi'ite movement have also been killed during the same period.

An IDF soldier was killed and two others were slightly hurt when their tank was hit by an anti-tank missile during fighting in the eastern sector of the security zone last Saturday evening.

And Staff-Sgt. Mahdi Hatib, 22, from Beit Jann, died in Haifa's Rambam Hospital of wounds he suffered in a friendly fire incident in south Lebanon over two months ago.

Saturday's attack occurred near the Rehan position in the north-eastern sector of the security zone. Reports from Lebanon said gunmen fired a missile at the tank, scoring a direct hit. The two wounded soldiers were evacuated by helicopter to Tzfat's Rebecca Sieff Hospital.

Hezbollah, which has intensified its activities in the past few months, claimed responsibility for the attack.

On Friday afternoon and evening, mortars and missiles were fired at IDF troops on patrol and at several SLA outposts in the area, without causing casualties. Fire was returned by IDF and SLA gunners, and reports from Lebanon said a civilian was wounded as a result of shelling north of the security zone.

Security sources noted that during the incidents over the weekend, Hezbollah gunmen on several occasions again used villages and public facilities as cover for firing at IDF and SLA targets, in violation of the Grapes of Wrath understandings.

Hezbollah is believed to have received large quantities of weapons from Iran via Syria in the past few months, including improved anti-tank missiles. According to some reports, the supplies have included American-made TOW anti-tank missiles, which are much more accurate and faster than Sagger or other types of anti-tank missiles previously used by Hezbollah, and apparently have better armor-penetrating power.

On Friday afternoon, IAF warplanes also struck at an underground base of Ahmed Jibril's terrorist group near Nuameh, south of Beirut.

The IDF spokesperson said the pilots reported direct hits on the target and that all the planes returned safely to their bases. There were no reports of any casualties from the air strike.

In other activities in the area, members of a parents' movement calling for an organized withdrawal from south Lebanon staged a demonstration Saturday near the Lebanese border. They afterwards collected signatures and urged people to send letters to Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu calling for a pullout.

The ongoing public debate in Israel sparked a harsh warning by SLA commander, Gen. Antoine Lahad, that his troops are likely to turn their weapons against Israel if the IDF withdraws unilaterally from the security zone.

Lahad told the French newspaper *Le Figaro* that a withdrawal without an international accord countersigned by Syria would cause half his army to join the ranks of Hezbollah. "The others will create a new anti-Israeli militia that would oblige Israel to return to the region in force," he said.

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Egyptian envoy cleared

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Unsubstantiated allegations that Egypt's ambassador to Israel raped an Israeli belly dancer may further damage already chilly relations with Cairo, Israeli leaders fear.

The charges, which had been kept out of the Israeli media for several weeks by court order, were published last week, when Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein announced his decision to close the investigation for lack of evidence against Mohammed Basiouny.

The attorney general also ordered the police to end their inquiries into a cross-complaint filed by Basiouny, who charged that the belly dancer and a male friend had sought to blackmail him.

Basiouny, visibly upset by the publicity, said he was glad that "the truth is out at last" – and insisted that he would continue at his post.

But some Israeli observers predict that since his standing has been irreparably damaged, his 15-year term as Egypt's ambassador to Israel is likely to come to an end soon.

While the dancer's allegations have not been substantiated, it is clear that Basiouny met with her alone in the apartment of a mutual friend.

Basiouny claims he merely wanted to give her a birthday present, that they had known each other for several years, that she frequently performed at his residence and that there was no sexual element to their relationship.

The dancer, whose name was banned from publication by court order, is reportedly married and the mother of two.

According to Israeli media reports, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Ezer Weizman were involved in behind-the-scenes efforts to keep the story out of the newspapers and to prevent it from hurting Israel's already tense relations with Egypt.

They also feared that the charges against Basiouny would damage chances of obtaining the release of Azam Azam, an Israeli Druze who was found guilty of spying for Israel while working in Egypt.

Azam was sentenced Aug. 31 by a Cairo court to 15 years in prison with hard labor.

Israeli leaders apparently fear that the Egyptian press, and even the country's government, may see the Basiouny affair as Israel's way of getting even with Egypt or of pressuring Egypt on the Azam case.

Despite protests from Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai that Azam was not a spy, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has refused to pardon him.

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Columbia, BGU to launch joint medical program

By BARBARA PASH
Baltimore Jewish Times

BALTIMORE — The first class in a joint Israel-U.S. medical degree program will begin next September.

The program is the brainchild of Dr. Richard Deckelbaum of Columbia University, who will direct the Doctor of Medicine program in International Health, based at Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

His co-director will be Dr. Carmi Margolis, vice-dean for medical education at Ben Gurion University faculty of medicine.

Deckelbaum is a former flying doctor in Zambia, with international experience in both clinical practice and research.

"He has an interesting vision," Pamela Cooper, program coordinator in New York, said of Deckelbaum. "He's the motivating force" behind the program.

The program is a collaboration between the faculties at Ben Gurion University's Irving Goldman Medical School and Columbia University Health Sciences, a division of which is the university's College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Deckelbaum is a former pediatric resident at Hadassah University Hospital in Israel. He now heads Columbia University's Institute for Human Nutrition and serves as director of the division of gastroenterology and nutrition for the department of pediatrics at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

The new program will follow a four-year, American-style curriculum. It will be taught in English, with courses in Hebrew and Arabic before clinical clerkships.

It includes courses in cross-cultural, community and preventive medicine, as well as electives in international public health, health-care policy and health economics.

Students receive the M.D. degree from Ben Gurion University.

Cooper said graduates of the program will then take the medical licensing exam, the competition for medical residencies in the United States and other countries outside Israel, as International Medical Graduates (IMG).

Since the program is just beginning, there is no track record for graduates getting residencies in the United States. Cooper said, however, that graduates of Ben Gurion University medical school have been residents at, among others, Columbia Presbyterian and Moses Montefiore hospitals in New York, and Yale University Hospital, in Connecticut.

"This is not an off-shore medical school," she said. "We've been getting stellar candidates, with great MCAT [medical school admissions test] scores."

Faculty from BGU Medical School and Columbia University Health Sciences will jointly oversee program planning, student selection and curriculum development. They also will take part in faculty exchange and joint research.

A joint Columbia-Ben Gurion admissions committee is in the process of selecting the first class for the 1998-99 academic year.

The charter class will have 30 students and class size will then be increased to 40, then 50 students. "We expect to have a total of 200 students" when the program is fully operational, Cooper said.

So far, the response to the program has been "phenomenal," she said.

Admission is competitive and open to students of all nationalities who have completed an undergraduate degree with the necessary science prerequisites. "There's been interest from Hong Kong, Brazil and, of course, Canada and the United States," she said.

The application deadline for the first class is Dec. 15. Call the program office in New York at 212-305-9587 or e-mail to [BGCU-MED@columbia.edu.]

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Baycrest, Hebrew U begin fellowship, exchange program

TORONTO — Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care and the University of Toronto are going to train Hebrew University specialists to treat disorders of the brain.

The training is the result of a new fellowship and exchange program between Baycrest and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The initiative was made possible by a gift from Baycrest supporters Mynne and Harold Soupcoff. "We have always been supporters of Israel," said Harold Soupcoff. "Supporting this project is another way to help both countries and keep the relationship strong."

Each year, the program will enable a student in the Hebrew University's Neuropsychology program to spend up to 12 months working and training at Baycrest. The student will also be involved in research projects with Baycrest scientists and take at least one related course at the University of Toronto.

"There is a natural relationship between us and the Hebrew University," said Edwin Goldstein, one of the chairs of the Baycrest Completion campaign. "The program helps develop that relationship in a way that shows the world how important Baycrest is to ensuring the best possible care for the elderly."

Dr. Charles Gold, president of the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University, welcomed the new program. He said it has benefits for all of the institutions involved. "For students at Hebrew University, this means an excellent training opportunity. For Baycrest, it means access to students of the highest calibre."

Under the new program, Baycrest scientists will also spend time in Israel teaching at Hebrew University and conducting their research.

Neuropsychology is a relatively new discipline which combines psychology with knowledge of the physical brain. Neuropsychologists treat the effects of stroke, Alzheimer disease, brain injury and developmental disorders in children. While Israel has many scientists doing research in those areas, there is a shortage of neuropsychologists trained to provide care to patients.

About Nutrition

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. Can you please tell me some foods that are very good sources of vitamin C or would I be better off taking a vitamin C supplement?

A. The following foods are very good sources of vitamin C: papaya, orange juice, cantaloupe, broccoli, brussel sprouts, green pepper, grapefruit juice, strawberries.

It is far better for the general population to get their vitamin C from fruits and vegetables than from a supplement. By eating the fruit and vegetables, you also get many other vitamins and minerals, as well as fibre.

Q. I was told that cooked carrots have more vitamins than uncooked ones. Is this a fact?

A. Slightly cooking foods high in beta carotene, such as carrots, does makes the vitamins in those foods more readily available to our bodies and provides more nutrients than if they are eaten raw.

Q. I often hear that broccoli is very healthy. Is it really and why?

A. What you've heard is right about this one. Broccoli is a very healthy vegetable. First of all, one cup contains a mere 40 calories and packs a healthy serving of fibre (2.5 grams/cup), as well as vitamin C, beta carotene, folic acid and calcium.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions, send them to The CJN.

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Eight-part Vision TV series

Symposium on Being Jewish

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Filmmaker Jonathan Perlman was in Israel recently, working on a Vision TV documentary.

TORONTO — A personal quest that began six years ago in Jonathan Perlman's last year as an undergraduate philosophy student has evolved into an eight-part series currently running on Vision TV.

The series, *A Symposium on Being Jewish*, explores issues ranging from the meaning of creation to intermarriage and Jewish continuity.

Perlman began by talking to prominent Jews in Toronto, starting with local rabbis and Moses Znaimer of Citytv.

He ended up interviewing dozens of well-known and some lesser-known personalities from North America, Israel and England. Lawyer/author Alan Dershowitz, philosopher Emil Fackenheim, Jewish feminist author Letty Cottin Pogrebin, a number of rabbis and even Leon Trotsky's great-grandson David Axelrod, a right-wing Orthodox Jew in Hebron, are among those featured.

"I tried to find the most lucid thinkers from both liberal and more traditional sides," recalled Perlman, now 26, in an interview.

Having arranged to bring Aish HaTorah's Discovery program to the University of Western Ontario as a student, Perlman was inspired to "find intelligent and articulate individuals who could respond to the most basic [Jewish] questions in a way that I would find personally satisfying."

For someone with no background in filmmaking, his accomplishment is particularly noteworthy.

Perlman started by borrowing a video camera from his uncle, and learned as he went along, eventually purchasing a better camera and receiving editing assistance at his local Rogers Cable TV facility.

"I was hoping it would reach some kind of TV audience," said Perlman, "but everyone said talking heads was a horrible format. It didn't seem like something that was feasible."

But when TVOntario aired the show – distilled from over 80 hours of footage – in two 100-minute segments in 1993, Liam Lacey of the *Globe and Mail* wrote of its "thought-provoking discussion" and pronounced the end result "talking-head television gone to heaven."

It has also run on an American cable channel and the revamped eight-part series will run on a Long Island PBS station in December.

"One immediately wishes Perlman...would dedicate the next 20 or so years of his life to documenting all the world's great religions in a similar accessible, intelligent and conversational fashion," Lacey wrote.

Perlman's current project, funded partly by Vision TV and TVOntario, is scheduled for completion next fall.

Tentatively titled *Quest for God*, it is a documentary that focuses on expressions of Jewish spiritual life. A brief preview showed spirited dancing at a service in Manhattan's B'nai Jeshurun synagogue, one of the places where Perlman has found Jewish worship "comes alive."

After completing his Honors BA, Perlman continued his studies at Brandeis University, where he received his MA in Judaic studies last year.

An alumnus of Associated Hebrew Schools, Perlman attends lay-led participatory services at Beit Haminyan, his "ideal service" except for an apparent dearth of young adults in their 20s.

This summer, Perlman worked as researcher and associate producer for a five-part documentary for Vision TV on Emil Fackenheim, scheduled for broadcast next May.

While Perlman no longer does his own filming, he is researching, directing, producing and editing *Quest*. He would admit only to an "inkling" about his third project, preferring to focus on his current one.

He especially enjoys the editing process. "I love piecing the stuff together like some great puzzle and seeing how it works." For *Being Jewish*, Perlman included the parts "that personally resonated" for him.

As it turned out, *Being Jewish* not only supplied him with the answers he sought on a wide range of Jewish issues, but it provided an unanticipated career direction.

"This is what I love to do. I'm driven to do it. If I can make a living at it and I continue to be driven by it, this is how I would love to spend my days."

A Symposium on Being Jewish *airs on Vision TV Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. Part V,* Intermarriage and Assimilation, *will be shown Oct. 28.*

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Cabaret cast includes performers of all types

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —Bubbies, zaydes and einekels are all in the cast of *Yiddish Cabaret* at the Leah Posluns Theatre, Oct. 28 and 29.

"We have people from seven to 70," says director Nathan Garnick, who is hoping for a repeat sell-out of the show his Yiddish Theatre School Ensemble did last year.

In some cases, both a parent and and a grandparent are appearing in *Yiddish Cabaret* along with a young performer.

"They all leave the rehearsals singing and that's what we want the audience to do after hearing the toe-tapping music," said Garnick. "Though about 75 percent of the material is in Yiddish, the songs and dances are so familiar that no one will be in the dark even if they understand little Yiddish."

With music by Israeli guitarist Yitzhak Argaman, the show will include some professional artists.

The overall cast has grown to 50, an increase of 10 over last year, and includes comedy, klezmer, chassidic and Israeli songs and dances.

Admission is $10 if purchased in advance and $15 at the door *(far groyse fardiner)*. Call (416) 635-0720.

Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

THINGS ARE COOKING FOR MARTY AND AVRUM

Avrum Rosensweig and **Marty Galin** recently celebrated their second anniversary as hosts of their weekly radio program, *The Marty and Avrum Restaurant and Food Show*, which airs Sunday mornings from 10 to noon on AM 640.

Avrum, who recently left the United Jewish Appeal after seven years as a key fundraiser, and Marty, an actor with 25 years of experience, usually have about 25 to 30 guests on their show. The show is broadcast live and features interviews, cooking tips, food lore, entertainers, humor and spoofs.

Highlights of past shows include an aboriginal pow-wow, an Italian wedding and a Passover seder featuring actor **Harvey Atkin**. Other guests have included **Harry Belafonte**, **Engelburt Humperdinck** and many master chefs.

Things are really sizzling for Marty and Avrum. The duo recently signed a deal with YTV television network to develop a series of one-minute informational pieces on topics such as kosher food and restaurants for children. MacMillan Books asked them recently to put together a children's recipe book. They are also peddling a "pre-stained" apron that is already graced with apparent food stains that won't wash out.

Avrum recently fulfilled a long-time dream by starting a non-profit charitable organization, Ve'Ahavta: The Canadian Jewish Humanitarian and Relief Committee. Its first planned mission is to send a group of medical personnel next February to Zimbabwe, which has the world's highest rate of HIV-positive infection.

"We hope to give a medical cocktail to mothers so their children won't be born HIV-positive," says Avrum, a rabbi's son. Ve'Ahavta is meant to perform tikkun olam to help heal the world, he says. "We're trying to get Jews active again in the fight against the inequalities of the world."

Call For Submissions: *Dorot*, a journal of contemporary Jewish literature invites university students to submit poetry, short fiction, and non-fiction, script excerpts, cartoons and sketches with Jewish themes.

Poems should not exceed three pages; prose submissions 2,500 words. Deadline Oct. 31. Include a SASE and cover letter to Dorot, 442 Student Centre, York University, 4700 Keele St. North York, Ont. M3J 1P3 or YU101509@yorku.ca.

* * *

Local Theatre Scene: The Playhouse Project has announced its new season of four plays, starting with both a male and a female version of **Neil Simon**'s *The Odd Couple*, running intermittently from Nov. 5 through Nov. 15.

The next play is *Enter Laughing*, by **Joseph Stein**, based on the novel by **Carl Reiner**, featuring **Sylvia Lennick**, running Jan 21 to Feb. 1, 1998.

Guys and Dolls, with music and lyrics by **Frank Loesser**, runs March. 25 to April 5.

Principals of the company include actor-director **Allan Price**, actor-director **Merle Garbe** and actor **Lea Garbe**. Performances take place at the City Playhouse, 1000 New Westminster Dr. (corner of Bathurst Street, south of Highway 407), Thornhill. Subscriptions $36 (three shows) or $48 (four shows). 416-733-0558. Fax 416-222-0495.

* * *

Amadeus Ensemble: Celebrate the music of Great Britain as the **Amadeus Ensemble**, under the leadership of violinist **Moshe Hammer**, opens its new season. The 12-member string orchestra performs **Britten**'s *Simple Symphony*, **Holst**'s *St. Paul Suite*, **Warlock**'s *Capriol Suite*, **Willan**'s *Poem for Strings* and **Elgar**'s *Serenade*.

Oct. 26, 1997, 8 p.m., Glenn Gould Studio, Canadian Broadcasting Centre 250 Front St. W. Adults $25. 416-205-5555.

* * *

Yorkville Concert: Israeli-born cellist **Daniel Domb**, the Toronto Symphony principal cellist who has performed Kol Nidrei at Holy Blossom Temple for 20 years, is set to join forces with **Carey Domb** and the Toronto Salon Orchestra under the baton of **Robert Raines** for a concert on Oct. 25, 8 p.m. at Church of the Redeemer, Avenue Road and Bloor Street.

The program features lavish tangos, waltzes, ragtime music, and a **Gershwin** medley. A fashion preview and intermission desserts round out the festivities. Tickets $30. 416-482-6174.

* * *

German-Jewish Music: The Jewish Theological Seminary of New York is hosting a five-day international conference on the Jewish musical tradition of Germany that was shattered, along with much else of Jewish life, on Kristallnacht in November 1938.

The full name of the conference is Voice of Ashkenaz – The Music and Culture of German and Central European Jewry: Remembrance and Renewal.

Daniel Domb and Carey Domb.

Where on earth?

In the Oct. 9 *CJN*, page 36, we mentioned that the Toronto Seniors Strings will be performing Oct. 23, at 2 p.m.

We forgot, however, to tell you the concert will be at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Toronto, near the St. Andrew's subway station.

We regret any inconvenience this might have caused. For more information call 416-769-5071.

It includes a concert at the Lincoln Center, an authentic liturgical, cantorial and choral replication of a Shabbat morning service at the Seminary, and many scholarly papers, panel discussions, musical demonstrations and choral workshops. It runs Nov. 7 to 11. 212-678-8923.

Web site[http://www.jtsa.edu/academic/conf/voiceof/].

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Travel, Arts & Business

Allen Kaeja, Karen Resnick Kaeja and daughter Aniya of Kaeja d'Dance Company.

Choreography based on ghetto life

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Choreographer and dancer, Allen Kaeja of Toronto's Kaeja d'Dance Company, whose work, *Zummel*, received rave reviews recently at the Ashkenaz Festival of New Yiddish Culture, has choreographed a new work which will debut this week.

Court-yard will have its world premiere at the du Maurier Theatre at Harbourfront Centre for three performances from Oct. 23 to 25 at 8 p.m.

A co-production of Harbourfront Centre's Movado Dance Series and DanceWorks Mainstage Series, *Court-Yard* is an extension of Kaeja's Old Country Trilogy, which portrays life in his father's native shtetl just prior to the outbreak of World War II.

His father, who died 12 year ago, came from Kutno, outside of Warsaw. After losing lost his wife, his child and his entire family in the Holocaust, he came to Canada in 1948 to start a new life.

Court-Yard depicts the dwellers in the ghetto who develop a protective veneer of "distance tenderness" against a time when friends and family may disappear forever.

The music for the production was commissioned and composed by Edgardo Morena and will be performed by Allen's wife, Karen Resnick Kaeja, and four other dancers.

Kaeja, 38, has lived with the Holocaust since he was a young child in Kitchener, Ont., where his father told the stories of his survival and the destruction of his family and his community.

Through music and dance, Kaeja explores a number of difficult themes in *Court-Yard* including survival, self-reliance, the need for a safe haven and the relationships between people.

He explains that *Court-Yard* explores the relationships of five individuals after months of forced confinement inside the ghetto walls.

"In their forced closeness, the best of their humanity rises as they support and recognize each other's needs. Trust, compassion and even laughter protect their spirits."

He started dancing at the University of Waterloo and then studied at the Toronto Dance Theatre, where, he says, "I was kicked out because I was too independent and did my own training and choreography which were not acceptable in those days. You could not deviate from the curriculum at that time."

Today, he notes, he and his wife are teaching at the school "and now choreography and contact dancing are encouraged."

Karen graduated with honors in fine arts in dance from York University. They met at a rehearsal where they performed together, married in 1989 and formed Kaeja d'Dance in 1991.

The Kaejas, who have gained a reputation for excellence in the Toronto dance community, teach contact dance and improvisation at the National Ballet School of Canada, the Canadian Children's Dance Theatre and in performing arts schools in and around Toronto. Their daughter Aniya, 4, has performed with them.

Tickets for *Court-Yard* are $20 and $16 for students and senior; they are available at Harbourfront Centre or call 416-973-4000.

Lightstone performs cabaret at JCC

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Canadian actor Marilyn Lightstone's theatrical, film and television credits are the hallmarks of an impressive career that has spanned more than three decades.

Her work includes award-winning performances of leading roles in such Canadian film classics as *Lies My Father Told Me*, *In Praise of Older Women* and *The Tin Flute*; a recurring role on the acclaimed television series *Road to Avonlea*; and stage appearances in Stratford, Toronto, New York and Los Angeles.

Lightstone is also a singer/song writer. She will be presenting her cabaret-style show at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) Oct. 30 at 8 p.m.

Offstage, she has been writing scripts for television since 1983 and for the last three years, she has been the associate producer and co-director of *The Spoken Art*, a television series on Bravo! that dramatizes Canadian short stories.

Many viewers may also recognize the distinctive "voice of Bravo!" as Lightstone's. She does all the on-air show promos.

She is delighted to be performing at the JCC benefit, she said recently at the sprawling High Park home she shares with her longtime companion, Citytv founder Moses Znaimer.

"I love singing. Years go by and I don't get a chance to sing," she said. "I'm a performer. I have to do it for somebody. It makes me feel so alive."

Referring to her music, Lightstone described herself as a "late bloomer.' When she studied at the National Theatre School in the early '60s she trained as a dramatic actress and consequently she had few professional opportunities to sing, she said. " If you are a dramatic actor people don't think you can sing."

Lightstone began song-writing in Los Angeles 1985, shortly after acquiring a piano. She sat down and the lyrics began "to flow," she said. "It was as if someone had pulled a cork out of my brain. One after the other, these songs just kept flooding through my consciousness and for about 10 months that's all I did."

Lightstone, who said she "thinks in scenes," described most of the songs as stories, many of which are autobiographical. While she did not want to dwell on her relationship with Znaimer (the couple has been together for some 30 years), she divulged that he has been an important inspiration for her music.

"Half the songs are about Moses, for Moses, because of Moses or in spite of Moses," she admitted with a laugh. But she does not make reference to him in the show because "it's too personal," she said.

Lightstone made her cabaret debut in her hometown Montreal at the Saidye Bronfman Centre in 1991.

She lamented that finding venues for her music is difficult because she's not known as a singer or song-writer. "I don't fit into any category. Who knows when the next time I sing will be?"

Lightstone is also uncertain when her next dramatic role will surface. While she still loves to act, she is very selective about the parts she plays, she said. "I only audition for something if it is the most important thing to me. So many things offered to actors my age are not fulfilling."

In fact, she has been known to turn down parts throughout her career because she resented being typecast for ethnic roles, she said.

But the dry spells have given her an opportunity to explore other creative avenues – she has been working intensively on a novel, which she expects to complete this spring, she said.

"The path is there. If I get out of line, I keep shifting myself back on the road...I don't want to come to the end of my life with whatever talents I have untried and untested."

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15 HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. WANTED
150 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
155 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
158 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCH.
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
386 DANCING
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
483 SKIING
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
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275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

• CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.

Attr, personable prof. male,38, seeks soulmate. 633-1728.

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New Mom seeking a career change? Come out & meet other Mom's like yourself, for support, ideas & socializing. Founding mtg. Fri., Nov. 7th, 1pm. **Second time Mom's also welcome.** For info. call Lisa, at 416-782-3742.

330 OBITUARIES

FELDHEIM, ERIC. Died unexpectedly,Oct. 2, 1997, just short of his 77th birthday. Formerly of Toronto. Father, with Ilse Feldheim, of David, Daniel, Shira. Author of Teachers' Guides on Jewish Education. Director of Education, Beth Tzedec Congregation, Toronto, 1949-64. Fought in N. Africa, Italy, Palestine, 1939-45. Condolences to Mrs. Marcy Feldheim, 381 Willowbrook Drive, North Brunswick, New Jersey, USA, 08902.

331 IN MEMORIAM

MAXWELL NORMAN ROCKMAN, D.D.S., BSc. Dent. In loving memory of our wonderful father. He enriched and made joyous our lives, and he will live in our hearts forever. Sons, Peter & Joe, Daughter Laurie, and their mother, Lillian.
April 8, 1911 - October 21, 1957

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Mollie Sigal** will take place on **Sunday, October 26th, 11:30 am at Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park,** First Narayever Section. Relatives & friends are invited to attend.

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of our beloved
BETTY BLAUG ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 26th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Shaarei Shomayim Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

335 UNVEILINGS

yad vashem monuments
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MAYER ISENBERG ז"ל
UNVEILING for SUNDAY, OCT. 26
Bathurst Lawn Wierzbniker (#38) 9:30 a.m.
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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MAX *(Meilech)* EISENBERG ז"ל
loving father of Evy Karkowsky, Susie Kaplan, Debbie Eisenberg & Niomi Herblum
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 26th, 10:15 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Ivansker Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
IDA GLICK ז"ל
beloved wife of Chazzan David Glick, mother, grandmother and great grandmother
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 26th, 11:30 a.m.
Beth Tzedec Memorial Park
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
HELEN JACOBS ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 26, 11:00 a.m.
Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
MURRAY CARSON ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 26th, 12:00 noon
Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Farband Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late beloved
SAM KOCHMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 26th, 10:45 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Keltzer Society Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
ESTHER MILLER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 26th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Adath Shalom Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
TOM (ISRAEL) SCHAFFER ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, Oct. 26th, 11:00 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Beth Torah Section
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Manhattan hoopster joins Hapoel Jerusalem

By SIMON GRIVER
Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM — More than 4,000 athletes from around the world arrived in Israel for the recent Maccabi Games. One of them, Jesse Rosenfeld, a member of the U.S. basketball team and a Princeton graduate, decided to stay.

His love of basketball, rather than the spiritual attraction of Jerusalem, persuaded Rosenfeld to remain in the Israeli capital. The 23-year-old, 6-foot-9 inch, Manhattan-born power forward signed a two-year contract with Hapoel Jerusalem in July and has set his sights on building a successful career in top-flight European basketball.

"It seems kind of strange," he says, "to be getting well paid for something I love to do."

Rosenfeld refuses to reveal the size of his contract, but it is almost certainly around the $50,000 (US) a year mark. And that figure could swell to $100,000 if Hapoel has a successful season and Rosenfeld fits into the team. Leading Israeli basketball stars can earn up to $500,000 a year, as well as more from sponsorship and endorsement deals and advertising contracts.

Rosenfeld graduated in history from Princeton this summer. After a training session for the U.S. Maccabiah team in June, he was surprised to be approached by a basketball agent, who suggested that he try pro-basketball in Israel.

"Of course it was always my dream to play in the NBA," says Rosenfeld, who in his senior year at Princeton was the college team's first off-the-bench player. "But you can only work very hard and do your best, and realistically I wasn't going to make it in America. The standard of European basketball is very high and fiercely competitive.

"When we played our first pre-season friendlies at Malcha stadium in Jerusalem," he recalls, "I was really surprised by the excitement, warmth and enthusiasm of the fans. They made a lot of noise and really got behind the team, and I suddenly realized that I'd made it in the big time."

Hapoel Jerusalem has emerged in recent years as Israel's second-best team, after the perennial and former European champions Maccabi Tel Aviv. For the last two seasons, Hapoel has beaten Maccabi to win the state cup and has finished runners-up to them in the league. As runners-up, Hapoel qualifies this year for the prestigious European Cup competition.

"I get to travel throughout Europe," says Rosenfeld. "That's a great bonus. I'm really very lucky."

Rosenfeld grew up in the Soho section of Lower Manhattan in New York City. He describes his background as assimilated Jewish, but at the same time very Jewish culturally, simply because most of the people in the neighborhood and at school were Jewish. Nevertheless, he had never been to Israel until the Maccabiah. But he has always been very curious to see Israel, he says, which was why he decided to participate in the games.

Jesse Rosenfeld

"I had not planned the two-year contract with Hapoel," he says, "but then I hadn't planned anything after college. I certainly couldn't have found a job in the United States with a salary and short-term career potential like the one I have in Israeli basketball."

The Maccabiah itself turned out to be disastrous. First there was the collapse of the bridge, which claimed the lives of four Australian athletes. On the parquet, the U.S. basketball team, favorites to win the gold medal, crashed out in the semi-finals when they were unexpectedly defeated by Britain.

"The Maccabiah was a very bitter-sweet occasion," he recalls. "But it was still exhilarating to be in a major event that brought so many Jews together from all corners of the world."

After several months in Israel, Rosenfeld says he is acquiring a taste for the country. He is using his spare time to explore his Jewish roots and heritage. As a history graduate, albeit in 20th century U.S. history, he has been fascinated by the beauty and archeological richness of Jerusalem in particular and Israel in general.

Rosenfeld participated in Hapoel Jerusalem's pre-season tour of Turkey. Despite the fact that the team lost all its games, he enjoyed the experience and opportunity to play together with his new colleagues. Each Israeli team is only allowed four foreign players in the squad; so Rosenfeld has taken Israeli citizenship in order not to count as a "foreigner."

"The pre-season tour of Turkey was a chance to identify team weaknesses," he says, "and hopefully to correct them by the time the season gets under way."

Rosenfeld scored an average of 12 points per game on the tour, which was impressive considering that he spent much of his time on the bench.

"He's mobile and athletic," says Hapoel's coach Gadi Kedar, "and integrates well into the team. His passing is very strong and he plays intelligently. I think he will be an important addition to the squad."

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants: 1. Twelve years old and under; 2. Thirteen to 18 years old; 3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter: The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem.

We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.

We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: "Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 12, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 25, 1997. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A	R	T		A	D	E		C	C	C		A	H	S
G	O	O	D	M	A	N		D	O	A		M	O	E
A	Y	N	R	A	N	D		S	U	N	D	O	W	N
R	A	Y	S		C	O	B		R	A	I	S	E	D
A	L	S		Z	E	R	O		S	A	D			
			L	A	D		O	V	E	N		J	T	A
P	I	C	O	N		S	K	I	S		P	O	E	M
I	V	O	R	Y		E	S	S		C	R	A	V	E
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I	N	N		T	E	E		E	D	A	S	N	E	R
L	E	D		E	Y	E		L	E	N		A	L	E

The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

כוכב משמים או חלב צפורים, כתבה תצירה: אלונה פרנקל, הוצאת מודן.

אלונה פרנקל היא סופרת לגיל הרך. ספריה מרובעים וקטנים ויפים. הגיבור הוא נפתלי. זה הילד שתלתליו שחורים שכולנו מכירים. אנחנו נדלנו אך נפתלי נשאר תמיד כבן שלוש.

הפעם, בספרה העכשווי של פרנקל, נפתלי מצובררת, נוגה, עצוב, עגום, קודר, מדוכא ורק בסוף הוא שוב מאושר!

כוכב משמים או חלב צפורים הוא ספר אינטלינגנטי. לעולם לא תתייחס אלונה פרנקל לילדיה הקוראים כאל יצורים אידיוטים, מבוגרים זעירים הסובלים מפיגור התפתחותי-שכלי. חמהות הרגשית בספר מתוחכמת, המלים יפות ובחלקן חדשות (לגיל הרך). כוכב משמים או חלב צפורים הוא בין ספריה חסובים ביותר של פרנקל.

מבחינה מבנית, הספר מעוצב בדגם חסיפור המצטבר; כלומר, פותחים בנתון: "פעם אחת, ילד ושמו נפתלי / קם בבוקר על צד שמאל / והרגיש שחסר לו משהו. / הוא היה מצברח." בחמשך, בכל עמוד או שניים, ישנה תוספת. במקרה שלנו, הארוע המצטבר הראשון הינו ארוחת הבוקר המפוארת שאבא של נפתלי הכין; "שחט מיץ תפוזים לגביע יין... טגן ביצת עין בלי הלבן הרועד המגעיל..." ואולם, וכאן נחשפת לראשונה חבעייתיות במצב רוחו של נפתלי: "אבל נפתלי הרגיש שחסר לו משהו." בנקודה זו מציבה הסופרת שאלת מפתח, זו השאלה שנפתלי נשאל על-ידי כל אותן דמויות בספר חמשתדלות באלף דרכים נוגעות לב להיטיב עם נפתלי.

בתחילה, שאלת המפתח אינה מובנת: "אולי אתה רוצה כוכב משמים / או חלב צפורים?" והשאלה נשארת תמוהה עד לסיום הטוב. ובכן, השתדלותו הכנה של האב לא רוממה את מצב רוחו של נפתלי. "מצוברח ונוגה / הלך נפתלי לגן יוכבד." גם הגנת הנחמדת מתאמצת להיטיב עם נפתלי והרשתה לו להאכיל את הארנבים ומנתה אותו למלך התורן האחראי למשחק השקט. ואולם, נפתלי עדיין חש שחסר לו משהו; "מצוברח, נוגה ועצוב / חזר נפתלי הביתה." בבית ברור שיעשה הכל ולו רק להושיע את נפתלי מדכאונו. רקפת, הסבתא, מכינה לנפתלי ארוחת צהרים "הכי ערבה לחך בעולם." עזריאל, החבר, משחק עם נפתלי במכוניות והסבא, רתם-סלע, מכרכר, מצחקק ומפזז עם נכדו, נושא אותו "שקמח" ומספר מעשיות. ועם כל זאת, "מצברח, נוגה, עצוב, עגום / קודר ומדכא / הלך נפתלי לחדרו." בחדרו, נפתלי היה קפטן הוק, פיטר פן ובנה מגדל עד השמים. "המשחקים הכי נפלאים בעולם / אבל נפתלי הרגיש / שחסר לו משהו."

ובכן, אנו מגיעים לסיום ולפתרון המבוקש. נשמעו נקישות בדלת ונכנסת, כמובן, אמו של נפתלי. (וכי מי לא זוכר את אמו של נפתלי בספריה של אלונה פרנקל?) מעיפה האם מבט בנפתלי שלה ומיד מכריזה ש"הדבר רע עד מאוד / שיהיה בעולם הזה / ילד עם האף באדמה / מדכא, קודר, עגום / עצוב, נוגה ומצברח. / בבקשה לבוא הנה / תכף ומיד." כך אמרה ואספה את נפתלי בזרועותיה "ויחבקה אותו חזק נורא."

בצדן של המלים, מספרת פרנקל את סיפורו של נפתלי גם באמצעות איורים נהדרים. כשסבא מספר מעשיות, רואים איור של חייל, שמח, ובידו רובה שעליו כתוב: 1967. או לעתים, רואים את נפתלי מחייך. אך נרמז לנו מפורשותשהבעיה עדיין לא נפתרה שכן החתול והליצן באיור אינם נראים מאושרים. וכך,נזכור אנו, המבוגרים שלא תמיד אפשר לראות בחיוך של ילד, עדות מספקת לבריאות הנפש.

הספר נחתם במלים: "זה. לא. היה כוכב מהשמים / זה לא היה חלב צפורים. / זה היה כוכב מהשמים / בחלב צפורים." משפט מופלא האומר שמשהו שלא ניתן לחשיגו, אפשר למצוא בדבר נפלא באמת; למשל חיבוקה האוהב של אם.

VEGGIE CHOPPED LIVER

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

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1 lb. green beans
3 large eggs, hard-cooked
2 large onions, chopped
1/2 cup walnuts - optional
salt and pepper to taste

Cook the beans till tender. Saute onions slowly in a non-stick pan (using oil or broth or water, as you prefer), till they are caramelized (deep brown). A pinch of sugar can aid in this process. (They will really add a lot of flavour if done this way.)

Process everything together in food processor and season to taste with salt and pepper.

Makes 8 appetizer servings.

About families

Dear Susan,

I have been married for 15 years. I love my husband dearly, but we live our lives on an emotional roller coaster due to his extreme mood swings. His difficulties have put great stress on our marriage and on our children. I am exhausted and I find it difficult to think straight. What should I do?

Dear Reader,

It is easy to understand why the situation you describe would be both distressing and debilitating. It sounds like you have been weathering a storm with little respite or support. However, for everyone's sake it is critical that you act now to get the help your husband and your family needs.

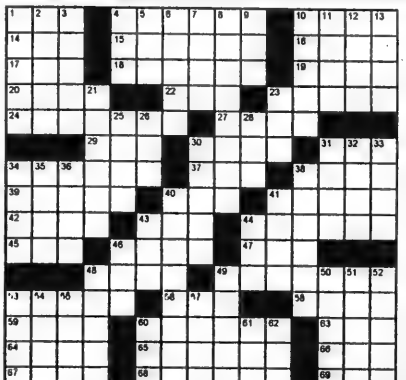
You might start by doing some reading in the area of depression or manic depression. You can contact a teaching hospital to get a simple reading list. It is essential, however, that you meet with a psychiatrist or with some other clinical specialist who specializes in mood disorders or depression. There can be many disorders causing the behavior you describe, including cumulative depression, situational depression or manic depression. Once you have a better idea what you are dealing with, you should contact your family doctor for an appropriate referral.

The second step is more difficult: ensuring that your husband avails himself of whatever help is appropriate. He may or may not want to cooperate. You may want to seek the help of your doctor in planning how to deal with any resistance on your husband's part. People who are depressed often do not appreciate how profound their depression is. They have little insight into how their depression affects their marriage and family on a daily basis.

Is your husband a risk to himself or to others? If such risks do present themselves, an inpatient program may be the only alternative, at least initially. Once he is stabilized, ongoing individual, marital and family therapy may be more appropriate. Such treatment must be carefully orchestrated and coordinated, however. Regulating diet, sleep and medication may also be part of the treatment formula.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Third Judah king
4. Moe or Larry
10. Schnorrer (Eng)
14. 52
15. Comedian Korman
16. Israeli city
17. Lamed (Eng.)
18. Alias Michael Landon
19. Create
20. Dersbowitz bargain?
22. Bezalel study
23. Comic Soupy
24. Tyrant over Bar Kochba
27. Esther's kingdom?
29. Supply with Uzis
30. Dinner for chazzer?
31. Hasmonean site
34. DJ, __ the "K"
37. Jamie __ Curtis
38. Not on Shabbat
39. Solos for Peerce
40. __ relief, sculptor's style
41. De Rothschild title
42. Schindler tally
43. Hebrew letter
44. Move for Steinitz
45. Haifa to Jerusalem (dir)
46. "Street Scene" playwright
47. Yiddish disdain
48. Puny
49. Newswoman Walters
53. High priest vestment
56. Prophesize
58. Shevat follower
59. Macher
60. Nazi leader
63. El Al milieu
64. Nebbish?
65. Haman's fifth
66. Alphabet run
67. Writer Oz
68. Issure Danielovitch-___, Kirk Douglas
69. Tel-aviv to Ashdod (dir)

Down

1. Hebrew letter
2. Joash's murder site
3. Needed chicken soup?
4. Her
5. Zeta Beta ___ fraternity
6. Temple soundmaker
7. Angel of Death path
8. Non-Jews
9. Evil__
10. Purim villian
11. Sabin vaccine
12. Make the Matzo?
13. Emma Lazarus specialty
21. Ark's end
23. Maple syrup source
25. Gershwin and Morris
26. Golfer Alcott
28. Lox starters
30. "The __" IB Singer novel
31. Schmutz (Eng)
32. Pagan deity
33. Actor Hackman
34. Bris must
35. "The Angry Hills" author
36. Make aliyah
38. 13th century rabbi
40. Tuches (Eng)
41. Boxer Max
43. __Maris, Jerusalem
44. Finance degree
46. Coach Auerbach
48. Loshenhura, Evil ___
49. Torah tinkles
50. Gimbel and Sandler
51. Noah's forecast
52. Dart
53. Writer Ferber
54. Nelly Sachs specialty
55. Samson
57. Village of Simeon
60. Owned
61. Prior NYC mayor
62. Moses' aura

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 46.)

Progress Report

FULFILLING OUR COMMITMENT

The Swiss banks are achieving significant progress towards resolving the issue of dormant World War II-era accounts in a fair and open manner.

Our major initiatives to date include:

■ Identifying Dormant Accounts

The Swiss banks are committed to identifying all accounts that could have belonged to victims of Nazi persecution.

In addition to conducting their own search for dormant accounts, the Swiss banks are providing complete access and assistance to hundreds of forensic auditors working for the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons, chaired by Paul A. Volcker and comprised of prominent Jewish and Swiss leaders.

■ Helping Needy Holocaust Survivors

The Swiss banks are committed to helping needy Holocaust survivors.

Earlier this year, the three largest Swiss banks, Credit Suisse, Swiss Bank Corporation, and UBS, contributed 100 million Swiss francs ($70 million) to establish a special fund for victims of the Holocaust. Other Swiss banks and Swiss industry have since contributed an additional 80 million Swiss francs ($55 million). With a pledge of 100 million Swiss francs from the Swiss National Bank, the fund now has a total of 280 million Swiss francs ($194 million). The Fund's board consists of representatives of Jewish organizations and private Swiss citizens and is chaired by Rolf Bloch, leader of the Swiss Jewish community. Proceeds from the Fund will soon be distributed to Holocaust survivors in Eastern Europe.

■ Publishing Dormant Accounts

The Swiss banks are committed to publishing dormant accounts.

In July, the Swiss banks published an initial list of World War II-era dormant accounts of non-Swiss customers in newspapers around the world and established an Internet site. The Swiss banks also established five international contact offices staffed by the accounting organization of Ernst & Young that was engaged to help rightful owners file claims.

■ Creating An Expedited Payment Process

The Swiss banks are committed to returning assets to their rightful owners quickly, easily and without cost to claimants.

To accomplish this objective, the banks have established a cost-free, expedited payment process, which is being supervised by an independent, international panel operating under relaxed standards of proof. Claims from the July list are now being processed and payments will be made shortly.

This progress demonstrates both the leadership and the seriousness of the Swiss banks in addressing and resolving this complex issue.

New Information Available

On October 29, the following World War II-era accounts will be published:

- Dormant passbooks and savings accounts of *non-Swiss* citizens.
- Dormant accounts of *non-Swiss* citizens that have been identified as a result of the Swiss banks' ongoing search.
- Dormant accounts belonging to *Swiss* citizens.

Call Our Contact Offices

If you wish to review these lists, please fill out the Information Kit Request Form and mail it to the nearest Ernst & Young contact office listed below. You will receive an Information Kit that includes the lists, fully describes the claims process, and explains how to file a claim.

- Ernst & Young LLP, c/o Dormant Accounts
  PO Box 1880, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10101, +1-212-344-0610
- Kost Levary and Forer, c/o Dormant Accounts
  2 Kremenetski Street, Tel Aviv, Israel 67899, +972-3-623-2559
- ATAG Ernst & Young, c/o Dormant Accounts
  Aeschengraben 9, P.O. Box 2149, CH-4002 Basel
  Switzerland, +41-61-272-08-11
- Ernst & Young Kft, c/o Dormant Accounts
  1146 Budapest, Hermina út 17, Hungary, +36-1-343-5117
- Ernst & Young, c/o Dormant Accounts
  The Ernst & Young Building, G.P.O. Box 2646
  Sydney, N.S.W. 2001, Australia, +61-2-9248-5736

If you have already received an Information Kit from Ernst & Young, an updated kit will be mailed to you automatically.

Use Our Toll-Free Number Or Web Site

If you have any questions or need assistance, please call the following toll-free number: **1-800-662-7708**

You can also search for dormant accounts and review other pertinent information at the Swiss Bankers Association's Internet site:
http://www.dormantaccounts.ch

Information Kit Request Form

Please send me information about the Claims Process:

Name _____

Street _____

City State Zip Code

Country _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Please specify preferred language:

☐ English ☐ Yiddish ☐ Hebrew ☐ German ☐ Spanish
☐ Czech ☐ Hungarian ☐ Italian ☐ Polish ☐ French
☐ Portuguese ☐ Romanian ☐ Russian ☐ Bulgarian ☐ Dutch

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The Canadian Jewish news
56 Pages Thursday, October 30, 1997 Tishrei 29, 5758 75¢

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Many Jewish candidates in the running for Megacity's elected positions. ***Page 3***

Students at Associated Hebrew Schools get top honors in essay contest. ***Page 14***

Awareness Players throw the spotlight on elder abuse. ***Page 24***

Time of Your Life

Volunteers at Elderhostel program provide many services around the world. ***Page 28***

On Campus

Tiny university in Massachusetts becomes first in the U.S. to offer doctorate in Holocaust history. ***Page 34***

Sports

Shawn Green and other Jewish major leaguers shut out of playoffs. ***Page 54***

Index

GTA	3
Editorials and Letters	8
Perspectives	9
Opinions	10
The Kirshner File	11
Jewish Life	12
What's New	20
Just Between Us	26
Time Of Your Life	28
On Campus	34
Coast to Coast	35
International	41
Travel, Arts & Business	46
Health	49
Classified	50
Sports	54
Ask Lisa	55
Crossword	55

Shabbat: Noach
Candlelighting: 4:52
Tishrei 30, 5758
Havdallah: 5:57

$36M boost for Jewish education

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish communities across Canada will be able to tap into an historic $36-million (US) grant fund for Jewish education announced last week in New York.

The North American Jewish Day School Challenge Grant program will be funded by 10 prominent Jewish businesspeople and philanthropists, led by Canadians Charles and Edgar Bronfman. Funders include UJA Federation of New York and the U.S.-based Avichai Foundation, which invests extensively in Jewish education.

The program seeks to create 25 to 30 new Jewish elementary or middle schools across North America over the next five years to counter growing assimilation and indifference to Jewish education.

At a press conference last week in Manhattan, leaders of the newly created Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education said that each of the 12 partners is contributing $1.5 million (US) over five years to the fund, for a total of $18 million.

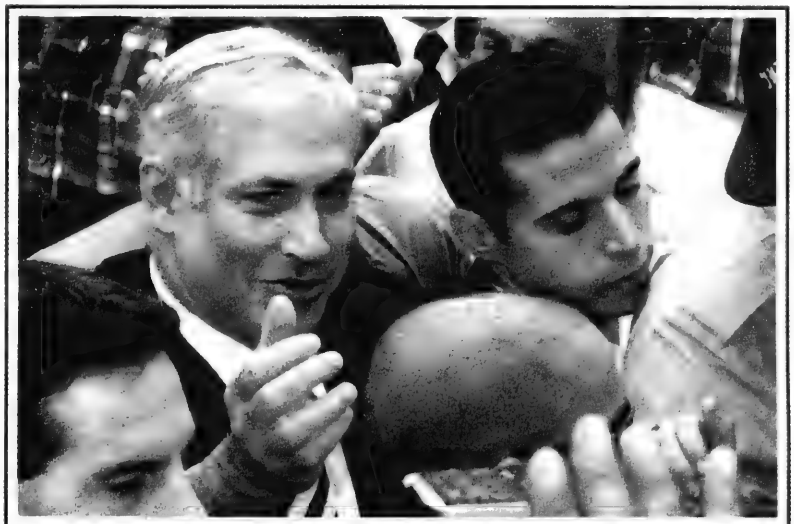
Recipients will be required to match their awards dollar for dollar in their communities, making the total grant program a $36-million effort.

Each grant will average $300,000 (US) over five years, or $420,000 Canadian at current rates. The money may not go toward tuition or capital construction. Funding will cover two years of planning and three years of start-up operations.

Despite the restrictions, Jewish educators say the money would free up other funds that could be used to subsidize tuitions.

The dozen partners in the venture want to "increase meaningfully the number of non-Orthodox Jewish youth in day

Continued on page 43



A SLIP OF THE TONGUE BUT STILL SUPPORTED

Prime Minister Netanyahu is surrounded by well-wishers at his home after he caused a furor with remarks about his left wing opposition. In an earlier conversation with Rabbi Yitzhak Kadouri, Netanyahu stated "the left has forgotten what it means to be Jewish." He did not realise the remarks had been captured by a nearby microphone. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

CONTINUITY FOR CHANUKAH

Over the past few years, *The CJN* has grown and evolved into an award-winning newspaper widely read both here in Canada and abroad. We are extremely proud of this newspaper.

We endeavor to provide our readers with accurate and reliable news from around the Jewish world, diverse opinion, interesting feature stories, and thoughtful and thought-provoking essays from renowned authors and scholars. We trust you will agree that in each issue of *The CJN* there is something for every member of the family to read. But are all members of your family getting a chance to read *The CJN*?.

To try to ensure that our newspaper reaches more and more people, and more and more families, we have decided to offer our readers a special, one-time opportunity to provide their children or their grandchildren with their own subscription to *The CJN*. We are therefore launching a **special continuity subscription campaign** in time for Chanukah. A gift subscription for your child or grandchild, **who does not already subscribe to *The CJN*,** will cost **$14.95** (taxes included) for one full year to anywhere in Canada.

Could there be a better gift at Chanukah for your child or grandchild than the opportunity to feel part of the Jewish community?

Please use the special order form and envelope included with this issue to take advantage of this unique gift subscription opportunity.

Sincerely,
Mordechai Ben-Dat
The editor.

Arms to Iran?

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov denied last weekend that Moscow is helping Iran build a ballistic missile arsenal.

Despite Primakov's statement and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's insistence that Israeli intelligence indicates such help is being given to Iran, the two governments say they intend to work more closely together for Middle East peace.

With Netanyahu standing at his side after a one-on-one session, Primakov said, "Russia is not doing anything that would advance Iran toward possession of weapons of mass destruction."

Declaring that Russia adheres to UN agreements against the proliferation of missile technology, Primakov said that "neither technology nor material of any kind that could be used in the manufacture of weapons of mass destruction" is being provided to Iran.

In an earlier meeting with Foreign Minister David Levy, the Russian diplomat dismissed a question about Moscow's involvement in the Iranian missile program as "baseless rumors."

But Netanyahu countered unequivocally, saying, "We are not in agreement on the factual basis."

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Families outraged at Papon — please see page 42

Features

A guide to Jewish horoscopes

By BEVERLEY JANUS

The ancient teachings of Judaism carried the varied and vibrant seeds of today's flowering New Age movement and its lively interest in the paranormal. Numerology, spiritual healing and astrology are a few of the many esoteric arts known to and used by our learned ancestors. It's all been around for a long, long time.

Everyday millions of people check their horoscopes — totally unaware that they are using the Jewish lunar calendar. Libra, for instance, is also the month of Tishrei, the time of year when Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are celebrated. The scale symbol that signifies both Tishrei and Libra is wonderfully appropriate for the High Holy Days. They are the Days of Awe when we look inward, weigh our deeds for the past year and try to achieve inner balance.

In Judaic astrology, the signs of the zodiac are named after the 12 sons of Jacob, the grandson of Abraham. The 12 constellations were named in the order of each son's birth, beginning with Reuben and ending with Benjamin, the youngest.

When you combine Judaic astrology with today's traditional western astrology, the conjoined overview gives an added new dimension and subtlety to the horoscope.

A prime example is the sun sign, Virgo, known as Zebulun in Judaic astrology (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22). In our western tradition, Virgo, the virgin, is seen as prim, organized and prudish. The eastern viewpoint sees a Virgo as a seeker of experience, needing and wanting new delights of both the mind and body. The Middle Eastern harems of yesteryear not only locked out male predators — but also saved virgin females from their own lusty needs and desires.

One of the main differences of Judaic astrology from that of its non-religious peers is that in Judaism, a belief in God and the doing of mitzvot — good deeds — will help deliver one from an apparently, predestined fate.

This view of astrology, that one can and does affect one's own fate is an extremely important departure from that of the more fatalistic astrological beliefs of Israel's ancient peers. It is imperative to understand that a horoscope only indicates opportunities, challenges and trends. In many ways it can be likened to life's road map. It gives an overview of one's personal circumstances, locates future problems and shows directions. But it is one's driving skill — one's own personal control — that determines the eventual outcome. In other words, we make our own reality. Ultimately, we are the master of our own fate.

With that in mind, read on and see what November 1997 may have in store for you.

ARIES: BENJAMIN
MARCH 21-APRIL 19

Impulsive, intensely loyal and a little selfish, Benjamin embodies the self-confident Aries. Born, like Joseph, from the love match of Jacob and Rachel, who died giving birth to him, Benjamin was treated with favor by his brothers and father. So too, does Aries seem to be first in line when favors are handed out by the universe. And if not originally at the head of the line, Aries will push forward, never acknowledging obstacles that would deter lesser souls.

TAURUS: REUBEN-
APRIL 20-MAY 20

Taureans like Reuben will often put aside their dignity pursuing earthly delights. Reuben lay with his father's concubine, Bilhah, and thus defiled Jacob's couch. Aside from their often impulsive, lusty nature, Taureans can be kind and sensitive. They do not enjoy the feelings of anger and try to avoid situations leading to it. Often appearing to be stubborn and fixed in their views, Taureans want to be surrounded by beauty, peace and love. They will, if necessary, angrily fight for this goal.

GEMINI: SIMON
MAY 21-JUNE 21

Gemini is thought of as the intellectual communicator but Simon, the Judaic ruler of Gemini, was known to be both violent and vengeful. Excellent communicators, usually with multitudinous interests, Geminis can be intellectually aggressive when angered. They will verbally dispose of their enemy, destroy reputations and shatter fragile egos. Geminis love mind games and can be most kind and thoughtful — when they win.

CANCER: LEVI
JUNE 22-JULY 22

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VIRGO: ZEVULUN

[Cont'd. on page 18]

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Candidates off and running in GTA election

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There are Jewish candidates aplenty in the historic Nov. 10 vote for the Megacity's first elected jobs.

North York's favorite son, Mel Lastman, who hopes to become the GTA's first mayor, leads the pack in visibility and a consistent, uncanny ability to grab headlines. Poll after poll has put a confident Lastman ahead of his only major opponent, Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall.

But some pundits caution the race could become a tortoise-and-hare affair with the possibility that the decidedly unflamboyant Hall can pull off an upset victory.

Hall has reached out to Jewish voters on occasion, having spoken at last year's opening of Holocaust Education Week, when she recounted her visit to Auschwitz, and by advertising in *The CJN*.

Some have observed that Lastman, who's breezed into the mayor's office in North York for the last 25 years, with little if any opposition, is an unsteady campaigner, especially when the sledding gets tough.

Also in the running for the Megacity's top job is perennial candidate and long-shot Don Andrews, a one-time leader of the neo-Nazi Western Guard party.

Whoever the Megacity's first mayor will be, he or she will govern with a new mega-council, composed of 56 councillors, two each from the 28 wards that will replace the current municipal councils in Metro.

One race to keep an eye on is in North York Spadina, where veteran Metro councillor and longtime Lastman rival Howard Moscoe will square off against North York councillor Mike Feldman, who's been active in the Jewish community. Others in the running are North York councillor Frank Di Giorgio, Henry Braverman, Roy Dzeko and Nickeisha Hudson.

Over in North York Centre South, long-serving North York councillors Milton Berger and Joanne Flint are seeking mega-seats, as are Dick Chapman and Stuart Weinstein.

Norm Gardner, long a visible presence on the Jewish and Metro scenes, is running against well-known local political figures Ron Summers and John Filion in North York Centre.

Lawyer Joel Ginsberg, a failed Tory candidate in the last provincial election, is running against North York councillor David Shiner in Seneca Heights. Joining them are Raffi Assadourian, Joan King and Bernadette Michael.

In Midtown ward, former Toronto councillor Howard Levine is attempting a comeback. An urban planner, Levine represented Ward 14 for six years prior to his defeat in the last municipal vote, as well as having represented city council on Canadian Jewish Congress's community affairs committee. He'll be running against current councillor Ila Bossons, John Adams, Philip Charles, Blair Gray, Howard Joy, Brian Mayes and David Vallance.

Running for school trustees on the Toronto public board are current North York trustee Gerri Gershon (Ward 20), and newcomer Shelley Laskin, a cartographer and education activist (Ward 14). Candidates Arnold Goodman, Jerry Green and Lorne Berg are slugging it out in Ward 18.

In the City of Vaughan, Canada's fastest-growing Jewish centre, Mayor Lorna Jackson, considered a friend of the community, is seeking a sixth term. She's running against Jonathan Lewin, 18, an employee at Canada's Wonderland, and Franco Cavaliere, an insurance broker.

A spirited and closely-watched race has developed in Vaughan's Ward 5 between current councillor Bernie Green and former York Region school trustee Susan Kadis, who narrowly lost to Green in the 1994 vote. Both have been active in the Jewish community. They face a challenge from Rick Levine, a bandleader who has run in several previous elections.

Next door in Ward 4, former school trustee Ted Berger is seeking a comeback against current councillor Mario Racco and candidate Victor Schiralli.

Markham Mayor Don Cousens, once a loud voice on Soviet Jewry when he was an MPP, is seeking re-election against two newcomers: Sam Orrico and Jeffrey Tam.

Bill Fisch, a member of Markham's council who ran unsuccessfully against Elinor Caplan in the last federal election in Thornhill, is running for regional councillor from Markham. He's facing Ralph Aselin, Gordon Landon, Edward Sarafian and former Markham mayor Frank Scarpitti.

Harvey Goodman, an educator, volunteer and past president of Shaar Shalom Synagogue, is running in Markham's Ward 2 against current councillor Randy Barber.

In Richmond Hill, longtime councillor David Cohen is running unopposed in Ward 3. Vying to represent Ward 6 are political newcomers Cheryl Richman and Richard Sadowski, a community activist who operates a dispute-resolution and mediation practice.

York Region's public school board will be reduced to 12 trustees from the current 19. Seeking re-election is Harvey Nightingale in Vaughan's Area 2. In Markham, Howard Shore, who failed to win the Liberal nomination in the provincial riding of Willowdale in 1995, is running in Area 1, while Janice Shachter is running in Area 2.

Greater Toronto Area

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From the editor's desk

There is no doubt that the Canadian autumn is a perfect accompaniment for our season of "remembering."

There is one unique moment in the autumn, usually towards its end, in fact around now, when the brittle, lifeless, falling leaves, the chilly air and the gloomy, glum gray in the skies fill us with downcast sadness and fleeting melancholy.

Jewish people, of course, do not designate a particular season for remembering. We remember as a matter of national, religious and moral obligation. We remember the people-shaping events of our collective past every day in our prayers, every seventh day in our rest, and at each and every one of our festivals. Memory is the instrument of our collective identity.

But there are certain times of the year that are set aside for "special" individual remembering. The month of November is one such time.

All across North America, Jewish communities are participating in educational programs regarding the Holocaust. These programs stand apart from Yom Hashoah, which we commemorate in the spring on the 27th day of Nisan.

The emotions and the reflections inspired by these programs blend in a memorial harmony with the emotions and the reflections of Remembrance Day.

Because it is autumn and because it is a time for remembering, I have reproduced some of the many poems that *CJN* readers have sent to me.

Youth

Youth from poor Jewish neighborhoods
where you carried your lofty dreams
like flags unfurled, with joy and song.
You grew up in storm, feverishly
striving towards a sunny morn,
yet never to touch it.

Poetic reflections

I see you – a forest full grown with
curly heads proudly raised
like crowns of rustling trees,
eyes glowing with springtime dreams,
hands muscular, youthful and brave,
hearts trusting, full of glad tidings.

Your spirits still hover there,
in gutted towns, in ravaged lanes;
the cobblestone pavements yet wonder:

by Simcha Simchovitch
Translated by Faye Kellerstein

* * *

Epilogue: The Bottom Line

How many times must we stand up
for the rights of other?
We must – to the nth degree
and yes
let's proclaim it to the world
(they always want proof)
but it's still not enough.

How many injustices must we
confront on behalf of others?
We must – to the nth degree
and
let's shout it from the barricades
but it's still not enough.

How many banners must we hold
up
and how many miles must we
march
for the dignity of others?
We must – to the nth degree
but it's still not enough.

They know
yes they do
when the crunch comes
we always stand up
to be counted
but it's still not enough.

So let me ask you very tentatively
with tears in my eyes
will it be enough only
when we turn the other cheek?

by Solly Kaplinski

* * *

Neshamot must be taken quickly

When does a man meet his own
neshamah?
Is it at birth, at 13, or when his life
starts sliding below?
Is it while ill, or is it while
grieving?
Is it while joyous, under the chupah,
weeping?

Or when he opens up his heart and
wallet
To his fellow man, whose need is
real and honest?
But when his own suffering he can
no longer withstand
Oh please, God, take his neshamah
back quickly.

She lives on the street, no family,
no home,
Freezing on cruel nights, starving
for food, love, someone who matters,
But when her own suffering she can
no longer withstand,
Oh please, God, take her neshamah
back, quickly.

A tzaddik is a person who gives and
gives
To everyone who needs and
everyone who asks
So, when his own suffering he can
no longer withstand,
Oh please, God, take his neshamah
back, quickly.

The flood is still rising; they are all
trapped in the house,
It's too late to flee, should have
done so yesterday
And when their own suffering they
can no longer withstand,
God of infinite mercy, take their
neshamot back, quickly.

He's buried alive in the collapsed
house, all his dear ones crushed.
There is no way out for him, his life
is nearly outrun,
But when his own suffering he can
no longer withstand,
King of the Universe, take his
neshamah back, quickly.

I'm not a real tzaddik, nor a limitless giver.
But as long as I'll have a piece of
bread, your half is the other.
And when my own suffering I can
no longer withstand,
Father of my fathers, have mercy
upon me,
Take my neshamah back, quickly.

by Michael Sugar

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Greater Toronto Area

Jews told to stop seeing themselves as victims

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

[Related book review, page 12]

TORONTO — Jews need to stop identifying themselves as victims and instead adopt a self image that reflects their prominence in contemporary world affairs, says an expert on American Jewish life.

"We Jews still prepare ourselves to fight the things the world plans on doing to us. It ain't true...Jews are not victims. We are the players," American journalist J.J. Goldberg, told some 200 people attending a recent conference sponsored by the Labor Zionist Alliance of Canada.

Speaking on the Challenge of Jewish Education, Goldberg, a contributing editor for *The Jerusalem Report* and author of *Jewish Power: Inside the American Jewish Establishment*, said the world has changed and with it the Jewish experience. To have resonance and meaning for youth, therefore, Jewish education should be more consistent with the contemporary Jewish experience.

J.J. Goldberg

The reality that must be incorporated into education is that all groups of Jews who had once been victimized have been rescued and that the existence of Israel, "the fourth largest military power in the world" is not being threatened, Goldberg said.

"The [formerly victimized] Jews have left Ethiopia, Syria and the Former Soviet Union (FSU). Israel is strong. Kids see this...That's the world they perceive...The challenge of Jewish education is to find a way for the adults to catch up with the kids."

He went on to give many examples of American Jewry's influential role in world politics. He noted that in addition to Secretary of State Madelaine Albright, who was born Jewish, the key Americans shaping Middle East policy are all Jews, among them, the high-profile negotiator, Middle East envoy Dennis Ross.

A new kosher kitchen was recently installed at the American embassy in Cairo because Dan Kurtzer, the American ambassador to Egypt, is an Orthodox Jew, Goldberg added.

"We Jews run American Middle East policy," however most Americans are not concerned that Jews hold such key positions of power, he said.

U.S. politicians consult with the leadership of the Jewish community on foreign policy matters as was evidenced by the recent state visit of Israeli President Ezer Weizman earlier this month, Goldberg said.

Jewish community leaders and chiefs of Middle East policy were all invited to the White house for lunch with the U.S. and Israeli presidents, he said. "The only non-Jews in the room were Bill and Hilary Clinton."

The Jewish leadership spent an unprecedented three hours with the presidents discussing American Middle East policy and most of them, in their presentations, urged Clinton to press Israel to be more conciliatory with the Palestinians to advance the peace process, he said. "American Jews don't agree with [Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu."

According to Goldberg, Weizman was visibly angered by American Jews' political interference in Israel, "but the reality is that American Jews have more influence on American policy in the Middle East than Israel. Diaspora Jews are more powerful than Israelis. That's the world we live in."

He noted that Jews also influenced American policy with the FSU.

In 1974 the United States passed a trade bill that hinged on better treatment of Soviet Jewry.

He said by comparison, Canadian Jewry has less political clout — "Jews don't run Ottawa," — than American Jews who are able to exert pressure on Congress.

Referring to the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, the notorious anti-Semitic document from the 19th century, Goldbefg jokingly said, "It's not true we (Jews) run the world as the Elders of Zion stated... on the other hand we're not by any stretch of the imagination powerless."

Coverage of Jews said predictable

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Media coverage of Jews often results from journalists' laziness, but the Jewish community can also be blamed for how it is covered, a panel of journalists examining Jews in the News agreed here last week.

Sheldon Gordon, a former editorial writer for the *Globe and Mail*, told the small audience that he sees the same spokespeople for the Jewish community being quoted in the press. That, he said, is testament to journalistic sloth.

He said media coverage of Jews tends to fit certain patterns: Jews as victims, as a faith community and as supporters of Israel – but generally not as an ethnic group.

Gordon said that ultimately, media coverage of Jewish issues tends to reflect the community's concerns.

Esther Enkin, managing editor of CBC Radio News, agreed that often, reporters are lazy, but added the Jewish community "is not eager" to display its diversity.

She said media outlets do a disservice by only reporting the views of the mainstream community organizations and not other, smaller groups.

The image of Jews as victims, Enkin said, is "no longer valid." She said Jews are now seen by the media as part of the mainstream.

Coverage of Jewish issues tends to be "narrow and predictable," with the community doing little to counter that.

Suanne Kelman, a journalism professor at Ryerson Polytechnic University, said the Jewish community presents itself as a monolith, which it isn't, "and the media buy into it."

She said Jews are overcovered in the media, and that there is "tremendous pressure" from Jews to cover issues, especially Israel, "in a certain way."

Sol Littman, a former journalist for the *Toronto Star* and the CBC, said the media cover all ethnic groups badly, and often simply show "bad judgment" when it comes to stories on Jews.

The evening was presented by Tzavta, which represents a coalition of progressive Jewish groups.

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Greater Toronto Area

Bialik, Israeli students to study together online

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Students at Bialik Hebrew Day School will join their counterparts at an Israeli school later this year via computer modem for an innovative Holocaust study unit.

Moshe Shner, director of the Pedagogic Centre of the Ghetto Fighters' House, the museum of the Holocaust and Jewish Resistance on Kibbutz Lohamei Haghetaot in the Western Galilee, pioneered the program last year with a New Jersey day school.

Shner, 42, was in Toronto to visit Bialik and two other day schools as part of a brief North American trip. He also met with Pnina Zilberman, director of the Holocaust Education & Memorial Centre, where a poster series depicting young Jewish resistance fighters was recently on display. The series is a project of Yad Layeled, the children's Holocaust museum affiliated with the Ghetto Fighters' House.

Bialik is the only Canadian participant among eight North American schools in the educational project, said Shner in an interview.

At Bialik, Holocaust studies are part of the curriculum from Grade 4 on, but this project will offer "a different angle," said Uri Korin, Bialik's principal.

"From an educational point of view, this is a magnificent opportunity," said Korin.

Grade 7 students here will be matched with Grade 6 students at the Irussim school in Karmiel, about a 20-minute drive from the museum.

Once teachers have been in contact over the Internet, the students will all read the same Hebrew book, one of two by award-winning Israeli author Uri Orlev, a Holocaust survivor who made it through the war as a youth along with his younger brother. The books under consideration are *The Sandgame*, Orlev's autobiography on which an exhibition at Yad Layeled is based, and *The Island on Bird Street*, a novel based on his Holocaust experience.

"Then the students will correspond, get to know each other and share their responses to the book," said Shner. They will work on a joint project in small groups of two to three students per school.

Both sets of students will broaden their horizons through the overseas contact. Israeli students will be exposed to "the richness of Jewish life outside Israel," said Shner. "It is a lot more than Holocaust education. It is more than Jewish education."

Moshe Shner looks at the poster series depicting young Jewish resistance fighters, which was on display recently at the Lipa Green Building. The series is a project of Yad Layeled. [Frances Kraft photo]

The books lend themselves to a discussion of issues such as Jewish identity, maturity and responsibility, said Shner, an educator with a PhD in Jewish philosophy from the Jewish Theological Seminary.

He was raised on Kibbutz Lohamei Haghetaot and his late father, Zvi, was founding director of the Ghetto Fighters' House. His mother Sarah, an 83-year-old author, historian and former partisan, still works there every day.

Shner joined the museum's staff only in 1996. He is a lecturer at Haifa University and Oranim College, and has taught Holocaust studies to elementary, high school and university students.

Although the Irussim school is non-religious, the project began with an Orthodox school, said Shner. "We have the whole spectrum, and we want to have the whole spectrum. Our visitors come from the whole spectrum of the Jewish people and the non-Jewish people."

One of the lessons of the Holocaust, he said, is the importance of accepting the diversity of the Jewish people.

Shner has used the Internet to initiate joint programs with non-Jewish students in Germany, France, Luxembourg and the Washington, D.C. area.

In addition to the educational projects, Shner is in charge of the museum's new Web site. The centre offers on line resources for both teachers and students.

It was as a PhD candidate in New York that Shner realized the importance of dialogue between Israelis and the Diaspora. "It became clear to me I have to initiate such a dialogue."

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Greater Toronto Area

Tayar elected as NCSY president

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As Canadian president of National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY), the youth arm of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, 18-year-old Donna Tayar wants to do for NCSY newcomers what other NCSYers did for her.

Her goals include "befriending people and getting them involved."

Once they are involved in NCSY, she is confident that regional director Rabbi Glenn Black and other staff, members and advisers will provide the atmosphere and social and educational programming she has enjoyed.

"Everyone's incredible. It feels like a family," she said.

Tayar's connection with NCSY goes back to Grade 6, when she attended programs with classmates from Netivot Hatorah Day School.

Now in her OAC year at Thornhill Secondary School where she is involved in NCSY's Hebrew Culture Club, Tayar believes that NCSY has something to offer both public school and day school students. "It shows you how to live your life [Jewishly]. It really showed me the direction I wanted to go in my life."

Donna Tayar

NCSY in Toronto has a high percentage of public school students as members (70 percent), she noted. "That shows me we have very good outreach." The organization is open to all Jewish students, regardless of denomination.

Tayar, a native of South Africa who moved to Canada as a preschooler, has continued her Jewish education while attending public high school through NCSY's twice-weekly Free Torah High.

As one of a handful of Orthodox students at her school, she is often asked about Judaism by both teachers and other students. She enjoys answering them. "It makes me feel like I'm really doing my job," she laughed.

Tayar was elected national president in May, succeeding Rachel Singer of Toronto.

NCSY Canada consists of five Toronto chapters, and chapters in Ottawa, London and Montreal. The organization also has a presence in a number of smaller cities. Some locations in western Canada, as well as Windsor, Ont., have NCSY chapters affiliated to geographically closer American centres.

Tayar is in contact with representatives of the other cities in the region before and after each biweekly board meeting.

Since her election, she has been on NCSY's Michlelet program in Israel this summer and attended a leadership training seminar in the Catskills in September. The sessions have given her a network of other student leaders to exchange ideas with, she said.

Tayar's future plans include a year in Israel and then on to university to study education. Although NCSY is geared to high school students, Tayar hopes to retain her affiliation as an adviser one day.

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In saluting Edward Bronfman, the Jewish National Fund will assist Neot Semadar in reclaiming hundreds of dunams of land for agricultural use, help develop an Artists Centre, develop roads to the Kibbutz and within the Kibbutz, and assist the construction of a fifty thousand cubic metre reservoir. A resort area to promote tourism will also be developed. This undertaking will surely be a source of great pride to all who will have participated in this very worthy project. **Together, we can all help to make the *desert green*.**

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Displeasure of a desperate man

Canada's ambassador to France, Jacques Roy, was recently in the province of Quebec. He had been invited to speak to a number of audiences about his observations, on a comparative basis, between the powers of the states in the European Union and those of the provinces in the Canadian federation.

As reported in the *Globe and Mail*, it was Roy's view, which he was undoubtedly not reluctant to express, that "once the European monetary union is in place, Canada's provinces, including Quebec will have as much if not more power than countries such as France or Germany in setting their monetary policy, trade policy and fiscal policy."

The provincial government of Quebec was displeased that Roy would have the temerity to speak on a subject, of which he has substantial expertise, in their jurisdiction. In their familiar fashion, the separatists chose to try to discredit the man rather than his arguments. Premier Lucien Bouchard called Roy a "political commando."

They also demanded that he resign, loudly condemning him for agreeing to tour Quebec at the request of the Council for Canadian Unity, a pro-federalist lobby group.

The absurdity of the Parti Québécois (PQ) demand would be laughable were it not so chillingly indicative of the extent to which they have surrendered all logic to ideology.

Imagine complaining about a Canadian diplomat speaking to a Canadian audience in a Canadian province about the benefits of Canadian federalism relative to European unionism! In truth, there could be no more appropriate mission for the Canadian ambassador to France than to share his observations with a Canadian audience.

The PQ complaint was ill-advised. But, for reasons that conform to their self-serving, blinkered point of view, they believe that the government of Canada will merely acquiesce to whatever false propaganda emanates from Quebec City. They persist in believing that the government of Canada will simply submit to the separatists' agenda and "go gentle' into the long, nightmarish night of national dismemberment.

The disparagement of Roy's integrity and the call for his resignation are probably proof of the growing feelings of desperation and anxiety in separatists' ranks.

A poll conducted just two weeks ago by Groupe Leger & Leger and released by the *Globe and Mail* showed that the federalists are slowly winning the high ground in the battle for public opinion in Quebec. According to the poll, almost 55 percent of decided voters would choose renewed federalism, while 45 percent would choose sovereignty.

The Quebec provincial Liberals have moved ahead of the PQ in popularity for the first time in at least three years. Alongside the waning popularity of the PQ and of separation as a political option, is the waning popularity of the premier personally. Both Jean Charest, federal leader of the Progressive Conservatives, and Mario Dumont, leader of Action Democratique, surpassed him in public approval. More than half of the people polled expressed dissatisfaction with the PQ government and with Bouchard's administration.

To be sure, these polling exercises are not definitive of permanent shifts in voter preferences. And they are certainly not the last word. They are mere "snapshots" of voter satisfaction at a specific moment in time. But this snapshot captures only bad news for the separatist regime in Quebec city.

It is therefore not surprising that the premier is displeased and has lately taken to issuing desperate, illogical statements.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"No man is a hero to his relatives."
Israel Zangwill

Dry Bones
EL NIÑO?! ...THE FREAK METEOROLOGICAL CONDITION WHICH WILL BRING ISRAEL A FREEZING WINTER OF STORMS?!
...THAT'S WHAT HE'S WORRYING ABOUT?! ...EL NIÑO?!
YES.
HE FINDS IT MUCH MORE RELAXING THAN WORRYING ABOUT WHETHER THE AMERICANS
...ARE ABOUT TO SELL US OUT OR NOT.

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Born October 30, 1847, Edmund Scheuer established the first religious school in Hamilton in 1872.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Fava beans pose risk to Sephardim

Our 2-year-old grandson was terribly sick and had to have a blood transfusion after eating fava beans.

My wife is Sephardi while I am Ashkenazi. The intolerance apparently is carried by Sephardi women without any particular symptoms (even my daughter did not show any), but her son's enzymes cannot tolerate fava beans – to the point that they destroy the red blood cells.

When we noticed a somewhat yellowish tint in our grandson's eyes and suspected jaundice, Dr. M. H. Gans, our pediatrician, took a blood test and diagnosed it as hymolitic anemia. Our grandson was taken to the Hospital for Sick Children and monitored hourly, day and night.

Apparently this is a life threatening situation similar to eating poisoned mushrooms or peanuts (for those with intolerance), but it is not well known in Jewish circles. Nowadays physicians can test people for it, and take prevention. People who cannot tolerate fava beans are likely to be threatened by other medications, such as anti-malaria medicine, sulfa and others.

Gad G. Hofmann
Toronto

Questions sanctuary for Hamas in Jordan

The criticism in the Canadian media of Israel's attempted assassination of Hamas leader, Khaled Meshal, was essentially sound, with a few reservations. Even if successful, by virtue of having taken place in Amman and so close to the Jordanian elections, the attack would have upset relations with King Hussein and probably stimulated, rather than deterred, Hamas' terrorist activities. That the assassination failed adds further problems, since Israel has had to release terrorists from its prisons at a time when it is correctly calling upon Yasser Arafat to lock them up. Add to this the dangerous precedent of using chemicals and last, but not least, the unfortunate use of Canadian passports. Quite simply a disaster, both in its design and in its implementation!

At the same time, there were a few problems with the commentary on this affair. First, there is the labelling of this incident as a terrorist action followed by the conclusion that terror begets terror and so on. My understanding is that the word terrorism is properly used to describe an attack on innocent civilians. The failed Israeli assassination was an attack on a major terrorist leader whose fingerprints are all over the deaths of countless innocent Israeli civilians. It is most legitimate, both morally and practically, to question whether assassinations are an appropriate or useful way to combat terrorism, but is totally inappropriate to collapse the two together as if there were part and parcel of the same.

Furthermore, one cannot but be a little dismayed that in all the commentary over this affair, nowhere does one hear any questioning over the whys and wherefores of Hamas' operations in Jordan and the sanctuary that some of their leaders seem to enjoy there. Surely good King Hussein also has some answering to do.

Simon Rosenblum
National Co-President
Canadian Friends of Peace Now

Seeks expressions of peace in Arabic

Our agency is researching a news story concerning possible expressions of peace in Arabic by officials of the new Palestinian Authority (PA) and/or by Yasser Arafat himself.

If anyone possesses records of interviews, tapes, notes or videos of any statements of peace in Arabic that have been attributed to Arafat or to any officials of the PA, please share them with our office.

Thus far, we have monitored one speech given by Arafat in which he calls for peace in Arabic, and that was on the day that he arrived in Hebron this year, on January 16.

In order to be thorough and fair to the sensitive subject at hand, I would like to peruse any expressions of peace in Arabic that have been made by Arafat or officials of the Palestine Authority since the Oslo accords were signed in the summer of 1993.

David S. Bedein
Bureau Chief: Israel Resource News Agency
Beit Agron Int'l Press Center
Jerusalem, Israel

Individuals should solve child poverty

In a Guest Voice column (*CJN*, Oct. 15), Sandra Stern highlighted Canada's shameful record on child poverty. While I applaud her for bringing this urgent manner to your readers, I do not agree with her conclusion that it is Corporate Canada that must take the lead in solving this problem.

I do agree that *individuals* within Corporate Canada should lend their talents to addressing social concerns. But this is merely another way of saying that we should all give tzedakah to the best of our means, either through financial donations or through volunteer effort, or both. It is the job of each of us, either individually or through our collective will as expressed in government action, to address serious social concerns such as child poverty. It is not the job of a bank or computer manufacturer or railway to do so.

Moishe Kinneret
Toronto

Were you on the Exodus?

The Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre is seeking people who were either passengers or crew on the *Exodus*.

If you were on the *Exodus*, please contact us at 514-345-2605.

Bill A. Surkis
Executive Director
Holocaust Memorial Centre
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Students call on peers to 'wake up'

By SIGMOND SHORE

In May 1997, a group of Canadian students studying in Jerusalem decided that the time had come to end our idealistic debates, cafe philosophizing and constant discussions of the extensive list of problems plaguing the modern Jewish world. We agreed that the time had finally come to assume the responsibilities incumbent on every Jewish student: to solve the problem of apathy and disaffection and to change the world forever.

This decision required us to reach a consensus on the problems that we sought to solve and to immediately conceive of a radical remedial formula.

Our resolve to move from a world of idealism into one of realism was unique in that we stubbornly refused to abandon our conviction of what we, the students, are actually capable of doing.

Nothing was impossible.

The fact that we had decided that our dreams might soon become realities did not mean that our realities could not also be in dreamlike proportions.

A movement had been launched! We jumped at the chance to offer our ideas on what ailed a generation that felt so intensely bored and disinterested in our Judaism.

Activists and Jews (Is there a difference?) began to crawl out of the woodwork to explain how they envisioned their Jewish futures. From their brainstorming,the following ideas emerged:

• There is an overwhelming sense of boredom and passivity associated with being Jewish. Jewish joy, Jewish excitement and Jewish fire, three powerful forces, have not become part of the '90s overused catchword: Jewish continuity.

Students who are told that they already belong to the most apathetic generation ever are all too quick to dismiss yet another ideology, namely Judaism, that is devoid of excitement.

• Young Jews do not clamor to be Jewishly involved when they are told: "Be Jewish because your parents are, your grandparents are and your ancestors were." Students have not found an incentive to be Jewish *for themselves.*

• Jewish student activism is virtually non-existent. Jews seem to have forgotten that tikkun olam (repairing the world) is an essential requirement for the activist Jew. Incredibly, anti-Semitism has been the most powerful incentive for students to reaffirm their Jewish identity. The student community mobilizes fully when there is an anti-Semitic incident on campus, yet we are strangely uninvolved when there is no such stimulus.

There are almost no examples of Jewish students coming together to express Jewish pride, Jewish joy and Jewish funk! Years of defensive Judaism have taken their toll.

Now when Jews are asked to be "proactive," we reply with confused apathy. Pain and suffering were our old rallying calls; we have yet to find an exciting substitute.

• Jews and non-Jews alike have underestimated their capabilities. The '60s, a time when students recognized just how involved they could be, seem to have existed centuries ago. Youth simply does not know how much it can do. Most young Jews have long forgotten how powerful we really are.

This all adds up to a Jewish student world, possibly an entire generation, that is bored and by most accounts fast asleep.

It is now time for a Wake Up Tour.

Without any assistance from the adult world, we students have created the idea of a Wake Up Tour – a call to wake up Judaism, Jewish students and the state of Jewish activism. Inspired by the words "Jewish Renaissance," we decided that the priority was to find a source of extreme Jewish joy.

The author points to the '60s as a time of greater student energy and activism. The worldwide struggle for Soviet Jewry was one of that era's major causes.

We searched our religion for an element that would light the sparks in Jewish souls across North America. On this, we were unanimous: the solution would have to include the music of Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach. This charismatic singer, rabbi and leader is remembered as an individual who rocked the Jewish world with such powerful fire that upon hearing his music, thousands of Jews took the time to re-examine just what a beautiful and exciting religion they were part of.

After Carlebach's passing in 1994, numerous rock bands picked up his legacy by spreading his world-famous songs (also known as *nigunim*). One of these bands, Facing East, (also called The Moshav Band) had become immensely popular among overseas students who were studying at Israeli Universities.

Together with Carlebach's finest tunes and an eclectic array of rock (from Bob Dylan to Pearl Jam to the Grateful Dead), they presented Jewish students with a brand of Jewish music that was the funkiest, most sincere and most passionate they had ever heard.

The band's exciting stage presence, their awesome musical ability and the inspiring Jewish world that they revealed soon brought hundreds of fans to re-examine what they once thought was only a heritage, a past, a history.

This band and the music they played were *waking up* Jewish students, who, despite the fact that they had chosen to come to Israel, had yet to discover the extraordinary joy within their own religion.

Student organizers who had decided that the Jewish world was in need of a revival, agreed that we had found the exciting medium that would convey their wake up call.

With an idea reminiscent of the '60s, we resolved to get the greatest Jewish rock bands into a school bus and start rocking universities throughout the United States and Canada. Facing East would visit campuses. Freshly inspired students would speak of a Jewish Renaissance and the caravan would initiate a "wake up" in the Jewish world.

It is difficult to describe exactly what ensued. It is really quite incredible to watch the beginnings of a revolution. Students from around the world began to call the creators of the Wake Up Tour offering to help plan, raise funds and organize this event. Even skeptics were amazed by the way students began to organize and lead an activity that was this immense, this complex, this thrilling.

We soon focused on finding an immediate source of support and guidance and we had the honor of meeting Edgar Bronfman. He offered us invaluable suggestions and powerful support.

When Bronfman was asked to help us, a group of relatively inexperienced organizers, he took a leap of faith. His dedication to students led him to give the tour the start that it needed: a trial concert to an audience of 400 Jewish students.

The result of this "test run" was an unforgettable night when "being Jewish" was the coolest thing around!

And the effects of the concert resounded long after the performance ended.We received hundreds of e-mails from students who had attended or had heard about the concert. Each letter included two questions: How can I help to plan this tour? and When can it visit my campus?

A crescendo effect resounded through university campuses.

The tour, dedicated to ensuring *permanent* Jewish excitement (a fire that would continue long after the last notes of any concert), grew to encompass aspects of Jewish learning and social action. For the first time in years, the student community was mobilized for causes other than anti-Semitism. For example, we took up the cause of the Israeli soldiers missing in action. This issue has been sporadically mentioned over the last few years, but it has not benefited from the driving assistance that it desperately needs from the North American Jewish communities.

Early in the Tour's planning stages, the parents of Zachary Baumel, one of the soldiers, expressed their interest in accompanying the Wake Up Tour to speak about what North American students could do to assist in freeing their son and the other three missing soldiers. The Wake Up Tour's organizers agreed to make every effort to join their buses with the Baumel's freedom plan.

The Wake Up Tour organizers also met with Elie Wiesel and Alan Dershowitz. Both were extremely interested in assisting us in the activist components of the tour.

In light of our dedication to Jewish activism, we started receiving suggestions that the tour become the party for Israel's 50th anniversary. People discussed the tour almost as if it was a Jewish Lollapalooza, an activist, Jewish student celebration.

Despite the incredible waves that the Wake Up Tour has generated in the Jewish world, the extraordinary dedication of students across the globe and the kindness and generosity of Edgar Bronfman, it is still in need of assistance for the tour to become the largest demonstration of student initiative since the Soviet Jewry movement.

Assimilation and intermarriage statistics grow. And it is painfully obvious that the Jewish people are slowly becoming comfortable with the semi-comatose state of Jewish programming and Jewish activism. Thus, it is finally time for our wake up call.

I ask you to recall the days of your youth when you thought anything was possible. Search deeply into your memory to find that feeling of youthful invincibility. Remember the feelings you may have felt when you saw for the first time hundreds of Jewish students dancing to the most uplifting Jewish music. Remember the joy you felt when you heard that Soviet Jews and Ethiopian Jews were on planes heading to Israel.

Then try to imagine the happiness we might feel to hear that the four missing soldiers have been freed. Try to imagine too a unique energy sweeping through the Jewish world. Then look deep into the fire of your Jewish soul. Then look a little deeper. And then : Wake Up!

The Wake Up Tour can be reached at: Justin Korda: [Korda@accent.net]; Sigmond Shore: [Shore@netaxis.ca].

The photos on this page recall two different rallies in Ottawa on behalf of Soviet Jewry. [Photos from *Count Us In*, Wendy Eisen, Burgher Books, 1995]

Opinions

Women's voices for peace

Since 1973, the days around Yom Kippur have taken on an additional, national significance. The Yom Kippur War is burned deep into the Israeli psyche, in many ways. The shock of the surprise attack, the intelligence failure that preceded it, the heavy casualties in human life and the shattering of the myth of invincibility that had prevailed since the Six Day War all left their imprint on Israelis. Since then, Yom Kippur is not only a day of deep religious meaning for many, but also a day of sorrow and reflection.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

This year, 24 years after that fateful Yom Kippur, the human, rather than the military, strategic side of the war was highlighted in press coverage. In numerous, moving stories, the trauma of captivity for those who were prisoners of war, the pain of loss for those who lost fathers, sons and brothers, and the emotional cost of exposure to the horrors of battle – were all recorded. Two and a half decades later, the scars are still visible, and in many cases, the wound is still open.

Since 1948, every decade of Israel's history has witnessed a war. The years 1948, 1956, 1967, 1973, 1982 were war years. But the Yom Kippur War was the last war that was fought while supported by a national consensus. In 1982, during the extended foray into Lebanon in Operation Peace for Galilee, the national consensus broke down and a groundswell of public opposition developed. It was led by mature, reserve soldiers and officers, who returned from the front and questioned the wisdom of the orders they had followed on the front lines.

Lebanon changed the debate over war in Israel forever. The taboo over questioning the wisdom of a military activity was broken and every government since then knows that any such decision is likely to result in objection, even from soldiers and their commanders. If the war or confrontation is perceived as one of "choice," rather than "no choice," a consensus of support cannot be assumed.

The recent debate over Israel's presence in southern Lebanon is reflective of the new openness on military matters that has characterized Israeli society in the last decade. In this case, voices of women who are mothers and spouses have emerged as a powerful force. Spearheading the opposition to Israel's continued presence are women who are saying loud and clear that the cost of remaining there, compared to the benefit of staying, is too great. If they have the staying power that such opposition requires, no Israeli politician will be able to ignore Mothers Against a Presence in Lebanon.

A more unusual voice of women is the recently organized group, Women for the Sanctity of Life. As their name implies, the group comprises observant women who are, at present, a minority in the religious Zionist community in Israel. They approach peace from a moral, Jewish perspective, rather than a political one, and they stress the forgotten value, in their view, of the sanctity of human life. For these women, their religious belief dictates a value system that sees the pursuit of peace as a moral obligation, and the occupation of another people for the sake of land at any cost as a distortion of fundamental Jewish principles.

Women for the Sanctity of Life has refrained from taking any position on specific political questions, such as which territories should be traded for peace. For them, the relevant question is what kind of Jews they want to be – someone who will go to war to defend every inch of the disputed territories, or someone who will do everything in his or her power to save Jewish lives.

Tsvia Greenfield, a leader of the group, says forcefully, "We as women can make this case because we are spouses and mothers of soldiers. We are not talking about theory and philosophy, but about real life. We can say these difficult things because we are wading in a pool of blood all the time."

The language that Women for the Sanctity of Human Life speaks is foreign to most secular Israelis, but it may well have an impact in the religious and traditional communities. There, in turn, the liberal perspective of Peace Now seems foreign and even irrelevant to a world view that values religious principles above all else. In this case, the challenge is coming from within. If they, too, have the staying power, it will be difficult to ignore this group of educated, committed and articulate women.

Grassroots voices from outside of the political fray have a freshness and integrity that most politicians lack. In the past, Women in Black, for peace, and Women in Green, for the settlements and against Oslo, have been visible players in the grassroots arena. They are now joined by new voices of a different ilk that may pose a serious challenge to politicians and community alike.

Death explains it all

Recently I read a story about a visitor from outer space who comes to Earth in order to study human civilization. Everything is very different where the alien comes from: there they don't hurry as we do, they are confident that what they can't fix today they can fix tomorrow, they don't constantly fight for a place in the sun. The alien is puzzled about the reason for these fundamental differences. The answer comes when an earthling sums up the nature of human life and adds: "Sooner or later we all die." Thereupon the alien responds, "Oh well, that explains it."

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

For us, of course, death is a phenomenon inherent in creation. We grow up with this knowledge and integrate it as part of our existence. Nothing lives forever, and death is the one constant of our existence.

As a bare statement, this is hardly more than a platitude, yet Western civilization has for some time begun to doubt the inevitability of dying. That comes as a strange discovery, not only to aliens but also to people of non-Western cultures, and it certainly would have come as a surprise to our forebears. They took death to be a part of life and when they had lived as a normal span of time (normal, that is, for their day) they accepted the *malach hamavet* (angel of death) as an expected visitor. Biblical figures such as Jacob and David shared with their children the knowledge that their last days had arrived and imparted to them some thoughts for the future.

For most of us today, such death-bed conversation is nearly impossible. Even if our well-aged and dying parent or grandparent is about to expire and wishes to talk death and what might come thereafter, we will assure him or her and say, "No, you're not about to die, you're doing fine." We know that it isn't so and the dying person knows it as well. Thus life ends as a charade because we make ourselves believe that the end can be put off – a little here, a little there, and maybe forever.

Some of us have thought that, when some years ago Dr. Kubler-Ross laid bare and instructed us how to deal with death, we might be able to follow the path she had laid out. Not so.

Nevertheless, for the foreseeable future, there is no life without death and the two are inextricably interwoven. To be sure, the hope for immortality of some kind is deeply implanted within our psyche, but no one knows for sure what lies on the other side of the Big Divide. Tradition speaks of God reviving the dead, a teaching that many take as a metaphor rather than a realistic hope.

Meanwhile, mortality is the fabric of which our life is made, and when God, at the creation of humanity, said, "Behold it is very good," death was a part of it. The tree of life in the Garden of Eden was never for us; it is reserved for the aliens that crop up among our science-fiction aficionados. And when we say Yizkor, we add a sense of reality to our loving memories.

Passports and dual loyalties

The use of two false Canadian passports in the recent botched Mossad assassination attempt in Jordan raises two tough questions.

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

The first concerns the apparently harsh Canadian response, including the recall of Ambassador David Berger. Assume for a moment that *Jerusalem Post* president and former ambassador to Israel Norman Spector is wrong, and that CSIS knew absolutely nothing about this operation in particular, or about the general use of Canadian passports to assist Israel in its fight against terrorism.

Still, why the initial Canadian hysteria and shock? I would assume that every professional secret service uses passports from many countries, not just from Canada. Is this news to the Canadian government? Perhaps Canada has forgotten our own difficult dealings with FLQ terrorism – a much more modest terrorist threat than what Israel has faced for over a generation. It's a nasty business and even democracies break the rules.

The Canadian government has claimed that this action risks undermining the safety of Canadians travelling in the Middle East, who may face harassment as spies. If this occurs, it would indeed be unfortunate. To date, there is no indication of major problems for Canadian travellers there.

One can argue that the Canadian government had to take the public steps it did to re-establish its bona fides with the Arab world. If so, it worked. The Canadian government seems willing to turn the page on the incident. Berger has been sent back to Israel.

And yet some doubts linger. Imagine if British intelligence used false Canadian passports to track down an IRA terrorist hiding in a Middle Eastern country. Would Canada's reaction have been the same? And imagine if Spector is right, even partially, and CSIS was more aware of developments than Lloyd Axworthy has suggested. If so our government should get its own house in order, rather than vilify Israel.

A second issue raised by the affair is even more troubling. It relates to the age old canard of Jewish dual loyalty. A number of Jewish Canadians have reported being approached by Israeli officials seeking to "borrow" their passports. One of the apparently victimized Canadians was living in Israel working for a Jewish charity.

Ask yourself: How would you respond if the Israeli government asked you to lend it your passport or passport information, in order to help fight terrorism or to enhance Israeli security? More generally, to what lengths should Canadian Jews go to help Israel or other Jews in distress?

The Pollard case in the United States represents an extreme example of out and out treason – the release of classified military intelligence. Legally, Pollard was clearly guilty. But morality… Suppose the information he passed on was vital to Israel and for their own legitimate reasons, the United States decided not to share it…

Another hypothetical case: Imagine the year is 1940 or early 1941. An American of British origin working for American intelligence discovers some crucial information bearing on major innovative plans for German air strikes into the United Kingdom. The Unites States is officially neutral at the time and for some reason, the information was not given to the British. How would we judge, legally and morally, the intelligence officer if he or she decides to pass on the information?

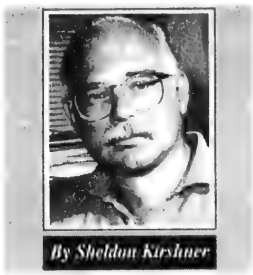
These are unpleasant conundrums. After all, the tragic forced evacuation of Japanese Canadians has shown the harm which suspicions of dual loyalty can produce. But when illegality is not an issue, Jews are no longer reluctant to press policy makers for Jewish interests. A prime example was the determination to link the plight of Soviet Jews to trade and other efforts at detente.

Lobbying is one thing and certainly legitimate, but criminality quite another. Yet my hunch is that the degree of outrage at the Mossad's use of Canadian passports was less among Canadian Jews than among some senior officials at Foreign Affairs. Canadian Jews love Canada deeply and value her freedom and civility. But most are also strongly committed to Israel's security and the fight against terrorism, within the context of the search for peace and the Oslo accords.

So far, Canadian Jews have never really had to choose between the two, particularly since Canada has in general supported those objectives. We recall with discomfort the Jerusalem embassy debacle during Joe Clark's short-lived government. The passport fiasco has been another tough test for the relationships between Canada and Israel, and between Canadian Jews and both countries. The bonds have been bent, but not broken.

The Kirshner File

The genesis of the 1917 Balfour Declaration



On Nov. 2, 1917, Arthur James Balfour, England's foreign minister, sent a brief, blandly-written, historically-momentous letter to Lord Rothschild, president of the British Zionist Federation.

The key sentence of what would be known as the Balfour Declaration read: "His Majesty's Government views with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

Approved at the San Remo Conference in April 1920, the Balfour Declaration was incorporated into the League of Nations mandate in Palestine, which Britain would administer, in July 1922.

Eighty years on, the Balfour Declaration remains a highly contentious document. Zionists, Jews and non-Jews alike, regard it as one of the foundation stones of the modern state of Israel. Anti-Zionists, particularly Arabs, consider it an unjust decree and an impertinent imperialist intrusion.

All agree, however, that the Balfour Declaration was indubitably important in the convoluted annals of the Middle East. It encouraged practical Zionists in Palestine, helped by Diaspora Jewry, to build their embryonic state. It fomented an increasingly bitter Arab-Jewish struggle for dominance in that former Turkish Ottoman dominion. It catapulted Palestine, a neglected backwater until the 20th century, into the forefront of Middle Eastern politics.

Historians, regardless of their sympathies, generally agree that the Balfour Declaration was prompted by British colonial interests, the exigencies of World War I and the persuasive powers of Chaim Weizmann, a Russian-born scientist and ardent Zionist with a knack for acquiring supporters in high places.

Weizmann believed that Britain and the Zionist movement were natural allies. In 1902 and again in 1903, Britain had fleetingly flirted with Jewish settlement schemes in the Sinai Peninsula and Uganda. These projects came to naught, but convinced Weizmann that Britain, in fortuitous circumstances, could serve as a patron and a handmaiden of a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

The opportunity presented itself in 1914, when Turkey sided with Germany, Britain's nemesis, in World War I.

Turkey's decision touched off a scramble among the allied powers — principally Britain and France — to secretly divide its restive empire in the Middle East among themselves. Out of this diplomacy emerged two understandings, each designed to detach Syria, Arabia and Mesopotamia from Turkey.

• In 1915, the British high commissioner in Egypt, George McMahon, promised Abdullah, the sheriff of Mecca and Medina, Arab independence in exchange for a commitment to join the Allied war effort. Within about a year, the Arab revolt began, led in part by a British liaison officer named T.E. Lawrence. Later, McMahon would claim that Palestine was not included in the deal.

• In 1916, Britain and France signed a secret protocol, the Sykes-Picot agreement, dividing up spheres of influence in the Middle East, including Palestine. The accord, which was not necessarily consistent with the McMahon undertaking, was endorsed by Russia and Italy.

Britain had a clear interest in its desire to create a protectorate in Palestine. It was the gateway to Turkish spoils in the Middle East. It commanded access to the Suez Canal, the shortest route to Britain's domain in India.

Weizmann, a chemistry instructor at the University of Manchester, had a keen grasp of the region's geopolitical picture, and he used it to win converts to the Zionist cause. Three months after the outbreak of the war, he interested Charles P. Scott, editor of the *Manchester Guardian* and a friend of British cabinet minister Lloyd George, in the idea of a Jewish homeland in Palestine under British control.

Through Scott, Weizmann met Herbert Samuel, a prominent British Jew, a member of the government and a self-professed Zionist whose views with respect to the future of Palestine were virtually identical with his own. Once hostilities broke out, Samuel championed Zionism on the basis of British self-interest.

Samuel, in turn, introduced Weizmann to George in 1915, when the latter was appointed minister of munitions. George, a devout Protestant, had a mystical attachment to the Old Testament and a firm belief that the Jews were destined to return to the Land of Israel. Trading on this biblical lore, Weizmann further strengthened his relationship with George by finding a scientific solution to the shortage of acetone, a vital ingredient in the explosive cordite.

Around this time, Weizmann renewed his friendship with Balfour, whom he had met in 1906, and made the acquaintance of Sir Mark Sykes, one of the government's leading advisors on Middle Eastern affairs and a negotiator of the Sykes-Picot agreement. Sykes, though not a philo-Semite, thought that the Zionists could enhance Britain's foothold in Palestine, which was still in Turkish hands in 1916. "From the purely British point of view," he wrote, "a prosperous Jewish population in Palestine, owing its inception and its... development to British policy, might be an invaluable asset as a defence of the Suez Canal..."

In December 1916, shortly before Britain launched an offensive into Palestine, there was a change in government. George became the prime minister and Balfour the foreign secretary. Joining them were like-minded pro-Zionists: Lord Robert Cecil, undersecretary of state of foreign affairs; Philip Kerr, George's adviser on foreign affairs; and the undersecretaries for Middle Eastern affairs, William Ormsby-Gore, Leopold Amery and Sykes.

As a collective, they were of the view that an Anglo-French condominium in Palestine, as envisaged in the Sykes-Picot accord, was no longer an effective method of gaining full British hegemony over Palestine.

By 1917, the British government was actively considering the possibility of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. Apart from the strategic reasons already outlined, Britain had concluded that an appeal to Zionist sentiment might keep Russia in the war (dissidents opposed to the czar's policy wanted Russia to pull out) and could have a beneficial effect on public opinion in the United States.

As well, the British government was concerned that Germany might issue a pro-Zionist declaration before Britain had a chance to do so. (Given Germany's alliance with Turkey, this was a fanciful fear.)

Cognizant of these concurrent developments, Britain asked the Zionists to draft a pro-Zionist statement for consideration by the cabinet. The task was assigned to Nahum Sokolow, a member of the Zionist executive.

Before the cabinet could debate Sokolow's draft, a wrench was thrown into the works by Edwin Montagu, the Jewish secretary of state for India. He was vehemently opposed to Zionism, as was the Anglo-Jewish elite, on the grounds that a Jewish homeland in Palestine would raise questions of dual loyalty. But his objections were essentially overridden after U.S. President Woodrow Wilson finally agreed to the declaration.

And so it passed into history.

STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS

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and expresses heartfelt condolences
to her children Harvey, Honey and Irene
and all of her family

May the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

17TH ANNUAL HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 9, 1997

Important Program Changes

UJA FEDERATION

Call (416) 631-5689 for your daily updated program or visit our Web Site: www.feduja.org

PROGRAM CORRECTIONS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6
ELIZABETH DE JONG, Auschwitz survivor of Mengele medical experiments, shares her personal testimony.
Richmond Hill Public Library, 1 Atkinson Road, Richmond Hill
NEW DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 AT 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9
"Brundibar," a children's opera performed in Terezin over 50 times between 1943 and 1944. Almost all of the children who performed, as well as the composer Czech Hans Krasa, were gassed in Auschwitz before the War ended.
Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street, North York
NEW PERFORMANCE TIMES: 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM

NEW PROGRAMS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 - 7:15 PM
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6
Film *"Punch Me In the Stomach,"* with **DEB FILER,** actress, comedienne and child of Holocaust survivors.
Bloor Cinema, 506 Bloor Street West (416) 690-2600

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5
7:30 PM
"Commemorating the Connection: Sephardi Communities and the Nazi Regime." **SARAH TAIEB-CARLEN,** Professor of Sociology and Sephardi Studies at York University will speak, followed by a candle-lighting ceremony and address by spiritual leader **RABBI YEHIEL BENAYON** of Magen David Sephardic Congregation.
7026 Bathurst Street, Thornhill. (905) 669-7652 ext. 225

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11
4:00 PM
"Auschwitz: A Eugenic Utopia."
PROFESSOR ROBERT-JAN VAN PELT, University of Waterloo. Part of a special series on *"Medicine and the Holocaust,"* presented by the History of Medicine Program, University of Toronto. The Great Hall, 88 College Street. (416) 978-2124

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24
5:00 PM
"Care of the Medical Ethos: Reflections After the Holocaust."
DR. JEREMIAH A. BARONDESS, Chair, Medical Advisory Committee, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Part of a special series on *"Medicine and the Holocaust,"* presented by the History of Medicine Program, University of Toronto. The Great Hall, 88 College Street. (416) 978-2124

Coordinated by the Holocaust Education Week Sub-Committee, Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation

Books

By Bernard Baskin

Author explores nature of U.S. Jews' 'power'

***Jewish Power: Inside the American Jewish Establishment* by J.J. Goldberg (Addison-Wesley Publishing, $34).**

Apart from its unfortunate title, this is a splendidly researched, informative and often perceptive study of the major issues, institutions and individuals that define the Jewish community.

J.J. Goldberg is a contributing editor of the Israeli news magazine, *Jerusalem Report*, and a longtime reporter on Jewish affairs. Almost every subject of interest to North American Jews is dealt with — from religious identity and affiliation to immigration, from the Israel lobby and defence agencies to the media and motion picture industry.

He concludes that the nature of Jewish power is elusive, complex and contradictory. It is, in any case, far less than many non-Jews fear, but perhaps greater than some Jews — especially those on the fringe of the Jewish community — know.

Among the author's controversial notions is his contention that, starting in the 1960s, the leadership of the organized Jewish community was taken over by a mix of right-wing Orthodox, neoconservatives and extreme Zionists who did not represent the majority of Jews, who remain steadfastly liberal and democratic.

For example, in 1987, Senator Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey joined in a letter to then secretary of state George Shultz urging him to seek Israel-Arab compromise. As a result he was denounced and vilified. "I was national chairman of the UJA, for God's sake. I'm on the board of Bank Leumi, the Hebrew University, the Diaspora Museum of Tel Aviv…thank goodness I have not had to make decisions between my country and Israel. Because my allegiance to Israel is more than cultural, it's contact with my past."

The American Jewish community, Goldberg asserts, can be divided into three groups. "Roughly 25 percent of all American Jews are committed to practicing Judaism all year, every year. Another 60 percent observe the Day of Atonement, Chanukah, Passover, the bar or bat mitzvah, and not much else…but well over 90 percent of all American Jews say that being Jewish is a 'very' or 'fairly' important part of their lives." Evidently, pride in Judaism is not changing. What is changing is the way many Jews understand and experience their faith. The intermarriage rate is only one symptom of this transformation.

The vast majority of Israelis, says Goldberg, aren't interested in problems that agitate North American Jews like the "who is a Jew?" issue, or "who can grant conversions or conduct marriages?"

"For most Diaspora Jews the rebirth of the Jewish state is one of the central facts of modern Jewish history and a dominant presence in their lives as Jews. For most Israeli Jews, the Jews of the Diaspora are an accident of history, and an irritating one at that." To be sure, suggests an Israeli spokesperson, there's a sense of dependence. "In times of crises, the Israeli expects the Diaspora to come to his assistance. But does he think about it on a regular basis? Of course not."

Jewish entrepreneurs were influential in the creation of the movie industry, but despite common conspiracy theories, the Jewish Hollywood moguls were ambivalent about their Jewishness. With very few exceptions they gave a wide berth to Jewish organizations and their politics. "Most dutifully joined a synagogue and wrote cheques to Jewish charities. But they kept Judaism strictly out of their business.

To sum up, the author writes, "Most Jewish organizations exist to perform — or to influence the performance of — the responsibilities that have preoccupied Jewish communities in every time and place through history; conducting their religious life; helping their poor; sick, elderly and immigrants; representing Jews to their gentile neighbors; and defending Jews from their enemies at home, and in other lands."

If North American Jews believed in themselves one-half as much as non-Jews believe in them, they could continue to be a powerful force for their own good, and for the countries in which they live.

Gerry Goldblum & Estelle Foreman

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'Remember What Amalek Did To You'

The pain strips the heart
It tears it apart
And the tears of the heart are the blood of the victims
And the pain remains; it refuses to vanish
It commands: "Remember what Amalek did to you."

Remember, remember, and do not forget
Children, parents, the aged who to death were taken
And their groans are heard, and their screams echo:
"Vengeance."

And the vengeance of these
(Whose thread of continuity was severed with their journey to death)
Is remembrance
The remembrance of deeds by animals in the form of men
Who spilled so much blood
This is their vengeance

But the pain does not let go; it does not vanish
It still commands: "Remember what Amalek did to you"
Remember, remember, and do not forget.

By Rayzie Gruda
Translated from Hebrew by Richard Stoll and Hilda Weil

(Holocaust Education Week is especially a time for us to reflect on what Amalek did to the Jewish people.)

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Jewish Life

Bringing Judaism to Germany's Jews

By PROF. YAKOV M. RABKIN

Guest Voices

Rabbi Plaut's article (*CJN*, Sept. 11) was devoted to post-Soviet Jews who have settled in Germany over the last 10 years. He reported the influx of over 60,000 Jews to whom Germany has offered hospitality. The immigration has apparently continued, and Germany's Jewish community has become predominantly Russian-speaking. The influx has revitalized many Jewish communities that seemed virtually extinct just a few years ago.

Rabbi Plaut is not certain to what extent these newcomers will remain or become Jewish in their new land. His doubt is well-founded in view of the understandably low level of Judaic knowledge among post-Soviet Jews, and the geographic dispersion between the Oder and the Rhine.

During a recent sabbatical in Strasbourg, France, I was often asked to address groups of Russian-speaking Jews on the other side of the Rhine. Some of these communities, such as Baden-Baden, were quite close, and I would bicycle across the Peace Bridge to give lectures about Jews and Judaism, and talk with the newcomers.

The reception was invariably warm. There may be several reasons why these Jews are eager to learn about Judaism. One has to do with the ambivalence all of them feel with respect to their new country. Another is their acute awareness of the fragility of their and their children's Jewishness.

Brothers and cousins of these same Jews, who settle in Israel, may be reluctant to accept Judaism: they tend to embrace the unique opportunity that Israel offers to assimilate with the Israelis and to feel that they are full-fledged Jews without any Judaic practice.

Knowing that this is impossible in Germany, I could often start with a rhetorical question: "Would you like your children to grow up to become regular Germans?" This question would bring tears to the eyes of many in the audience, and even those who were initially suspicious of my "missionary" efforts would begin to listen.

I would also emphasize that Germany, and particularly Rhineland, had been home to prominent figures of Jewish history such as Rashi or Maharam. This historical information startled many, and they readily agreed to join a tour of Jewish sites of their region.

The government of Israel attempted to influence the German government and to make it curtail the influx of post-Soviet Jews. I can understand this. However, as a Jew, I feel an obligation to help another Jew, wherever he chooses to live, to acquire Judaic knowledge. I feel no right to judge him or to decide where he should have settled. Nor am I enthusiastic about helping Hitler's dream of a *Judenrein* Germany come true.

It depends on all of us to help these biologically defined Jews to establish a spiritual link with Judaism. This task is clearly beyond the capacity of German or even European Jewish organizations. Since North America is the largest Diaspora to include a significant number of Russian-speaking rabbis and teachers of Judaica, it is important to begin a consistent effort to bring Judaism to Germany's Jews.

Rabkin, a native of St. Petersburg, Russia, has been a professor at the University of Montreal since 1973.

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מאפלה לאורה

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Preceded by a lecture, **"Survival Under the Enemies' Skin"**, by **Shlomo Perel**, whose story is told in the acclaimed film "Europa, Europa".

An official program of Holocaust Education Week.

Observing kashrut without meat

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

The holidays are over. And we're stuffed. So what better time to look at food. The meatless kind. If you're considering cutting down on meat or cutting it out while observing kashrut, there are many tips for you on the Jewish Highway.

How does Jewish vegetarianism differ from the standard kind? That question is addressed in If Lettuce is Lettuce, What is Jewish Vegetarianism? **[http://www.micahbooks.com/lettucediscuss.html]**. Several Jewish sources for following a vegetarian way of life are quoted, such as *pikuach nefesh* (the duty to guard one's health) and *tsa'ar ba'alei chayim* (the commandment not to cause sorrow to living creatures).

Jews, of course, are allowed to eat meat, but this site points out that there are traditions that Adam and Eve were created as vegetarians and were only permitted to eat meat after leaving the Garden of Eden. And that in the Messianic period, the world will return to vegetarianism.

One of the most outspoken proponents on the Internet of a Jewish vegetarian lifestyle is Richard Schwartz. In Must We Be Veggies: The Case for Jewish Vegetarianism **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=962]**, Schwartz maintains the controversial point of view "that committed Jews are not only permitted but are obligated to be vegetarians." He also addresses the traditional rabbinical view that meat should be eaten at festive meals. You can find many other articles by Richard Schwartz at **[http://www.rasheit.org/VY_REBBES/rebschwartz.html]** and **[http://www.envirolink.org/arrs/essays/schwartz/menu.html]**.

For another view on why someone chooses a Kosher/Organic way of life, see the links to Chayyim Pesach Silverman's articles Ritually and Naturally Pure and Becoming Ritually Pure – the Manual at **[http://www.jcn18.com/jewishfood/]**.

From vegetarians to vegans to fruitarians to pescetarians, the terms referring to what people choose not to eat can get confusing. Here's a good Vegetarian Glossary **[http://www.veg.org/veg/FAQ/glossary.html]**.

Just because a product seems to be meat-free doesn't mean it's necessarily kosher. These days, unless you have a degree in advanced biochemistry, it can be daunting trying to understand the origin of the chemicals that go into our food. For example, you can go ahead and eat something with dilauryl thiodipropionate. It's a synthetic preservative that doesn't require kashrut supervision. But watch out for alpha amylase. It's sometimes used in flour to breakdown starches and it comes from hog pancreas. For other ingredients and their uses, see **[http://www.kashrus.org/kosher/chem.html]**.

Two confusing ingredients for vegetarians who keep kosher are rennet and gelatin. Gelatin is a tasteless, odorless substance extracted by boiling bones, hoofs and other animal tissues **[http://www.vegweb.com/glossary/gelatin.html]**. Some points of view maintain that since gelatin is so far removed from its original form, it does not need to be derived from a kosher animal. Orthodox certification requires it **[http://www.ohr.org.il/ask/ask127.htm#Q1]**.

Vegetarians should be aware that gelatin from kosher sources *is* considered pareve.

Rennet is a substance containing an enzyme used to coagulate milk and create cheese **[http://www.veg.on.ca/cheese.html]** and **[http://www.envirolink.org/arrs/essays/rennet.html]**. A common source of rennet is the stomach of slaughtered newly-born calves, although microbial enzymes are used in kosher cheeses. For a view on the use of kosher rennet, see **[http://www.j51.com/~yspivak/spivak5.htm]**.

So far we've thought about food. We've reasoned about food. And we've looked at its ingredients. Next week, we eat.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Greater Toronto Area

Associated students get top honors in essay contest

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — If Lior Braunstein, 13, were to host an imaginary dinner party, his guests would include science greats Marie Curie, Albert Einstein and Sir Isaac Newton. The latter would dine on apple pastries in deference to his famous gravity experiments.

That whimsical idea helped Braunstein, a Grade 8 student at Associated Hebrew Schools, become one of three Associated students to win a prize in the 1996-97 Commonwealth Essay Contest, sponsored in Ontario by the Royal Commonwealth Society of Canada, Toronto branch. (International results have yet to be announced.)

Orly Cohen and Jonathan Laski, both of whom are now Grade 9 students at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, won first and third prize respectively in the Ages 14-15 category. Braunstein placed second in the Ages 9-13 category.

Twelve awards in all (three per age category) were presented by Ontario's lieutenant-governor Hilary Weston at the Ontario Club Oct. 20. Isabel Bassett, Ontario's minister of citizenship, culture and recreation, spoke at a luncheon following the ceremony.

Cohen's essay, *The Week My Great-Aunt Stayed With Us*, chronicled the impact of a dying relative's visit on a couple who had grown apart, and on their children. The writing was so believable that Cohen's teacher, Nina Wener, and the contest's chief examiner, Tom Ramautarsingh, initially thought it was based on Cohen's own experience.

"It's completely fictional," clarified Cohen, who enjoys reading as well as writing realistic fiction.

"Her sentences were delightful to read," recalled Ramautarsingh. "They sort of gave you word pictures."

"It was very emotional, very mature," said Wener of Cohen's essay. "And Jonathan's was fun. It had color. [Reading it], I had all the pictures in front of me."

Laski's entry, *An Eventful Day in My Family* was an account of the highlights of a 1993 family trip to Israel.

"They're okay, our students," said a proud Jerry Rosenfield, general studies principal of Associated's two-campus junior high division. He credited the school's "motivated students and dedicated teachers."

English teacher Rebecca Goldberg, who submitted Braunstein's essay, said his work was "very clever. It was very intellectual, very well written."

All the winning essays "showed excellent evidence of research, writing skills, understanding of their chosen topics and expressive use of vocabulary," said Ramautarsingh.

Ontario's Lt.-Gov. Hilary Weston, centre, presented essay contest awards last week. With her are, from left, Associated teachers Rebecca Goldberg and Nina Wener, winners Orly Cohen, Jonathan Laski and Lior Braunstein and junior high principal Jerry Rosenfield. [Frances Kraft photo]

Last year marked the first time Associated had ever participated in the essay contest. "I liked the topics. They were challenging and interesting," said Wener, who is the junior high's English department head. She used the topics as a regular class assignment, culling the best essays for the contest. (Each school was permitted only a limited number of entries.)

"We were extremely happy to see that a school entering for the first time did so well," Ramautarsingh told *The CJN*.

The contest is an annual international event dating back to 1913.

The winning students in Ontario, chosen from 94 entrants representing some three dozen schools, received certificates and monetary awards.

Participating students in the international contest represent 53 countries. Winners will be announced by the Royal Commonwealth Society of London, England.

Sir Arthur Chetwynd, chair of the Royal Commonwealth Society of Toronto Foundation, which funds the awards here, encouraged students to "talk it up about the Commonwealth. Every Canadian is a Commonwealth citizen."

The Search For JUSTICE

UJA FEDERATION

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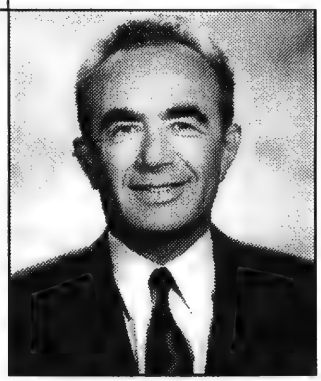


ROBERT L. SHAPIRO
Head of The O.J. Simpson Defence Team

Community Matters

Campaign '98 half way mark

UJA FEDERATION TOPS $25 MILLION

UJA Federation has raised more than $26 million with gifts from nearly 20,000 contributors, as the 1998 campaign passes the half way mark.

A series of successful Fall telethons beginning in September has maintained momentum among campaigners and donors. A New Gifts telethon before Rosh Hashana brought in $300,000 from nearly 600 first-time contributors.

The next set of telephone blitzes, November 2 – 5, will focus on reaching non-contributors as well as the 8,000 supporters who have not yet made a pledge to the 1998 campaign. Students who want to pitch in and make calls are invited to sign up for a special student telethon shift, Monday, November 3, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Lipa Green Building.

UJA Federation's second York Region telethon will be held on November 2 from 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. at the Promenade Shopping Centre, to seek campaign support from the more than 40,000 Jews living north of Steeles.

Representatives from UJA Federation's recently opened York Region office will be at the Promenade during the telethon to inform community members about their activities and services.

UJA Federation dollars support dozens of local services that assist thousands of Jews in need. According to Campaign '98 Chairman Leo Goldhar, UJA Federation has been "able to assist many agencies hard hit by government cutbacks."

"September and October have been great months for the campaign," says campaign Vice-Chair David Engel. "Our energetic campaigners are really coming through and the community as a whole is very receptive to our message."

To sign up for a telethon shift or for more information, please call (416) 635-2883 ext. 107.

Active UJA Federation supporter Honey Carr is a regular at Campaign telethons.

School Joins Generations

The day was educational, informative and offered an excellent opportunity to see UJA Federation contributions in action. That was the consensus reached by 30 members of the Societies Division who recently participated in a local bus mission to visit beneficiary agencies.

"The trip was organized for one reason," said Societies Cabinet Co-Chair Michael Rosenberg. "In the past, the Societies donations were primarily Israel focused. We felt it was necessary to draw attention to local needs here in our community."

Societies and "Landsmanshaften" were first established before World War I to help Jewish immigrants adjust to life in their new country, and provide support with medical care, finances, friendship and employment. A number of societies are still active today, both for their own members and as contributors to UJA Federation.

The day's itinerary included stops at Jewish Family and Child Service, the Toronto Jewish Free Loan Cassa and the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living – all UJA Federation beneficiary agencies.

"This type of education is second to none," said Regina Eisenstein, President of the Zaglembier Ladies Auxiliary. "It really makes a difference when you can see how and where your contributions go."

The highlight was a visit to the new Associated Hebrew School campus in Thornhill. The Thornhill complex of Associated, the largest Jewish day school in Canada, provides a place of learning for over 500 students from nursery to grade 6. "We wouldn't exist without UJA Federation's support," said Rabbi Abraham Soffer, the school's Educational Director.

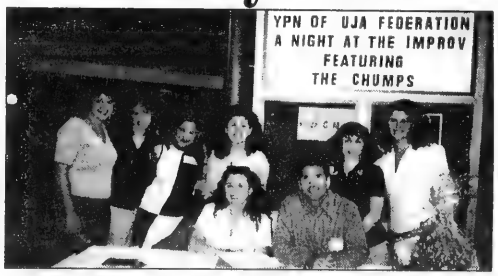
Associated began over 90 years ago, and many of the mission participants' children went through the Associated system. Bus mission member Irving Soloway was a student himself 60 years ago at the Associated Talmud Torah on Brunswick Avenue.

The group not only toured the school but sat in on some of the classes. "It is very fulfilling and exciting to watch two generations brought together in this fashion," observed Principal Sandy Rabinowitz.

"We have seen the complete cycle of life from kindergarten children to seniors at the Bernard Betel Centre," remarked Ralph Snow. "It is great to see our donations directed to the future."

Just one of the Associated classrooms that members of the Societies Bus Mission visited.

Comedy Cares



UJA Federation's Young Professionals Network collected hundreds of items of clothing to donate to Jewish Family and Child Service's Just A Second *clothing store at a "Night At The Improv" event earlier this year.*

PARTNERS PROFILE

The Partners Program of UJA Federation encourages companies to participate in its worldwide efforts to assist hundreds of thousands in need. Royal Bank, a gold level partner has sponsored UJA Federation's Major Gifts Gala for the past two years.

"We at Royal Bank are very proud of our involvement with UJA Federation," says George F. Gaffney, Royal Bank Executive Vice-President and General Manager. "We wholeheartedly support and commend this organization for the enormous contribution it makes to the community, and we take pride in this developing relationship and the opportunity to strengthen the community together. With the increased demand for services in Greater Toronto, we encourage others to join us in assisting this worthwhile cause."

ROYAL BANK

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

Community Matters

JEWISH HERO HEADS HOME

The man who planned and oversaw the largest migration of Jews in modern history, has ended his two year stay in Toronto and learned some important lessons along the way.

"My time at UJA Federation taught me a great deal about how Jews living outside Israel feel towards their Israeli counterparts and about the whole process of fundraising," says Baruch Gur, who, as the Jewish Agency's Special Emissary to Canada, spent many hours getting to know Toronto's Jewish community.

From 1989-1995, Gur served as head of the Jewish Agency's Unit for the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, where he set up the Agency's network which helped more than 800,000 Jews leave the FSU. Most of them moved to Israel.

Gur says "a better understanding of committed Jewish life in the Diaspora" will help him succeed in his new post as Director General

Baruch Gur

of Keren Hayesod, a world wide fundraising partner of United Israel Appeal and UJA Federation. "Keren Hayesod is basically the bridge between Israel and the Diaspora," explains Gur, who says he now has a better view of the "big picture."

While in Toronto, Gur, known for his warmth and sense of humour, often relayed detailed accounts of the massive Soviet Jewish emigration he engineered, at numerous UJA Federation events. He also led several UJA Federation missions to the former Soviet Union.

" I met here a very caring, warm Jewish community which immediately welcomed my wife and I with open arms," notes Gur. "We felt like partners even though we are Israeli emissaries." Gur's wife Miri, who will return to Israel next February, is the Director of the Israeli Aliya Centre.

In the short run, Gur says his priority is to "run an efficient organization and increase fundraising at Keren Hayesod." His long-term goal? "In ten years from now and beyond, I hope my children and their children will be friends with the children of my Canadian friends."

Community Quilting Together

Typically a quilt is used for warmth and comfort. But Jewish Women's Federation (JWF) is also using it as a symbol of strength, support, commitment, and caring.

As part of its ongoing prevention campaign against woman abuse, JWF is creating a community quilt to raise awareness of abuse, while celebrating the strength of Jewish women.

Textile artist Haya Nativ (l) and Community Quilt Chair Janis Katz (r) hope the project will raise awareness about woman abuse.

"We believe the quilt will stand as a memorial to victims, and as a symbol for those who have bravely sewn the pieces of their lives back together," says Jewish Women's Federation President Jill Reitman.

"There has been a long tradition of using quilts as a visual representation of women joining together," adds Community Quilt Chairperson Janis Katz.

According to statistics from Jewish Family and Child Service, 300 abused women in the Jewish community received counseling, support and advocacy services last year.

Textile artist Haya Nativ, who specializes in Judaic art, is donating her time, talent and expertise by designing the theme for the quilt. "I wanted to do something positive for a worthwhile cause," she says.

The quilt, which will be available for community events, will have a permanent home in the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street.

JWF, representing 50 affiliated women's organizations, is inviting everyone in the community to help create the quilt. Quilting workshops will take place at the Lipa Green Building, Room 419/420 on Monday, November 10th , 11:00 am – 4:00 pm; Tuesday, November 11th, 7:00 – 9:00 pm; Monday, November 17th, 7:00 – 9:00 pm and Thursday, November 20, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm.

For further information or to register for a quilting session, please call Naomi Cohen at (416) 635-2883 ext. 302.

Funding IN Action

Irene Lastman is a fighter. When she fell victim to a stroke over a decade ago, she wasn't going to let it get the best of her. In fact, she was angry, so angry, she converted all her energy into getting better. The Stroke Recovery Group at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, a UJA beneficiary agency, helped Irene through her difficult struggle.

STARTING OVER

"I couldn't believe I had a stroke, after all, I was in my 50's," recalls Irene. "I wanted to prove to everyone that I was going to recover and be able to do things on my own again."

Irene, a long-time member of the Bathurst Jewish Centre, was familiar with the Stroke Recovery Group, and determined to "reactivate" herself. "I thought this would be a good way to start," she says.

SUCCEEDING TOGETHER

The program which began over 15 years ago, includes exercises, swimming, bingo and organized trips. "For some, this is the only form of physical activity and social interaction they receive," says Irene. "It is important to provide a reason for people to get out of bed."

The group has blossomed over the years, meeting three times a week for entertainment and socialization. This past July, nearly 100 people participated in a yearly dinner for members and their spouses.

"Just because you suffer a stroke, it doesn't mean that your life has to end," observes a determined Irene.

A SOURCE OF ENCOURAGEMENT

The success of the program is also attributable to the dedicated volunteers who bring positive attitudes and cheerful personalities. Ben Swartz and Jerry Weinpeer who have been helping for many years, call what they do a true labour of love. "Everyone works as a team," says Jerry. "Each individual is affected differently by a stroke. But, the most important thing I tell people is that they have to keep smiling," remarks Irene. "We encourage anyone who has had a stroke to join the group. We offer a place of support and friendship."

Although Irene's physical condition has its limitations, her robust attitude to "push forward" has, in part, been due to the group. "It gives me a purpose," she says.

The Stroke Recovery Program at the Bathurst Jewish Centre is energizing, motivating and another example of UJA Federation Funding in Action.

Holocaust Education Week

EXODUS SURVIVORS LOOK BACK

For the last 50 years Erika Burger has been mostly silent about her experiences as a passenger on "Exodus 1947." Next week, she and eleven of her fellow passengers will share their personal accounts of the historic voyage which eventually led to establishment of the State of Israel, at the opening of the 17th annual Holocaust Education Week.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the voyage of Exodus 1947, described as the "ship that launched a nation." The American World War II vessel unsuccessfully attempted to bring more than 4,500 Holocaust survivors to Palestine after the British Navy violently thwarted its efforts to land at the port of Haifa. All those aboard the boat, including 1,282 women and 655 children, were eventually taken back to Hamburg, Germany where they were forced to disembark and live in refugee camps.

Within a year after the expulsion to Germany, the last of the Exodus 1947 passengers, including Erika and her younger sister, finally made it to Israel, where Erika lived for twenty years before moving to Canada.

The opening Holocaust Education Week program, "Exodus 1947: A Look Back, " Thursday, October 30, 8:00 p.m., at the Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St., will feature a new documentary, directed by Elizabeth Rodgers and Robby Henson, and narrated by Morley Safer, host of CBS-TV's *60 Minutes.* A panel discussion will follow the screening, which will include, in addition to the half dozen survivors now living in Canada, Nat Nadler, one of the original crew of the ship and Professor Meir Schwartz, an Israeli Haganah commander who accompanied the survivors to Palestine.

Although Burger was reluctant to impart her story to her children because it was "too difficult to talk about," a request from her 15 year old granddaughter to speak to her class convinced her it was time to break the silence.

"Now I'm ready to talk," Burger explains. "It's important that the younger generation hears about this part of Jewish history."

Ben Shedletzky, who traveled on board the Exodus 1947 with wife Eva, will explain at the program how he managed to falsify his infant son's identification papers in order to gain passage.

Holocaust Education Week, October 30 – November 9, showcases more than 60 programs exploring various aspects of the Holocaust. This year's highlights include the Canadian premier of the film *"It Was Nothing…It was Everything: Reflections on the Rescue of Greek Jews During the Holocaust;"* a first hand testimonial from a Mengele twin who survived brutal experimentation at Auschwitz, and a female perspective of the Holocaust from 4 women survivors.

Pictured here are three rescuers of Greek Jews.

This year more than 18 churches and 12 libraries in the Greater Toronto Area are hosting Holocaust Education Week programs. For a complete listing of daily events call (416) 631-5689 or log on to the *Jewish Toronto* Web Site at www.feduja.org.

A SALUTE TO COMMUNITY PIONEERS

They were the architects of community service that we take for granted today. Three individuals who were instrumental in laying the foundations for Toronto's quality of Jewish life were honoured recently by UJA Federation.

Madeleine Epstein, Pearl Langer and Henry Goodman were recognized at a special tribute reception for their foresight and leadership.

Madeleine Epstein (l), Henry Goodman and Pearl Langer cut into a huge cake baked in their honour.

Madeleine Epstein was the first woman officer of the United Jewish Welfare Fund, UJA Federation's predecessor, a member of the UJWF Budget and Finance Committee and Chair of UJA Federation's Women's Division. She also served as Vice-President of the former Jewish Community Centre where she was responsible for several new initiatives serving the north east.

Michael Benjamin, who introduced all three tributees, called Epstein "well ahead of her time," and praised the pioneering volunteer for her "astute insights and probing questions" surrounding important social issues.

Henry Goodman, 91, was the first Chair of the Social Planning Committee when it was created in 1967. He commissioned a study that led to the establishment of Coordinated Services for the Jewish Elderly. Goodman, who also played a pivotal role in the development of Jewish Family & Child Service, served as President from 1967-1970 and 1971-72. Goodman's knack for fundraising led to the successful Friends of JF&CS campaign.

Pearl Langer, who is well known for her work as host of CBC's "From Now On," a seniors program, was recognized for her long professional and volunteer career. Delivering kosher hot meals as a child set the stage for her creation of the popular Meals on Wheels program. Langer served as President of Coordinated Services for the Jewish Elderly, now Senior Care, helped create the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living and served as a member of the Social Planning Council of Metro.

Volunteer Views

Volunteer Views *is a new column highlighting dedicated volunteers and volunteering opportunities in our community.*

Bessie brings joy

Bessie Cott loves people. That's why almost every day for the last 15 years she has been volunteering at the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, serving senior members of our community.

"It's not that I mind living alone," insists Cott, "it's just nice to feel needed and to know you're helping others." And what a help she is!

Active at 93

Most of the time you can find this lively, petite 93 year old in the Centre's dining room, where she does everything she can to help, from carrying trays to wiping counter spills. She'll even stand in line for those too weak or tired to do so themselves.

Bessie Cott

But that's not all this grandmother of 9 and great grandmother of 18 does. Cott also serves on the membership and food committees and is in charge of Sunday dances for members as well as non-members twice a month.

"I like to be busy and the Centre always has something for me to do," she explains. "It's my home away from home."

From strength to strength

Cott is so convinced her active volunteer life keeps her youthful and energetic that she prescribes a regular dose of volunteerism for all seniors.

"Seniors are very useful in our society and you must never give up as long as you can do it," she says.

"Don't wait for people to reach out to you! Reach out to people and you will gain new friends and a lot of satisfaction for helping others."

For more information about community volunteering, call Shelly Rotman at UJA Federation (416) 635-2883 ext. 137.

Features

Libras weigh all sides of a question incessantly

[Cont'd. from page 2]

AUG. 23-SEPT. 22

Zevulun was blessed by Jacob as the son who engaged in commerce across the seas. So too does Virgo enjoy making new connections and markets. Travel, especially when linked with business, is a special joy to the Virgo. Analytical Virgos, when organized, can often create order out of chaos. Virgos love to help and mentor. If not properly acknowledged or rewarded however, they will move on — to the next experience.

LIBRA: ISSACHAR
SEPT. 23-OCT. 22

Issachar comes from the Hebrew word payment. In those ancient days of one man, many wives, Leah, the undesired wife, purchased from Rachel the right to sleep with Joseph. There, Leah conceived Issachar. Issachar's indecisiveness is attributed to his being the result of hasty bargaining. Librans will weigh all sides of a question incessantly. Often, time itself will prove to be the final arbitrator. When life is balanced for a Libra, they are charming. Out of balance, however, Librans can be almost scary.

SCORPIO: DAN
OCT. 23-NOV. 21

Jacob speaks of his son Dan as being both a judge and a serpent.

Scorpio was always depicted as being either an eagle or a snake. When the Scorpio controls his intense emotions, he has a clarity of judgment that is farseeing. Conversely, an out of control Scorpio will become vengeful, sneaky and vicious. Scorpios usually develop self-control at an early age for their own self-preservation. Then they can fly through life like an eagle.

SAGITTARIUS: GAD
NOV. 22-DEC. 21

Gad means good fortune and Sagittarians seem to be blessed with a special insight. Straight as an arrow, they will pierce right into the heart of a matter. Not always the most diplomatic of signs, they like to say it like it is. Their freedom is paramount. Fairness is important. Injustice makes them despair. Appropriating the best of any situation for themselves, lucky Sagittarians wear their halos slightly askew.

CAPRICORN: ASHER
DEC. 22-JAN. 19

Asher means wealth or fortune. Most Capricorns will not have to worry about their material well-being. It is Moses' blessing of Asher that gives us the astrological adage that Capricorns are old when young and young when old. Capricorns seem to get stronger the older they get. Working hard for their success, the Capricorn perseveres. They will eventually climb to the apex of their particular mountain top — one filled with creature comforts.

AQUARIUS: NAPHTALI
JAN. 20-FEB. 18

Described by Jacob as giving goodly words and having the speed of a racing deer; blessed by Moses with both the desert and the sea; Naphtali was considered to be favored by the Lord. Rarely lonely, Aquarians finds communication easy. They enjoy friends and relate on a mental level. However, they do, suffer fools badly. If an Aquarian feels that you are not wise enough to understand his goodly words, he'll drop you.

PISCES: JOSEPH
FEB. 19-MARCH 20

Joseph was one of the most blessed sons of Jacob. But occult abilities and immaturity led to his early downfall. These same occult powers, but with age and humility, were later royally rewarded. Until recently, the sensitive, intuitive Pisces needed to hide their occult abilities. If not, they faced ridicule, persecution or even worse. Today, these psychic talents are becoming increasingly recognized and rewarded.

Beverley Janus, author, public speaker and columnist, is the director of the Institute of Parapsychological Studies in Toronto.

Canadian Society for Yad Vashem is pleased to invite you to join our Guest of Honour, The Honourable Michael Harris, Premier of Ontario, to pay tribute to the Righteous Among The Nations and to honour the Memory of the Six Million who Perished.

The Honourable
Michael Harris, Premier of Ontario

The title Righteous Among The Nations was created in an effort to honour the men and women who risked certain death to save Jewish lives during World War II. To date, more than 10,000 individual names have been inscribed on the "Righteous Wall of Honour" at the Yad Vashem Museum in Jerusalem.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5, 1997
INN ON THE PARK, CENTENNIAL BALLROOM
COCKTAILS 6:30 P.M. DINNER 7:00 P.M.
COUVERT: $250.00 PER PERSON

HONORARY DINNER CHAIRMAN: THE HONOURABLE CHARLES HARNICK
DINNER CO-CHAIRS: JOEL DIMITRY, RONALD FAUST, HARRY KICHLER & ELLEN SMOSKOWITZ
HONORARY NATIONAL CHAIRMAN: LESLIE DAN
NATIONAL CHAIRMAN: HANK ROSENBAUM

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For information, please contact:
(416) 785-1333

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זכור

Canadian Society for
YAD VASHEM
The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority

A tax receipt will be issued for the maximum allowable amount. Visa, MasterCard, Israel Bonds accepted. Kashrut observed.

Turning 69, 70 or 71 this year?

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The Adath Israel Congregation Adult Study Committee presents

Going to the "Wall" over Intolerance:

Israel's Responsibility for World Jewry

with

Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka

Monday, November 3rd - 8:00 p.m.
•Everyone Welcome •Refreshments Served

Adath Israel Congregation
37 Southbourne Avenue (1 block northeast of Bathurst-Wilson)
North York, Ontario. (416) 635-5340

AS A MATTER OF FACT

With so many divergent views today on religious issues in Israel, it's easy to confuse fact with fiction and lose sight of what really matters.

UNDERSTANDING MATTERS

Our response to issues challenging Jewish unity must be based on mutual respect, support and understanding. This year, the UJA Federation-funded Jewish Agency will be spending nearly $20 million (CDN) in Israel on programs promoting tolerance, religious diversity and unity. In fact, UJA Federations across North America, through the Jewish Agency, are the world's largest supporters of such projects, exceeding the efforts of all other organizations combined.

CARING MATTERS

While we debate important proposals and policies in Israel, over 20,000 Jews living below the poverty line in Greater Toronto are struggling to acquire the necessities of life. This fiscal year, UJA Federation will be spending $2.5 million on human services to help people in need.

EDUCATION MATTERS

Without a foundation of Jewish knowledge, there may be no one to debate the big issues of the future. UJA Federation is investing over $7.5 million a year in Toronto's internationally admired Jewish education network.

RESCUE MATTERS

In every corner of the former Soviet Union, Jews still face economic insecurity, political chaos or anti-Semitism. Since 1989, the Jewish Agency has financed the flight of 800,000 Jews from the former Soviet Union to Israel. Nearly 60,000 more are expected this year. Whenever and wherever Jews are in danger, the Jewish Agency is there.

JEWISH VALUES MATTER

For centuries, Jews everywhere have cared for one another, to make sure no one is left out in the cold. Our sacred responsibility for each other is more important today than ever. Even with all our differences, we must not be diverted from the common cause of social justice, alleviating Jewish distress and furthering the rescue of Jews in danger.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM
has moved to:
534 Lawrence Ave. W.
North York, Ont.
M6A 1A2
Tel: 416-785-1333
Fax: 416-785-4536

What's New has received an overwhelming number of requests from Holocaust Education Week event organizers to list their respective events separately. Unfortunately, it is simply impossible to do this. We cannot accommodate all the requests in our limited space and still have room for other community events. We do however urge all Canadian Jewish News *readers to take advantage of the tremendous opportunity for learning, discovery and awareness presented by Holocaust Education Week.*

DEADLINE REMINDER

Deadlines for What's New and About People: Monday, Nov. 3, is deadline for Nov. 13 issue and Monday, Nov. 10, is deadline for Nov. 20 column. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Nov. 1

CURRENT EVENTS SERIES

Beth Tikvah Synagogue series, Israel and the Jewish World, with **Prof. David Goldberg,** Foundation for Middle East Studies, 7 p.m.

MAX MANDEL HOUR

The Max Mandel Jewish Hour starring **Michael and Max Mandel (Jr.)** with **Stella Walker, Dvoira Yanovsky, David Abramowitz** and the Winchevsky Ensemble Theatre, 8 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. $12 in advance, $15 at door. 789-5502.

DOWNTOWN MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan egalitarian Shabbat service every Saturday 10 a.m. at Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Room 204. Singles of all ages, all families, and children are welcome. **Shelly** 469-4287.

SUNNYBROOK MINYAN

Ma'yan Or Liberal Minyan, 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. Kiddush follows. **Hilda Harris,** shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

BBYO DANCE

BBYO community-wide dance (teens, grades 9-13), 8 p.m., City Playhouse, 1000 New Westminster (at Bathurst). Members $5, non-members $8. Proceeds to BBYO Leadership Development. Join BBYO at dance and admission is free.

FUN AUCTION

Queen City chapter, Jewish Women International, fun auction, 7:30 p.m., Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. New merchandise, vouchers for dinner, theatre, hotel weekend and more. $5.

Sunday, Nov. 2

A YIDDISHER TOG

A Day of Yiddish at Beth Tzedec Congregation:

- 10 a.m. **Prof. David Roskies,** Jewish Theological Seminary, lectures on Memory as Stone.
- Noon, lunch available $5. Reserve 781-3514, ext. 66.
- 12:30 p.m. The Shtetl – A Portrait with Yiddish poet **Simcha Simchovitch** and folksinger/pianist **Naomi Bell.**

JEWISH BROTHERHOODS

Council of Jewish Brotherhoods of Metropolitan Toronto and Vicinity annual installation breakfast at Adath Israel Synagogue. **David Goldberg,** The Foundation for Middle East Studies, speaks on Israel and Current Foreign Policy. Services 9 a.m., breakfast 9:45, program 10:15. $6.

HABONIM BREAKFAST

Habonim Breakfast Club features storyteller **Leslie Robbins** talking about Meisses My Bubbie Never Taught Me, stories of Jewish humor, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park. Breakfast and lecture $6.

REMEMBRANCE PARADE

Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Toronto Post, Remembrance Parade and Service. Assemble 9:30 a.m. outside Earl Bales Park Community Centre. Parade route, Raoul Wallenberg Road to Bathurst Street, left to Beth Radom Synagogue, 18 Reiner Rd. for service. Dress code: uniforms, medals, headcovering. Family members welcome at service, 10:20 a.m. 663-8387 or parade marshal **Ernest Stein** 423-2794.

COOKING CLASS

Beth Tikvah's culinary classes continue with tips on setting your Shabbat table, organizing your dinner, recipes, 4 p.m.

[Cont'd on page 21]

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher
Centre Street
Clark Avenue West
Bathurst Street
Hilda Avenue
Yonge Street
Steeles Avenue
441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

Whole Chickens
Fresh or Frozen, Kosher
4.61 kg
209 lb.

Rougemont Apple Juice
1.36 L tin
.88

Levitt's Roast Beef
From the Deli
2.75 /100 g
1249 lb.

P.E.I. Potatoes
Product of Canada, Canada No. 1
4.54 kg / 10 lb. bag
199

Frozen Whole Turkeys
Kosher
3.45 kg
179 lb.

Kellogg's Corn Flakes
675 g, Honey Rice Krispies 400 g, Crispix 350 g, Rice Krispies Squares 176 g or Nutri-Grain Bars 295 g
199

Astro Cottage Cheese
From the Deli
1.10 /100 g
499 lb.

Christmas Rose Grapes
Product of U.S.A.
No. 1 Grade, 3.29 kg
149 lb.

Single Chuck Steaks
Glatt Kosher Beef
9.90 kg
449 lb.

Alpine Hot Chocolate
500 g tin
169

Double Rye Bread
From The Bakery
850 g loaf
199

Bar Cakes
From the Bakery
350 - 400 g pkg.
299

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, OCT. 26 UNTIL SATURDAY, NOV. 1, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd from page 20]

BOOK DISCUSSION
Older feminists share views and ideas about *My Father's House* by **Sylvia Fraser**, 2 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. Female discussion group is sponsored by North York chapter, Older Women's Network. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

JEWISH STORYTELLING
At Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m., hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. All welcome to listen and tell. $3. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

Monday, Nov. 3

RABBI BULKA LECTURE
Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Ottawa speaks on Going to the "Wall" Over Tolerance: Israel's Responsibility for World Jewry, 8 p.m., Adath Israel Congregation.

ABOUT DIABETES
Canadian Diabetes Association, Jewish diabetes chapter meeting, Health Care Restructuring: Where Do We Go From Here?, speaker **Lorne Zion**, Metro Toronto District Health Council, 8 p.m. Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

Tuesday, Nov. 4

PARLEZ-VOUS FRANÇAIS?
Une Loge du B'nai Brith de langue française se réunit tous les premiers mardis de chaque mois. Cette réunion aura lieu au 15 Hove. St., 8 p.m. Le sujet est La Persécution des Juifs en France en 1942. 255-6086.

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES
Rabbi Moshe Stern's fall lecture series starts off with Astrology: Is it permissible to believe in and consult astrologers? 8 p.m. Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. For men and women.

INTERMARRIAGE
Beth Tikvah Synagogue's series on Intermarriage and Interdating continues with discussion by educator **Gary Levine** geared to young adults and a film *When Love Meets Tradition*, 8 p.m.

KOSHER COOKING
Kashruth Council of Toronto Kosher Cooking School features Gourmet Entertaining on a Budget, 8 p.m. Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. 635-9550.

CHUG TANACH
Meeting 8 p.m. at Finch Associated Library. **Irving Matlow** leads in discussing Chapters 4 and 5 in the Book of Amos.

Wednesday, Nov. 5

AISH HATORAH
Aish Hatorah lecture, Our Roots: Jewish Psyche– the Unique Character of the Jew, 8 p.m., 949 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

ROMANIAN BB LODGE
Romanian-speaking B'nai Brith Dr. Filderman Lodge meeting, 6:30 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. **Herman Nanu** speaks on The Future of the Written Book: Facing the New Technology. 631-0634.

SEX AND LOVE
Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich discusses Sex and Love, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue.

Thursday, Nov. 6

ONE FAMILY: TWO HOMES
Jewish Family & Child Service three-part series for families and children experiencing divorce/separation presents Overview of New Family Law Legislation with a lawyer from Epstein/Cole. Call **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

And What Else Is New

SIYUM HATORAH
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Siyum Hatorah Celebration Weekend honoring **Rabbi Joseph Kelman** in recognition of 38 years of dedicated service to the synagogue and the community, Shabbat, Nov. 1, services. Guest **Rabbi David G. Roskies**, guest **Cantor Moshe Shulhoff.**
Sunday, Nov. 2, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. events include: Parade, Torah competition ceremony, mini Torah fest, tours of *The Mission* mural, special dedication ceremony featuring Shulhoff. 633-3838.

LE BAL MASQUE
Be part of the team that puts together the Israel Cancer research Fund's Le Bal Masqué. Get involved, meet new friends, make a difference. Opening meeting at Just Your Affair Banquet Hall, 1111A Finch Ave. W., Tuesday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m. **Nancy** 783-9980.

JEWISH STUDENT ARTISTS
Jewish Campus Services is planning a Jewish Students' Arts Festival for early March. The committee is looking for submissions of original visual art, music, drama, dance and film on the theme Discovering Our Jewish Identity. Deadline Dec. 1. 661-8925 or visit your nearest JSF, JSU or Hillel.

AMBULANCE COURSES
Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Adult Education and Young Families present St. John's Ambulance courses starting November. They include Infant and Child First Aid and CPR, a babysitting course (ages 11 plus) and Adult Heart Saver. Register. **Rhonda** 905-731-9441.

ATTENTION CAREGIVERS!
Volunteer at-home respite care is available for full-time caregivers, 55 years and older through the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. **Paula Mintzberg** or **Ruth Cohen** 225-2112.

STUDIO ART SALE
Toronto artist **Tutzi Haspel-Seguin's** annual studio art sale this weekend, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., 43 Camberwell Rd. Part of proceeds go to charity. 783-0781.

HEBREW CLASSES
Conversational Hebrew classes (ulpan method) with **Yael Lev**, daytime and evening, all levels, at Associated Hebrew School, Beth Tikvah and Kehillat Shaarei Synagogues. **Yael** 225-6151.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Chaplaincy Services needs caring, compassionate volunteers to visit Jewish seniors in nursing homes throughout Metro. **Toby Maskowitz**, Chaplaincy coordinator, 638-7800, ext. 287.

LIVIN' IN A SHOE
Recording artists **Judy & David** celebrate the release of their new album, *Livin' In a Shoe,* with a family concert Nov. 23, 1:30 and 4:30 p.m.at Vaughan City Playhouse, Bathurst south of Hwy. 7. Concert features All Together Now Band and a special kids choir. Proceeds to benefit Adoption Council of Ontario. 905-709-4057.

DOWNTOWN COURSES
Downtown Jewish Community Council courses: Two-day Hebrew marathon Sundays, Nov. 9 and 16; Intermediate Hebrew; Jewish Meditation: Classic and Contemporary Perspectives; Modern Judaism; Living Judaism. **Cheryl Wetstein** 924-6211.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups: Positive Parenting begins week of Nov. 3; Self Confident Woman begins Nov. 3; Single Again begins Nov. 5; Bereavement Groups begin Nov. 6. **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

CRESTVIEW TINY TOTS
North York Parks and Recreation ongoing tiny tots program for children ages 2½ to 4½, Monday to Friday, 9-11:30 a.m., fall, winter and spring, Don Mills/Finch area. **Maxine** 494-4115 or **Giselle** 490-1209.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tzedec Seniors Haverim presents **Harold Troper**, co-author of *None is Too Many* , discussing From Second to First: Thoughts on the History of the Toronto Jewish Community, Monday, Nov. 3, 1:30 p.m., Hurwich Board Room. Nominal charge.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: Nov. 3, *Mr. Holland's Opus*; Nov. 10, opening musical luncheon, 12:30 p.m., entertainers **Ivory** and **Silver,** art exhibit of works by club members. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Nov. 4, seminar on ABCs of Fraud; Nov. 5, shopping in Buffalo; Nov. 19, Square One Shopping Centre; Dec. 3, *Showboat* matinee; Dec. 17, Casino Rama; activities – table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork shop, trips day and night. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays, 15 Hove St. Nov. 6, lecture, European Jewry 1939-46 by **Heini Bornstein**, delegate from Israel. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trip 1998, **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.
The video *Nasty Girl* , about a small town in Germany that has big secrets it wants to keep secret, Thursday, Nov. 3, 1:30 p.m. Facilitator **Bernie Farber**, Canadian Jewish Congress. Students from Newtonbrook Secondary School will attend.
Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, singalongs, dances, bingo. Lecture by **Heini Bornstein** Nov. 4. **Anna.**

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.
Gala premiere opening of **Simcha Jacobovici's** film, *Hollywoodism: Jew, Movies and the American Dream,* Nov. 24, Princess of Wales Theatre. Patron tickets $180, regular seats $36.
Israeli folkdancing with **Yossi Straub** Monday evenings. Beginners 8:15-9, Intermediate Level 1, 9-10. Yossi 661-6361.
Bloor JCC Seniors Club: Thursday, Nov. 6, 2 p.m., Wallin Lounge, **Jackie Kott** of Mazon Canada speaks on Hunger and Poverty in Canada – The Jewish Value of Tzedakah. **Judy.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.
Senior Adult Services presents No Fun Falling, the prevention and problems of falling, with **Thorne Eric Fredrikson** Tuesday, Nov. 4, 1-2:30 p.m. **Yvonne** ext. 259.
Young Einstein's computer courses for adults and children. ext. 378.
Special needs programs – social, physical and recreational programs for children, teens, adults with developmental and/or physical disabilities. **Patricia Trojman** ext. 205.

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Information visits & tours for parents interested in registering their children in our

NURSERY AND/OR KINDERGARTENS FOR 1998/9

Wednesday, November 12	**Danilack Centre (Leslie)**	**at 9:30 a.m.**
Thursday, November 13	***for* Posluns Centre (Neptune) *at* Hurwich Centre (Finch)**	**at 9:30 a.m.**
Tuesday, November 18	**Kamin Centre (Thornhill)**	**at 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.**

Please call the Bet Hayeled office at **(905) 889-3998, ext. 2** *to reserve a place on one of the above tours.*

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18 Neptune Drive

Tour at Hurwich Education Centre
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Kamin Education Centre
300 Atkinson Ave. • (905) 889-3998, ext. 2

בס"ד

MIZRACHI
416-630-9266

To initiate our celebration of Medinat Yisrael's fiftieth anniversary year, the **Mizrachi Organization of Canada** proudly invites the entire Jewish community to participate in:

MIZRACHI ISRAEL SHABBAT

On Shabbatot פרשיות לך לך and וירא (November 8 & 15) special guests will deliver a talk on **"TORAH IN ISRAEL: THE NEXT FIFTY YEARS"**. In addition, a festive kiddush will be offered at each of the following participating Synagogues:

DATE	SYNAGOGUE	SPEAKER
Nov. 8	Congregation B'nai Torah	Rabbi Dr. Bernard Rosenzweig, New York
Nov. 8	Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto	Rabbi Menachem Gopin, Toronto
Nov. 8	Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz	Rabbi Elliot Feldman, Toronto
Nov. 8	Kehillat Shaarei Torah	Rabbi Dr. Martin Lockshin, Toronto
Nov. 8	Associated at Finch	Rabbi Marvin Pachino, Toronto
Nov. 8	Associated at Atkinson	Rabbi Ronald Weiss, Toronto
Nov. 8	Emunah Shleima Congregation	Rabbi Dr. Leo Davids, Toronto
Nov. 8	Torah V'Avodah/Mizrachi Bayit	Rabbi Benjamin Hecht, Toronto
Nov. 8	Cong. Shaarei Tefillah	Rabbi Mel Granatstein, Cleveland
Nov. 15	The Village Shul	Rabbi Dr. David Aronson, Toronto
Nov. 15	Clanton Park Synagogue	Rabbi Yosef Blau, New York
Nov. 15	Cong. Shaarei Shomayim	Rabbi Joshua Shmidman, Montreal
Nov. 15	Shomer Shabbos Congregation	Rabbi Dr. Moshe Yeres, Toronto
Nov. 15	Magen David Congregation	Rabbi Marvin Pritzker, Toronto
Nov. 15	Yeshivat Or Chaim	Rabbi Roni Barnea, Israel
Nov. 15	Cong. Adas Israel, Hamilton	Rabbi Dr. Martin Lockshin, Toronto
Nov. 15	Sephardic Kehilla Centre, Thornhill	Rabbi David Algaze, New York
Nov. 15	Torath Emeth Congregation	Rabbi Yitzchak Feigenbaum, Toronto
Nov. 15	Kielcer Congregation	Rabbi Benjamin Hecht, Toronto
Nov. 15	Ohr Somayach, Thornhill	Rabbi Menachem Gopin, Toronto

We urge the entire Jewish community to paticipate in this very special program.

Jerry Rosenfield, *Chairman*
Mizrachi 50th Anniversary Activities

Dr. Leo Davids, *Chairman*
Mizrachi Israel Shabbat

Paul Brown
Toronto President

Jack Kahn
National President

Exodus survivors to help open event

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Organizers are busy putting final touches to the community's 17th annual Holocaust Education Week, which this year promises to be the most extensive ever.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

The 10-day event will feature over 70 programs, dozens of speakers, and an unprecedented response from Metro churches. More than 20 Toronto-area churches will be hosting films, events and discussion groups, with help from Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto.

One of them will be a discussion of racism in the Canadian armed forces (Nov. 6 at St. Gabriel Roman Catholic Church) — especially timely given recent events surrounding the Somalia inquiry.

Holocaust Education Week gets underway Oct. 30 at the Leah Posluns Theatre, where at least eight local survivors of the *Exodus*, the famed ship that attempted to bring Holocaust survivors to Palestine in 1947, will gather to mark the 50th anniversary of the vessel's fabled but ill-fated voyage.

Guest speaker from New York will be Nat Nadler, who served on the ship's crew, as well as Prof. Meir Schwartz from Israel, a former Haganah commander who accompanied the passengers to Palestine, and to France after British authorities turned the *Exodus* away.

Howard Driman, who chairs the week, says more libraries and churches are participating than ever before. The week, he adds, is the only event of its kind, probably in the world.

Plenty of high-profile speakers will appear. Sir Martin Gilbert, one of the world's foremost chroniclers of the Holocaust, will speak Saturday night, Nov. 1 at the Bloor JCC. On the night before, at the Beaches Hebrew Institute (109 Kenilworth Ave.), three Metro-area men depicted in Gilbert's book *The Boys* will recount their experiences. The three were among 732 teenaged survivors of the Holocaust taken in by Britain after liberation.

On Nov. 2, Prof. Alain Goldschlager, director of the Holocaust Literature Research Institute at the University of Western Ontario, will be joined for a discussion by five area survivors who have recently published their memoirs.

Also on Nov. 2, Heini Bornstein a Swiss-born lecturer now living in Israel, will discuss Switzerland's official wartime neutrality and the current scandal over seized bank assets of Holocaust victims (15 Hove St., Downsview).

Driman says other highlights will include:

• Shlomo Perel, a Tel Aviv businessman who served as the inspiration for the award-winning film *Europa Europa*, will appear at Shaar Shalom Synagogue (2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill) on Nov. 3. Beginning at age 14, Perel posed as an ethnic German and found refuge at an elite Hitler Youth school.

• Eva Mozes Kor, who survived the sadistic medical experiments on twins by Josef Mengele, will speak at Pride of Israel Synagogue (59 Lissom Cres.) on Nov. 5. Mozes, founder of CANDLES (Children of Auschwitz Nazi Deadly Laboratory Experiments Survivors) will discuss how she achieved her own personal liberation: by forgiving the Nazis. Appropriately, the program is entitled Forgive Your Worst Enemy: It Will Heal Your Soul and Set You Free.

• Dr. Ekkehard Klausa, director of the Museum of German Resistance in Berlin, will discuss why, 10 years after it was conceived, a monument to Holocaust victims in Berlin remains unbuilt. (Goethe Institute, 163 King St. W. on Nov. 5).

• Dr. Eva Fogelman, a psychotherapist from New York, will discuss what motivated otherwise ordinary Christians to rescue thousands of Jews during the Holocaust. (Nov. 6 at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave.).

• Samuel Aroni, an architecture professor at UCLA and one of the few survivors of the Kishinev ghetto, will describe the pre-war Jewish communities in Kishinev and Bessarabia (Beth Habonim Congregation, 5 Glen Park Ave. on Nov. 9).

Dozens of other lectures, film screenings, exhibits, a Torah dedication and even a dance recital will round out the program.

A post-week program will feature an address by Eli Rosenbaum, director of the U.S. Office of Special Investigations, which prosecutes alleged Nazi war criminals in the United States (Nov. 13, Sheraton Centre).

Organizers are already setting their sights on next year, when Holocaust Education Week will mark the 60th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the night in 1938 when Nazi thugs pillaged Jewish homes, shops and synagogues across Germany, spelling the beginning of the end for European Jewry.

For other details, call 416-631-5689.

UIA northern reflections

Canada Makes Its Mark

From the rugged terrain of the Lebanese border to the Galilee's soft hills, Canada's imprint is clearly visible across northern Israel.

United Israel Appeal, funded by local UJA/CJA campaigns, has sponsored more than 30 projects and dozens of services for residents of the north – among them – the Canada Centre recreation complex in Metulla; the Granovsky Auditorium and the Fuchs Community Centre in Kiryat Shmona.

The community centre, built by Vancouver's Arthur Fuchs, is an educational, social and recreational outlet for adults and children. Since 1990, theatre groups, dance troupes, musicians and other international entertainers have performed in the 700 seat Granovsky Auditorium, financed by the late Phil Granovsky and his wife Shirley from Toronto.

UIA has also guided northern moshavim and kibbutzim through restructuring, to prepare for the future, and helped to upgrade the northern region's education system.

"These facilities minimize the gap between Israelis living in this remote region and those living in more central locations such as Tel Aviv and Jerusalem," explains Amnon Shinar, Director of UIA Canada in Israel.

Physical structures are only part of the strong Canadian connection. Northern Israel is, after all, along the confrontation line – the target, from time to time, of katyusha rockets raining down from Lebanon. Last year, during Operation Grapes of Wrath, when katyushas struck cities and towns in the north, UIA Canada representatives traveled to the area to provide moral support, VCR's, cassettes and musical entertainment for residents restricted to bomb shelters. UJA Federation Prime Minister's Mission participants from Toronto traveled to Kiryat Shmona, Mevo'ot HaHermon and Metulla, lifting spirits along the way.

Our most important objective," says Shinar, "is to strengthen the northern population and help them cope during times of tension."

Looking ahead, Shinar is excited about "building living bridges between the people of the north and their Canadian partners." In July, teachers from Winnipeg, Ottawa, Calgary and Vancouver, visited northern Israel for an educators conference. The second stage of the exchange will take place in March 1998, when an Israeli contingent comes to Canada to share ideas on subjects such as curriculum development and teacher training.

"This is only the beginning," promises Shinar. "Israelis of the north are deeply committed to the concept of partnership. They intend to give back no less than they received."

Partnerships Maintain Ties

Personal contacts are strengthening the bonds between Canada and northern Israel.

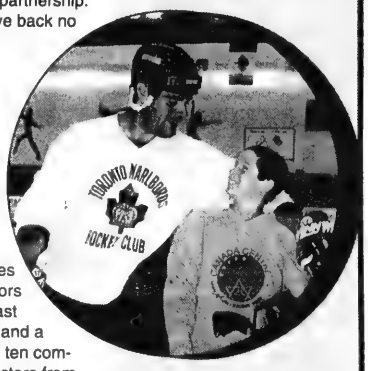
Last summer, UIA sponsored the first hockey camp for teenagers at Canada Centre in Metulla. Fifteen Canadians and thirty-two Israelis participated in the program run by former Toronto Maple Leaf coach Roger Neilson. In addition to spending plenty of time on the ice, the group also toured the Gallilee and Jerusalem.

"The camp was a great success," reports Amnon Shinar, Director of UIA Canada in Israel. "We could have had many more participants but we had limited space."

The Kefiada program for young adults, co-sponsored by UIA and the Canada Israel Experience Centre, now in its third year, is also growing in popularity. One hundred university age Canadians spent six weeks working in UIA sponsored summer camps across Israel. "More than 25% of Kefiada participants end up going back each year," notes Adam Minsky, National Education Director for the Canada Israel Experience Centre. "Living with Israeli families really gives them a sense of community and belonging few other programs offer."

Other "people to people" initiatives include an educators conference held last July in Jerusalem and a visit to Canada by ten community centre directors from northern Israel last spring.

"Now that we have accomplished so much in the way of improved infrastructure and social welfare," explains Shinar, "it's time to focus on people."



Canada Centre: Friendship Over The Border

While diplomats and dignitaries painstakingly maneuver to achieve lasting peace between Israel and her neighbours, Metulla's Canada Centre in Israel's most northern community has been successfully promoting peaceful coexistence for years.

In addition to the 5,000 Metulla residents who have made the Canada Centre sports and recreation facility their second home since it was built in 1989, thousands of Lebanese cross through the Good Fence every year to enjoy its modern amenities and innovative programs.

"Our neighbours from Lebanon have been using Canada Centre for many years," explains Metulla Mayor Yossi Goldberg, whose name has become synonymous with the project.

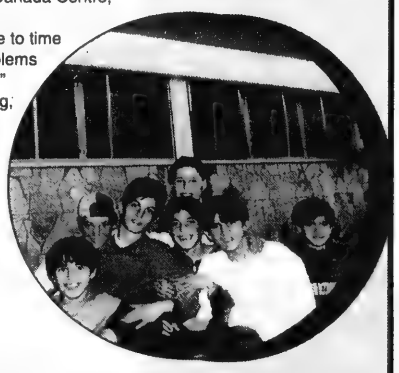
Canada Centre, known as UIA's flagship development in the area, was built with funds raised by Canadian Jewish community campaigns. Since 1976, Israeli children, together with more than 1,000 Christian and Muslim youngsters from south Lebanon, have been celebrating the New Year at Canada Centre.

"Kids are kids, no matter where they come from," says Goldberg. "We all want to do the best we can for them."

Each day, more than 1,600 Lebanese come to work in Metulla and the surrounding area. After bombing raids a year and a half ago, Lebanese workers helped to clean up the debris left by fallen Katyusha rockets.

"When people talk about Metulla they inevitably talk about Canada Centre," boasts Goldberg. "Even Israelis from as far south as Eilat have ventured the length of the country to see for themselves an Olympic size skating rink." In fact, 250,000 Israelis visit Canada Centre, each year.

"From time to time we have problems at the border," says Goldberg, "but on a day to day basis, life is good here in Metulla and Canada Centre has a lot to do with that."



UIA northern reflections, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored by UIA of Canada.

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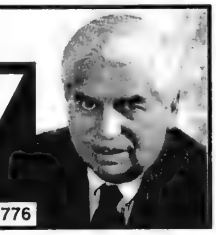

Beth Tikvah Synagogue
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SEARCH FOR SPIRITUALITY

Michael Enright, host of CBC's "This Morning" and former host of "As It Happens" brings his formidable interviewing skills to Beth Tikvah. Mr. Enright will host a series of four interviews with people whose approaches to Judaism and Jewish Life offer unique insights into the scope of choices facing each of us as Jews.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6
GUEST: **Rabbi Alan Lew**, Former Buddhist -- now a prominant Conservative Rabbi in San Francisco and president of the Board of Rabbis in northern California

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13
GUEST: **Eva Goldfinger**, Spiritual Leader of the Toronto Congregation ORAYNU for Secular Humanist Judaism

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20
GUEST: **Dr. Elliott Malamet**, Jewish Educator and CHAT faculty member

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27
GUEST: **Simcha Jacobovici**, Award winning film-maker and founder of Toronto's new east end Beth Joseph Congregation

ALL FOUR EVENINGS BEGIN AT 8:00 P.M.

Seniors help fight elder abuse

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – Their names never appear in lights and they have never won an Oscar, but they act with a fire that burns within.

They are the Awareness Players of Bernard Betel Centre and they have performed hundreds of times in churches, synagogues, hospitals, universities, high schools and private homes all over greater Toronto and York Region. Most of their audiences are non-Jewish.

Their message is simple: Seek out elder abuse, whether it is physical, emotional or financial, and wipe it out.

Their fame is such that they have been invited to the Timiskaming First Nations Reserve in Quebec, 500 kilometres north of Toronto, an invitation initiated by Evelyn Rabkin, one of the players.

"It was a great cross-cultural event," said Sheila Zane, coordinator.

The 20-member Players, all volunteers, are so popular that they are booked solid and other audiences are waiting.

Zane thinks they are winning the battle against elder abuse, citing their several dozen appearances in Metro high schools.

In fact, two high school OAC students, Neda Moaddeli and Kate Wanger, of W.L. Mackenie King Collegiate, helped write *Caught in the Middle*, a play involving three generations, which often ends up with a student called in from the audience to play the daughter's part.

But in other places, Reta Duenish-Turner, 70, who experienced physical and psychological abuse herself in three marriages, plays a 15-year-old.

Improvisation is the watchword for the Awareness Players who can fold up their props to fit in the trunk of Zane's car.

"Our members feel their roles so intently that Fay Levy, who acts as the mean mother, was stopped after it was over by a woman in the audience, who told her bitterly, 'You're a real witch!'" said Donna Mingail, 71.

Years on the road have brought the troupe face to face with moments of high humor.

"We were at a nursing home once and noticed that the seniors were coming in and out of the hall as we performed," said Deunish-Turner. When we finished, the superintendent told us that only the deaf residents had come in because a fire alarm kept everyone else away."

One of their best days was at Sunnybrook Hospital, where doctors, nurses, police, social workers and other staff saw them put on *Pride and Joy* and *The Stepfather*, and took part in the discussion following. Another red letter day was their interaction with medical students at the University of Toronto.

In *Pride and Joy*, a kindly neighbor discovers that a mother has been physically abused and swindled out of her house by a son who threatens to move her into a basement apartment.

In *The Stepfather*, a well-meaning son and his wife find that his mother's money is being wagered at the track by the stepfather who has obtained power of attorney.

All the plays are open-ended and the performers remain in character to answer questions, even if it means giving a wrong answer.

"Now that we've told you what it's about, go and do something about it. That's our message," said Mingail.

From left: Frances Halpern, Betty Dawson and Diana Mingail. [Papa Joe photo]

Life and Legacy
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3080 Bayview Ave., (416) 221-3433

Admission $5.00
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Program includes:

- lecture by Marla Frankel of the Melton Center for Jewish Education in the Diaspora at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- video tribute to Nehama's teachings from Toronto educators
- study session illuminating Nehama's inspiring Torah study methods

Event sponsored by Beth Tikvah Synagogue and the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University
http://www.webwise.on.ca/nehama.html

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The government of Israel recognizes sixteen branches of Christianity, but only one branch of Judaism.

Orthodoxy.

As ironic as it seems, Christians living in Israel have more freedom to choose how to live a religious life than Jews. From the vantage point of Christianity, the diversity of state-recognized religious choices looks like the offerings on the winding alleys of a well-stocked shuk. There's Roman Catholic, Anglican, Baptist, Russian Orthodox, Greek Orthodox, and Armenian Orthodox, not to mention Ethiopian Orthodox. The list continues in a dizzying array.

But if you're Jewish, you'll find only one state-supported offering in this shuk, at stall after stall: Jewish Orthodoxy, albeit in several different versions. And while Orthodoxy is a good offering, which we all respect, it clearly isn't the only offering that satisfies the religious needs of the Jewish soul.

Just ask millions of practicing Jews who aren't Orthodox.

Today in Israel, those Jews cannot be married by a Conservative, Reform or Reconstructionist rabbi. Rabbis from these denominations have no legal right to officiate in this capacity. These same rabbis also have no right to perform conversions in the Jewish State. And even the conversions they perform in North America are now coming under scrutiny from the Orthodox establishment in Israel.

For a people who have endured religious persecution for centuries in so many countries, it is incomprehensible that they would deny religious freedom to their fellow Jews in a Jewish State.

And so is the fact that our ultra-Orthodox brothers and sisters in Israel are now demanding new laws to further limit the religious freedom of all those who are not practicing Orthodox Judaism in the Jewish State. Their aim is, in effect, to overturn key Supreme Court decisions that have begun to open the way for diverse expressions of Judaism in Israel. Laws like these will only encourage Israel's religious extremists, alienate hundreds of thousands of Israelis from Judaism, and drive a wedge between Diaspora Jews and Israel.

These laws strike at the core of fundamental civil rights upon which Israel's democracy is based, threatening the democratic nature of Israel's society. It is a concern for all of us.

The struggle for religious pluralism in Israel is a struggle for all concerned Jews everywhere in the world. That is why you should know about the New Israel Fund. The New Israel Fund is one of the most dynamic partnerships today between Israel and the Diaspora. In the 18 years since the Fund was established, it has taken the lead in support of democracy, pluralism, tolerance, and social justice in Israel. For further information on these issues, please contact us for our free brochure, "The Struggle for Pluralism and Religious Freedom."

Call us at (416) 781-4322. Fax us at (416) 781-7443. E-mail us at info@nif.org or visit our Website at www.nif.org.

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שישאר בינינו

גידי קורן וחברים

חג האופניים:

אם יום העצמאות הוא חג המנגלים, אז מה הוא חג האופניים? רמז למתקשים להשיב: לפי הלשכה לסטטיסטיקה לפני איזה חג עולות מכירות האופניים פי שבעה מאשר בכל זמן אחר לאורך השנה? כמובן, יום כיפור. בעוד המבוגרים הולכים לבית הכנסת/מסתגרים בביתם עם ספר טוב/הולכים לבקר חברים ברגל, הרי שכל ילדי ישראל על אופניים נהנים משליטתם המוחלטת בכבישים. הייתי בארץ כשבועיים וספגתי את אווירת החגים. מאוד בולט, בניגוד לשקט המוחלט של החג, הוא חוסר כמעט מוחלט של אינושהיא רוחניות או אינושהיא התרוממות רוח. וכך כותב אינתן הבר ב"ידיעות אחרונות": "ילד ישראלי ממוצע אינו יודע כמעט דבר וחצי דבר על יהדות. בבר המצווה הוא מתעניין במתנות שקיבל, ובחתונה- בציקים שעליו לפדות מחר בבוקר. ישראלים רבים חוגגים היום בר-מצווה ללא עליה לתורה, מתחתנים בקפריסין, ורואים טלית ותפילין לכל היותר ב"כנר על הגג" או בריקודי "שלום 96". ילד יהודי אמריקני רפורמי יודע את ברכת המזון על פה. ילד ישראלי לא יודע אפילו על קיומה." אני חייב להגדיש: הדברים אמורים רק לגבי ישראל החילונית. לגבי ישראליים חילוניים, ישראל של 1997 היא מקום אגרסיבי, כוחני, מין ניסיון להיות אמריקה, תוך הזנחה מאוד בולטת של איזשהוא שאר רוח. בעיתונים היומיים הממוסדים, עמוד אחרי פרשת השביע או החדשות, מופיעות מודעות סקס בוטות ששום עיתון ממוסד קנדי או אמריקני היה מעז לפרסם. בחו"ל יש לשם כך עיתוני שוליים, אבל בישראל אפילו "הארץ" מפרסם מודעות סקס

קצת פוליטיקה:

היום, שנה ומחצה אחרי בחירתו של נתניהו, ברור גם לאוהדיו ובודאי למתנגדיו שאין מקריות בהחלטותיו השגויות. מדובר בשורה בלתי נגמרת של פאשלות שנובעות משטחיות, משיקולים לא ענייניים, ומשחצנות. ההחלטה לפעול בירדן הידידותית חודש לפני הבחירות שמתנהלות שם, היא רק דוגמא אחת להמון דוגמאות אחרות שאינן חוצות אפילו את הים ושלא בהכרח מופיעות בעיתוני יום שישי. היו לישראל מנהיגים כאריזמטיים יותר ופחות, משכילים יותר ופחות, אבל דבר כזה עוד לא היה! וגרוע מכל: זה קורה לאחר ששונו סמכויותיו של ראש הממשלה והוא כמעט ואינו תלוי בקואליציה. קשה לתאר עד כמה נמוך המוראל של תושבי ישראל היהודים, ואין הכוונה דווקא למצביעי המערך הקלאסיים שמטבע העניין מרגישים שמחריבים את עולמם. במשאלים שנערכו לאחרונה עלה פי שלושה אחוז הישראלים ששוקלים להעתיק את מקום מגוריהם מישראל. ועכשיו העובדה המדהימה ביותר: לא נראה שלמרות כל הקלקולים הללו, והכיוון השלילי של המאורעות, היה נתניהו מפסיד את בחירות לו היו מתקיימות עכשיו! לשון אחרת: המאזן האנושי של מדינת ישראל השתנה בצורה כזו שיש רוב אוטומאטי לאנשים כמותו, או בלשון יותר מדויקת: יש רוב אוטומאטי שבשום אופן לא יתמוד במנהיג סוציאל דמוקרטי ליבראלי. עצוב.

על נאמנות כפולה:

כשהתברר שאנשי המוסד השתמשו בדרכונים קנדיים מזויפים נשאלתי האם יש לי בעיה אישית כאן. אמרתי שלא. אין ספק שאנשי ריגול בכל העולם משתמשים בדרכונים מזויפים , ואין הדבר מוצדק או לא מוצדק. כל זמן שקנדה עצמה לא השתתפה בעניין, ולא נתנה למוסד דרכונים קנדיים כשרים, מדובר בגניבת מסמכים ותו לא. מבחינת ישראל נראה הדבר מכוער, בזיוק באותה מידה לו היה מתברר שאנשי ריגול הולנדיים השתמשו בדרכונים מזויפים של איטליה. אין פה שאלה של "נאמנות כפולה" כי עוד לא נתקלתי בישראלי אחד החי בישראל שחשב שהצעד של המוסד היה מוצדק. ההערכות נעו בין רשלנות, טיפשות, ושיקול דעת שגוי ביותר. אבל שיישאר בינינו.

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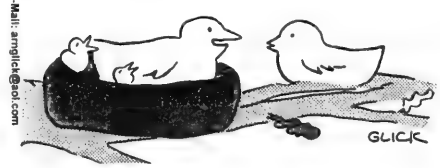

"I don't care whether or not my nest is fancy – so long as it has a nice haimische feeling."

Greater Toronto Area

Foster care often challenging but rewarding

By TERESA PITTMAN

When adults apply to become foster parents and care for children who need a temporary home, they expect that it will take some extra work and effort on their part. But foster care is really a family affair – it involves everyone in the household.

Guest Voices

Seventeen-year-old Matthew Goldstein of Willowdale, Ont., has been sharing his home and his parents with foster children for the past seven years. He knows first hand that being part of a foster family changes the lives of both the children and the adults.

The family doesn't run quite as smoothly, Matthew explains. "There are more speed bumps along the way. Being part of a foster family is not the easiest job in the world, but it definitely is rewarding."

Children come into foster care when they are not able to stay at home safely with their own families.

Often the local children's aid society has been working with the family for some time before the decision is made to find a foster home for the child. When they are placed in foster care, children may have been abused, neglected or abandoned, and many have behavior problems.

"That's why being patient is important," Matthew says. While the children may be "temperamental" at first, in his experience, "they eventually calm down and settle in and become part of the family."

The Goldstein family has provided temporary care for nine foster children ranging in age from preschoolers to teenagers. Each one has presented unique challenges, but Matthew says the children who shared his home have "given me a better understanding of different people and widened my view of life. When I was younger, I only knew what happened in my little neighborhood. Now I can see how different things are for some kids."

Matthew's compassion for the sometimes troubled kids who have been part of his family is obvious, but he is open and honest about the challenges of foster care.

One of the boys who lived with them, for example, had trouble making friends at first. Matthew was not impressed when his foster brother began following him around and trying to latch on to his friends.

"My friends didn't like it either," he says.

That problem was solved with some help from his parents and the social worker assigned to the family. The ongoing support provided to parents by Jewish Family & Child Service staff and through the Foster Parent Association is often critical in helping the foster family have a successful relationship with the child. Matthew adds that most of the time, "my friends think fostering is pretty cool. We have a little boy with us now who is six and my friends just love him."

How did the Goldstein family become foster parents? Matthew recalls: "They discussed it with me when they started thinking about it and then they went for training. I was invited to one night of the training, too, and had a chance to meet other kids whose families were already doing foster care. That helped me to be prepared."

Now that he is part of an experienced foster family, Matthew has been invited to speak to social workers and to the children in new foster families. His advice: "Don't think the foster children are stealing your parents from you or taking time from you. If your parents spend more time with your foster brother or sister than they do with you, it isn't because they love you less, it's because those kids need them more.

Almost all children who come into foster care will eventually go home to their parents and many foster families find that transition difficult. When you've had another person living in your home for some time and have learned to know and care for each other, it can be hard to say goodbye. Those goodbyes aren't always final though, and many former foster children will keep in touch with the families who helped them through a difficult period in their lives.

"Being part of a foster family has taught me a lot," says Matthew. "It's not always easy, but it's a good feeling to see a child who has had a tough time settle down and start doing better."

The recently held Foster Family Week in Ontario celebratedthe invaluable role of foster families such as the Goldsteins. If your family is interested in learning more about fostering, please call Selma Elzas at Jewish Family and Child Service, 638-7800 ext. 298.

Farber gets new position at Congress

TORONTO — Bernie Farber has been named acting executive director of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region.

Farber, national director of community relations for CJC, takes over the region from Manuel Prutschi, who resigned to become executive vice-president of the World Sephardic Educational Centre in Jerusalem, and the Sephardic Kehila Centre in Thornhill. He will be based in Toronto.

Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen said he and the region's executive are "looking forward to benefiting from Bernie's expertise in human rights, anti-racism and interfaith and inter-cultural dialogue."

The Ottawa-born Farber, 46, came to CJC in 1984 as director of community relations for Ontario. Since then, he has established a reputation for his knowledge of hate groups and cyber-hate, Holocaust denial and Nazi war criminals in Canada.

Bernie Farber

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Time of Your Life

Dolphin project part of Elderhostel program

By MARGOT C. ROSENBERG
Special to The CJN

Water temperature 28, wind speed 7, depth three metres. These were measurements I was calling out at the first sighting of a dolphin after the screams subsided: "There, at three o'clock! Two of them."

I was a dolphin researcher off the coast of Belize in the longest barrier reef in the Northern Hemisphere, second in size to the longest in the world — the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Australia. This reef is in the Caribbean where the water is clear, the coral formations fabulous and the fish population gorgeous.

The Belize dolphin research project is run by Oceanic Society Expeditions, based in San Francisco. The purpose is to study the behavior and distribution of bottlenose dolphins in the offshore caves of Belize and at Turneffe Atoll, a group of mangrove islands 56 km east of Belize.

I didn't know anything scientific about dolphins, and neither did most of the 14 other researchers on this project. We were all there as volunteers in an Elderhostel service program. The dolphin project is one of many service programs including archeological digs, helping build houses, working with youth, teaching English, maintaining trails, planting trees, and many more all over the world.

Our work was easy, pleasant and useful. Seven or eight of us went out in a boat, scanning the water for signs of the mammals. Upon a sighting we each had a job to do — taking latitude, longitude and other measurements and recording the data on charts. Our leader, Greg, a 25-year-old student working on his master's degree, stationed himself in the prow of the boat with a camera and telephoto lens, snapping pictures every time a dolphin leaped out of the water. He aimed at the dorsal fin, the identifying feature of each one. Sometimes he recognized dolphins he had seen before by the irregularities and shape of the fins.

It was very exciting to see these creatures arch out of the water, sometimes quite close to our boat. One swam beneath it a couple of times. We saw two mothers with babies and on one occasion some of us got into the water with the dolphins. Once we saw something unheard of — dolphins playing with manatees.

While one group went in the observation boat, the others went in another boat to snorkel. At noon we returned to our hotel for lunch and after a rest, switched roles. Helen a PhD student, led us on the snorkeling expeditions, each time to a different coral reef. Sometimes the outing included a stop at a little sandy island with one or more palm trees on it.

Helen pointed out the different kinds of fish and coral as we floated on the surface of the sea, peering down through our masks. We learned to recognize groupers, angel fish, jacks, barracuda and many more. My favorite was the juvenile yellowtail damselfish which were deep blue with fluorescent light-blue polka-dots. The larger, older ones turn brown and lose their vibrancy.

It was beautiful to watch Lundy, a native Belizean who ran the snorkel boat, dive. He didn't bother with a snorkel as he gracefully swam to the bottom, in some places about 40 feet below us, as he leisurely explored under coral formations for lobsters and other creatures. His main work is spear fishing and catching lobsters, but lobsters were out of season at this time.

The offshore islands, or cayes (pronounced keys) of Belize are made up of mangroves, bushy trees with no main trunk but many branchlike roots extending into the water. One of our snorkeling trips brought us to the edge of one of these islands where we saw fish swimming in and out among the mangrove roots. We were told that crocodiles lived in the inner part of the caves but I am happy to say we didn't meet any.

Our hotel, Spanish Bay Resort, was on a private island created out of a mangrove caye. The owner had the mangroves cut down and the spaces filled in with sand dug from the sea bottom by workers using shovels. There were a few coconut palms and other trees, but this was not a place of luxury or beauty. The cabins, each with its own bathroom, were built over the water. The windows were screened and we were lucky that there was enough breeze most of the time to keep mosquitoes away, but we all took chloroquine against malaria. The food was interesting, with unusually spiced rice and fish dishes.

Before dinner we met for talks by our leaders on what had been accomplished during the day, and about the ecology of the area. There was nothing to do at night.

Belize is a Central American country bordered by Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula on the north and Guatemala to the west. The country was called British Honduras until it gained its independence in 1981; there is still a British military presence there. The official language is English, although its mixed population speaks Spanish, Creole and various other languages and dialects. To the south are jungles, mountains and rivers, but I didn't get to that part.

Belize City is very shabby and unattractive, and getting mugged is a definite risk. People who own even the most modest of homes anywhere on the caves keep a watchman on the premises at all times for protection against theft.

Elderhostel trips are for people 55 years of age or older. Information on Elderhostel service programs and travel in the United States and internationally, is available from Elderhostel, 75 Federal St., Boston, MA 02110.

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Time of Your Life

Survivor's business an Open Window

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

In the spring of 1953, Max Feig arrived in Canada from Israel with $7 in his pocket. He and his wife, Rose, and their young daughters settled in Toronto to be near Rose's brother.

Feig, 76, a Czechoslovakian-born Holocaust survivor, initially worked as a bricklayer, a trade he had learned in Israel. But during the winter there was no work so he supplemented his income by selling bread door to door.

"That's how I got started," Feig, 76, told *The CJN*, in a recent interview at the headquarters of Open Window Bakery, the company he co-founded 40 years ago.

His office is housed in a 60,000-square-foot production centre that manufactures enough bread and baked good products to supply some 30 corporate and franchise stores and more than 350 independent retailers.

In 1957, Feig and three partners – two were bakers and two were drivers – pooled their resources to open a bakery on Bathurst Street just south of Wilson, he said. "Everybody had a few dollars." Two years later they launched a second store on Marlee Avenue.

In the early days the hours were long, Feig said. "I worked 20 hours a day, seven days a week. One day I worked two shifts. I fainted and they had to take me home."

Today the company, which started with a staff of six, has more than 250 employees, many of whom have been with Open Window for more than 25 years and some for as long as 40 years.

Initially Feig concentrated on expanding bakery routes, hiring new drivers as he added the new routes, he said.

In 1982, the company purchased Health Bread's nine stores and two years later Feig bought out his partners. As president and CEO of Open Window Bakery, he continues to head the company, while his daughter Gail Agasis, vice-president and managing director, runs day-to-day operations.

The wall of Feig's second floor office is decorated with plaques, awarded to him by B'nai Brith, Baycrest Geriatric Centre and other charities for his fundraising efforts over the years. Last year, he was the 1996 recipient of North York's Business Excellence Award.

On a tour of the baking facilities, Feig pointed out some of the factory's technological advances such as the 120-foot-long conveyer oven tunnel from Israel, which operate 24 hours a day.

He stressed he only uses hi-tech equipment as long as the quality of the product is not hampered. Greeting a woman who spends eight hours a day cutting onions, he said. "It would be cheaper to buy the onions already cut but we only use the freshest ingredients."

Feig said he never dreamt that business would grow as large as it did, but then again he never imagined that he would survive the war.

He was taken by the Nazis in 1942 and became a slave laborer loading trains and driving locomotives at a Yugoslavian copper mine. "I was lucky I got a good job as a driver."

In 1945 when the Americans began closing in, he and some 4,000 prisoners were forced to march to Germany, but only about 200 survived the brutal trek, he said. "The Nazis shot people for trying to take a drink."

He survived because he was strong and because he was lucky, he said. He spent the remainder of the war in three different concentration camps, contracting typhus just weeks before he was liberated by the Americans.

His parents and three siblings perished during the war. Feig returned to Czechoslovakia after the war where he reconnected with his cousin Rose. They married in 1945 and have three daughters.

Feig has built the business that now employs his daughter, granddaughter and nephew, and he said he hopes the business will remain in the family for many generations to come.

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Changes in drug benefits

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

Too many seniors are unaware of the changes in their drug benefits, says pharmicist Norman Stern, a franchise-owner of Shoppers Drug Mart on Bathurst Street at Glencairn Avenue.

Until July 1996, says Stern, many drugs were provided to seniors at no cost. At that time, however, a new program was instituted and drug benefits became dependant on a senior's income.

As well, the government imposed a maximum three-month supply of medication, making it difficult for seniors leaving the country for an extended period of time.

The government has also eliminated many medications from their benefit listings and has eliminated the no substitution rule, says Stern. If someone insists on a name brand drug rather than the generic, he must pay the difference because the pharmacist dispenses the drug with the lowest-listed price for seniors.

"The government has not done a good job in explaining its seniors' drug program," says Stern. To understand their benefits, he suggests that seniors speak with their pharmacist.

He recommends obtaining medication from one pharmacy so the pharmacist can have it monitored. He also suggests that a family member or caregiver monitor dosages if the senior is apt to get confused.

Some patients see more than one doctor for the same complaint, says Stern, which can lead to too many prescriptions for similar drugs or drugs that have adverse effects when taken together.

Seniors also have a tendency, says Stern, to horde medication. "This can be dangerous, as medication can change composition over time. It should be discarded if the date has passed. Periodically, the medicine cabinet should be cleaned out."

Those who will be abroad more than 100 days should advise their pharmacist so he can make arrangements for their medication to be sent to them, says Stern.

Periodically, he advises, it is wise to bring in medication to the pharmacist for a review. "A few minutes with your pharmacist can save problems in the future."

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Sara Shefsky

Realtor, 87, keeps on working

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Sara Shefsky, who is 87 years old, just renewed her real estate licence.

Recently, Shefsky was feted at a tribute dinner party hosted by Paul Slavens Real Estate, where she has been an active agent for almost a quarter of a century.

She was presented with an achievement award for her "inspiration and dedication" and for her 38 successful years in real estate.

"I was thinking of leaving real estate," she told *The CJN*, "but Paul and my colleagues insisted that I stay – so I renewed my licence for another two years."

Although Shefsky has had more than her share of tragedies, the petite, cheerful and pragmatic octogenarian says, "If I stay at home, I think of my problems. That's why my work is like medicine to me – it's wonderful."

Born in Chmeilnick, Poland, she was eight years old when her family came to Canada. She attended Lansdowne Public School. She left to work in a shirt factory when she was 14, but attended the High School of Commerce at night. She married Sol Frieberg and they had two daughters, Adelle (Freeman) and Sandra (Rotman).

In 1959, Shefsky's husband, who did not want her to work, agreed that to help out financially, since their daughters were married, she could go into real estate.

Real estate agent Sara Shefsky

Tragedy struck when her husband died at 62 and her daughter Adelle died at 46 leaving three children. Shefsky says that when she was going through these difficult times, "Paul and the people in my office were very supportive – they have become my friends.

"I didn't go to a psychiatrist. I knew I had to fight my sadness because the kids needed me – I had to be strong for them."

Many years after her husband died, she met Morris Shefsky while shopping on Eglinton Avenue. They had known each other as teenagers, and then lost touch.

"I guess it was beshert that we should meet again and marry."

After 14 years of "being married to a wonderful man," four years ago her husband died. Once more, she picked herself up and threw herself into her work.

Reflecting on her long career in real estate, she says, "I didn't go to university, but I learned so much in real estate from the people I work with and from my clients; many of them have become my friends."

She says that real estate is "a tough business and you have to have a lot of patience and take a lot of disappointments – you have to love what you are doing."

Shefsky, who has teamed up with agent Edith Weiss, drives a car, but says that she does not go into the office every day any more, "although I keep in touch with my clients. Recently, people I sold a house to some 33 years ago called me to list that house and it was sold," she noted.

"I have a full life," she says. "I think it is great when I can spend time with my four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

"When I went into real estate, I worked very hard and it has paid off."

Legislation will affect tenants

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

The lifting of rent control on vacant apartments, as envisioned in new Ontario legislation, will put enormous pressure on tenants.

Under Bill 96, vacancy decontrol will mean that landlords can harass tenants into moving, said Howard Tessler, executive director of the Federation of Metro Tenants Associations.

Tessler said he knows of a 90-year-old woman whose landlord shows up at her door on the first day of each month asking when she intends to move. "To a lawyer and a judge that's not harassment. She has lived in that building for 27 years and lost her husband four years ago. She always paid her rent on time. How long can she put up with that pressure?" he asked.

The new bill will be passed into law by the Harris government within weeks, or certainly "before the snow flies," Tessler told the Cranbrooke Friendship Club of the United Jewish Peoples Order. The audience was made up of seniors.

Landlords have won a major victory with Bill 96 and "clearly own the government," he said.

Vacancy decontrol has resulted in a tripling of evictions in New York City and a 52 per cent eviction increase in Boston.

He urged tenants to organize resistance to the bill.

Tenants who want to move into a larger or smaller apartment in the same building will face large increases in rent under vacancy decontrol.

"My aunt pays $900 a month for an apartment at Bathurst and Finch and faces an increase of $200 or $300 a month. She says, 'You can't draw blood from a stone,' but unfortunately, you can, because a stone has to settle somewhere," Tessler said.

Currently, tenants are not subject to increases until certain repairs are made. This protection will be considerably weakened under Bill 96, he said.

"Now it takes 56 days to throw out a tenant who doesn't pay the rent. The landlords want it done much faster."

Last year only 23 rental units were built in Toronto by private builders, even though 6,000 were needed. "The landlords say they need 20 per cent more in rents. But they make a return of 10 per cent which is more than other businesses make."

The number of evictions has increased 33 per cent since the Tories took over and instituted welfare cuts of 22 percent, and Tessler predicted a "green Christmas" in which homeless people will sleep in green garbage bags.

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Retiree continues lifelong work

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

Ralph Wintrob (left) set up a library at Netivot Hatorah Day School.

For Ralph Wintrob, retirement has been a time to continue his lifelong work as an educator and hone his many interests.

Wintrob says he looked forward to this time in his life. He retired two years ago as library consultant for the North York Board of Education. Since then, he has set up a library at the new Netivot Hatorah Day School.

As much as Wintrob loves his work with children, it is obvious that the children also love his dramatic interpretations. He says he is using many of the skills he accumulated throughout his life.

Wintrob graduated from the University of Toronto's honor arts program, majoring in philosophy, "because they didn't have a Jewish studies program in those days; so that was the closest I could get to it," he says. He also worked on the U of T's *Varsity* newspaper.

Following graduation, he decided to pursue a career in journalism and went to work for a daily newspaper in London, England.

In London, he met his wife-to-be Kitty Simmonds, a nursery school teacher.

Back in Toronto, he worked for the *Toronto Telegram* and became a news writer and editor at CBC, where he worked with Morley Safer, who was the best man at his wedding.

"I couldn't see any kind of stability in journalism and I realized that if I wanted any kind of a family life, I would have to change careers," he says.

He graduated from the Faculty of Education and got a teaching job in North York. "I got all fired up with the kinds of program activities a library can provide for a school and with the encouragement of the librarian, I returned to summer school and qualified as a school librarian."

After 25 years as a librarian, he again returned to school and received a master's degree in teaching library science and in 1986, he became the library consultant to all North York schools.

He says he developed his dramatic skills as a member of the Temple Players under the direction of Basya Hunter at the Holy Blossom Temple. "The skills I learned in drama and literature with Basya, I use in my work at the library."

Wintrob says that when he left his position at North York, "I knew I had to fill a gap."

North York was a founding sponsor of the Life Institute at Ryerson University; so he joined the seniors' group and became active in their programs. He is currently co-chair of the institute's curriculum committee, which plans all courses and special programs.

Wintrob now volunteers half a day at the Netivot Hatorah library, coordinates the Jewish Theatre Committee of Toronto, moderates a course at the Life Institute and studies religious texts.

He is an active member of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, where he attends services daily.

But his most gratifying time, he says, is spent with his family, daughter Suzanne Wintrob, a journalist, and grandsons Kyle and Brett.

Wintrob says he has a big challenge – not to overschedule so that he can balance out his private and public life. "There is so much out there for seniors, you can get swamped.

Programs geared for survivors

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

With more and more Holocaust survivors coming to the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, programs have expanded and a new Holocaust department has been created for residents and for the community.

Many of the survivors at the centre are in their 80s and 90s and there is a need for resources and expertise.

Paula David, a senior social worker at the Baycrest Terrace was recently appointed as the Holocaust resource coordinator for the centre.

"Presently, almost half the residents are survivors," she says, "and the numbers are growing."

For the past seven years, David and other social workers and representatives from a number of departments have been counselling survivors, creating outreach programs and coordinating special Holocaust events.

"Our mandate is to coordinate our existing activities, provide staff training, develop awareness, create new programs and respond to the changing needs of survivors and their families," she says.

"We also deal with the second generation, with those who were younger when the war started or were born in the camps, and we work with children of survivors who were born here and who bear scars of their own. They all have different needs."

She notes that many survivors lost their entire families and have created extended families, usually other survivors who are also aging and can't help them. "They don't have as large a community or a history, which is very important when you get older."

More survivors are now talking about their horrific experiences. David attributes this to the popularity of the movie *Schindler's List*, 50th anniversary commemorations, the outraged response to Holocaust

[Cont'd. on page 33]

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Time of Your Life

Retired businesswoman now amateur photographer

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

May Karp, wife, mother, homemaker, businesswoman and volunteer, has embarked on a fulfilling adventure in photography. She recently retired from business and decided to pursue her lifelong love of the arts.

An exhibition of her photographs will be on display at the Moore Gallery from Oct. 19. Afterwards, Karp will donate the photos to the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

Karp's home was filled with music and art. Her father, Samuel Harris, was the manager of the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir, and famous opera singers were frequently guests in their home.

She worked as an office manager/bookkeeper while her husband Fred Karp went to university. Later, with their two children in school all day, she worked part time in her father's automotive materials business and began taking courses in design at the Ontario College of Art.

When her father retired, Karp left her job as a library technician at Lord Lansdowne Public School and bought his business. Although the automotive industry was a male dominated business, she gained respect from her male colleagues.

She notes that when women retire, it is only 50 percent retirement. "We still have the responsibility for the home."

Over the years, she volunteered on several committees at Baycrest where her husband served as president. On retirement, she accepted invitations to sit on additional committees.

Now that her husband, who was president and CEO of Speedy Muffler King, has retired, the Karps travel extensively.

She became intrigued with batiks while on a visit to Mexico and was successful with her self-taught craft, but decided to look for other activities after moving into an apartment, because, she says, batik making requires a great deal of space.

"Since I was always interested in architecture and design, four years ago, I began taking pictures in earnest," Karp says. "I got positive feedback from other photographers and people in the art field and a great deal of encouragement from my family and friends."

Some members of the art committee at Baycrest saw her photographs and were impressed.

"I was so pleased to learn that Baycrest wanted some of my photographs that to celebrate my 65th birthday, my husband suggested I prepare an exhibit of my work. With our long involvement with Baycrest, we decided to donate the photos to Baycrest.

Photographer May Karp

"I love to photograph things that speak to me, things that are unusual, pleasant and that evoke some emotion in me."

Her subjects include people, landscapes, flowers and scenes from the many countries she has visited.

"One of the nicest things about photographs, as it is with art, is that you don't just look when you are taking pictures – you see. You see things from many different perspectives and almost everything is interesting."

She says she has trouble selling her paintings or giving them away. "They become part of my thinking and my soul."

She says it is difficult to retire if you have had a busy life. "I believe it is important to have interests and hobbies that you can revisit after your retirement – it gives you a new direction in life and my hobby has become a large part of my life."

Poetry collection compiled by survivors of the Shoah

[Cont'd. from page 32]

deniers and numerous media presentations which have validated their experiences.

One of the projects undertaken by David was compiling and editing a hard cover book of poems by the Terrace Holocaust survivors' group. Although English is not the first language of the contributors, their poetic expression and use of wonderful phraseology make this an outstanding contribution to Holocaust understanding.

"Aging is a time in their life to look back, and survivors are looking back and trying to make sense out of something that is senseless," David says.

"Survivors couldn't understand and we didn't want to listen. But now our perspective has changed and even their grandchildren are listening."

The world, she continues, has never seen anything like this before and what we are learning can be helpful to us as well as to others who are experiencing atrocities and genocide.

"We did not realize the expertise we have developed here because of what our clients have taught us – it is an incredible mutual learning experience."

She says that the challenges of working with aging Holocaust survivors lie in maintaining the delicate balance between encouraging and supporting them when they share their stories and respecting their needs when they choose to remain silent.

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On Campus

Clark U offers Holocaust doctorate

By PETER EPHROSS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK – A tiny university in western Massachusetts will soon become the first school in the United States offering a doctoral degree in Holocaust history.

Clark University in Worcester, Mass., plans to begin offering courses for the degree next fall.

The program is the latest in a series of steps that Clark, which has a Jewish student population of 24 percent, has taken to establish itself as a pioneer in the field.

The process began two years ago, when the university hired Deborah Dwork to hold the Rose Chair in Holocaust Studies and Modern Jewish History and Culture.

But Dwork, who was then at Yale, wanted more than just a professorship – she told university officials that she wanted to create a centre for Holocaust studies. Within a few weeks, university President Richard Traina called her and began to discuss the idea in earnest.

The recently inaugurated Centre for Holocaust Studies offers an undergraduate concentration in Holocaust and genocide studies.

Dwork, who is the centre's director, said enrolments in these courses, which include Comparative Genocide and Jewish Child Life in Nazi Europe, have attracted both Jewish and non-Jewish undergraduates, including students from Korea and Bangladesh who have experienced political repression first hand.

The centre has also established a regular lecture series open to the public and a teacher training program on the Holocaust.

The university is currently raising approximately $20 million for the centre and interviewing for a second endowed professorship in Holocaust history.

"The Holocaust is a defining, pivotal event, not just in Jewish history, but in world history and therefore should be part of the educational canon," said Dwork, who wrote *Children With a Star: Jewish Youth in Nazi Europe* and co-authored *Auschwitz: 1270 to the Present.*

This is not the first time that Clark, which has approximately 2,700 students, has been an innovator in academia.

University pioneered many courses

Clark was a pioneer in courses in anthropology and psychology, and in more recent years, in women's studies programs. Its small size, said Dwork, allows it to make innovations more easily than in than larger institutions.

A Holocaust studies professorship at Harvard University, for example, has been mired in disputes over whether the Holocaust should be treated as a separate subject and over who should hold the chair.

Some critics have argued that establishing courses and programs in Holocaust studies reduces modern Jewish history to a few years when Jews were victims, thereby neglecting the rich history that Jews created in Europe and elsewhere.

Dwork disagreed with this, arguing that it should not be a choice of one or the other. "Let us have the study of the Holocaust and other studies of Jewish life and Jewish culture," she says.

The centre is being established at a time when Holocaust courses have been proliferating across the country, which Dwork attributes to the fact that more than 50 years have passed since the event.

"The further we get from the event, the less we can rely on survivors," she said. "People say, 'Never forget,' but the fear is they won't ever know what it is they're supposed to forget."

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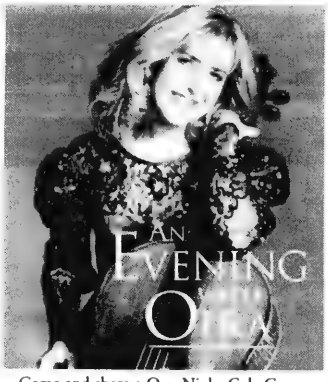

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From coast to coast

CJC-Q debates future within Congress

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — An emotional debate is taking place within Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) that could well result in the Quebec region (CJC-Q) moving its offices into a future Jewish community "campus" at FEDERATION CJA and in the CJC national office moving to Ottawa.

That appears to be the most likely scenario emerging as factions both within CJC-Q and between CJC-Q and the national body continue to engage in discussions over fundamental questions of process, power and independence.

The proposal to move CJC-Q came over the summer when officials from CJC-Q involved in its "strategic planning" process – chair Reisa Teitelbaum and vice-president Robert Rabinovitch – entered into talks, on a range of matters, with then FEDERATION CJA president Yoine Goldstein and vice-president Marilyn Blumer.

The discussions were initiated by CJC-Q to seek alternate sources of funding in light of a continually eroding budget. But it was the federation that first broached the subject of a possible move into its planned future structure.

Although there appears to be a consensus building towards the move, some members of the CJC-Q and national officers and executive – including president Goldie Hershon – have been questioning the "process" involved and whether CJC-Q could retain its autonomy once it moved into the federation facility.

Critics are also saying that they were presented with the proposal with only brief weeks to go before architectural plans had to be finalized for the expanded facility. The expansion, to be announced officially on Nov. 4, is tentatively set for completion by the fall of 1999.

In an attempt to resolve the situation a special committee has been formed comprising Hershon, former president Les Scheininger, Teitelbaum, former CJC-Q community relations chair Max Bernard and CJC national director Jack Silverstone.

As well, the CJC-Q executive committee will be meeting Oct. 31, and the national officers will convene Nov. 2 in Ottawa, in an effort to arrive at a consensus.

Supporters of the CJC-Q move to the federation, which include Teitelbaum and FEDERATION CJA president Stanley Plotnick, insist that CJC-Q will be given firm guarantees that CJC-Q will remain completely independent in terms of its governing structure, operations and political advocacy work.

The CJC-Q would also save at least the $110,000 it pays annually to the national CJC office as rent for the space it occupies at CJC headquarters in the Samuel Bronfman House at 1590 Dr. Penfield Ave.

Supporters of the move say this would allow the region to free up monies for additional staff, programming and other endeavors, while strengthening its financial viability in the face of budget cuts.

No legal basis to negotiate: Hershon

But as of this writing, those people with serious reservations about the proposal, including Hershon and chair of the CJC-Q executive, Dorothy Zalcman-Howard, still remained to be convinced that CJC-Q would be able to preserve its independence. They are worried about the implications for CJC-national.

Hershon also said that, based on her interpretation of the CJC bylaws, CJC-Q officials had no "legal basis" to "negotiate" a move into the federation building without consulting with the national body and that the ultimate decision rests with CJC-national. Teitelbaum disagrees with this view based on a contrary interpretation of the bylaws and on historical precedent.

One of the concerns raised over the proposed move of CJC-Q is that the relocation would force the national body to move to Ottawa since it alone could no longer afford to stay at Samuel Bronfman House.

Plotnick said that national CJC would be welcome to relocate to the federation with the Quebec region. But Hershon personally saw that as a "very questionable" scenario since the CJC national lobbying agenda is now mostly driven from Ottawa, the capital would be the more logical choice from which to operate if it could no longer afford to stay at Samuel Bronfman House.

The national office would, however, continue to maintain a "presence" in Montreal somewhere outside the Samuel Bronfman House, Hershon predicted.

In an interview with *The CJN*, Plotnick insisted that a CJC-Q move would be a "relocation" and nothing more.

The move, he said, would allow the Jewish community to centralize and reduce the cost of Jewish community and political advocacy work, create a better "synergy" and "tighten the relationship" between federation and CJC-Q, increase efficiency and allow CJC-Q to make use of the building's "tremendous number of support facilities."

"We're talking about relocation here, to where virtually all Jewish community services are located, the central focal point of Jewish [communal] service life in Montreal.

"I don't see how it's a challenge to its [CJC-Q's] independence.

"I don't see us as antagonists. I see us as a Jewish community that has to work together."

Moreover, he said, a relocation by CJC-Q to the federation building would allow representatives of the federation and CJC-Q to interact personally on a daily basis, and be part and parcel of the "integration of services" taking place within the Jewish community.

Plotnick confirmed the fact that negotiations are also underway with officials from the Communauté Sépharade du Québec (CSQ) to move to the federation building from its current premises.

Other supporters of the proposed move, such as CJC-Q's Teitelbaum and Rabinovitch, are suggesting that the era of looking at the federation as the "enemy" trying to take over CJC-Q is over.

Rabinovitch said the move has been necessitated by a drop in CJC-Q's programming budget from $90,000 to $20,000.

[Cont'd. on page 36]

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David Grossman, author of *The Yellow Wind*, and the *The ZigZag Kid* speaks on IMAGINING PEACE. Sponsored by Canadian Friends of Peace Now. $7

Sunday, November 9

10:30 am & 1:30 pm Renelle Kuntz, Jewish Book Fair's Official Puppeteer, presents THE LAND OF MILK AND HONEY. In Honour of Israel's 50th Anniversary. Ages 3-8. $1

11:00 am Nancy-Gay Rotstein, will read from her novel *Shattering Glass* and discuss WOMEN, CAREER AND FAMILY. Free

12 noon Meet the Authors-Morris Macarz, author of *Staying Ahead* and **Harry Pollock**, author of *Max*.

1:30 pm The Shlomo Steinhardt and Label Basman Memorial Lecture featuring **Zachary Baker**, Head Librarian, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, speaking in Yiddish and English on "VILNA REVISITED: A REPORT ON THE YIVO INSTITUTE'S EFFORTS TO RECOVER ITS PRE-WORLD WAR II ARCHIVES." Slide presentation. Sponsored by Cttee, for Yiddish, UJA/ Federation. Supported by Friends of Yiddish. $3

3:30 pm Prose and Poetry at the Cafe Kasrilevke by contributors to *Parchment* 1997-98, Canada's national journal of creative Jewish writing, featuring **Ken Sherman, Seymour Mayne, Murray Pomerance, Ruth Panofsky and Nathalie Stephens**. $3

5:00 pm Aurel Braun and Stephen Scheinberg, editors of *The Extreme Right* speak on FREEDOM AND SECURITY AT RISK. Sponsored by Oraynu-Community for Secular Humanist Judaism. $3

7:00 pm Launch of a travelling exhibit and book, *A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood*, by poet and curator, **Rafi Aaron**. The exhibit links poetry and photography in one artistic unit. Free

8:00 pm Helen Epstein, author of *Children of the Holocaust* and the bestselling *Where She Came From-A Daughter's Search for Her Mother's History* speaks on BRINGING THE PAST TO LIFE: THREE GENERATIONS OF REMARKABLE WOMEN. Sponsored by Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Toronto. $7

Monday, November 10

10:30 am Program for Children. Selection of videos and storytelling suitable for ages 6-9. Free

10:30 am Reva Nelson, author of *Risk It!* and *Bounce Back!* speaks on CREATING RESILIENCE FROM ADVERSITY. Free

1:30 pm Dr Vera Rabie-Azoory, author of *They Love You, They Love Me Not* speaks on THE TRUTH ABOUT THE FAMILY FAVOURITE AND SIBLING RIVALRY. $3

8:00 pm Professor Elaine Newton reads from books by women survivors including *Ruth's Journey* by Ruth Glasberg Gold; *And Peace Never Came* by Elisabeth M. Raab; *To Auschwitz and Back: My Personal Journey* by Ruth Bindefeld Neray; *Theresienstadt- The Town the Nazis Gave to the Jews* by Vera Schiff and *A Partisan's Memoir: Woman of the Holocaust* by Faye Schulman. Followed by question period with the authors. Sponsored by Na'amat Canada-Toronto. $5

Tuesday, November 11

11:00 am IN THE MONTH OF KISLEV by Nina Jaffe. Performed by Dr. Abraham Shore Academy-Shearim Hebrew Day School . Discussion follows. For K-Grade 8. $1

1:30 pm Yehuda Fine, author of *Times Square Rabbi -Finding the Hope in Lost Kids' Lives* speaks on HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE EMERGE FROM HELL AND PREVENTING THEIR REENTRY INTO IT. Sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women in Canada. $3

8:00 pm Rosalie Sharp, co-editor of *Growing Up Jewish-Canadians Tell Their Own Stories* introduces contributing writers **Rosalie Abella, Morley Torgov, Ben Kayfetz, Julia Koschitzky, Fred Weinberg, Beatrice Fischer, Martin Goldfarb, Shirley Granovsky**. Coffee. Sponsored by ORT Canada. $5

Wednesday, November 12

10:30 am School Program with Carol Matas, author of *The Garden. In Honour of Israel's 50th Anniversary.* Grades 5-8. Sponsored by Canadian Zionist Federation. $1

1:30 pm School Program with Carol Matas, author of *The Garden. In Honour of Israel's 50th Anniversary.* Grades 5-8 Sponsored by Canada-Israel Committee. $1.

6:30-7:30 pm Reception by Stoddart Publishing to launch *Dawn of the Promised Land- The Birth of Israel* by Ben Wicks. Open to the public- please join us.

8:00 pm Ben Wicks, author of *Dawn of the Promised Land* speaks on THE BIRTH OF ISRAEL. Sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada. $5

Thursday, November 13

10:30 am & 1:30 pm School program featuring **Jodi Miller** on *Brainteasers from Jewish Folklore* by Rosalind Charney Kaye. Grades 2-5.$1

10:30 am Eliakim Katz, author of *Old Age Comes at a Bad Times* speaks on WIT AND WISDOM FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART. Sponsored by Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living. Free

1:00 pm Mark Nagler Ph.D., *Yes You Can!* speaks on A GUIDE FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES. Free

1:30 pm Broadway's Jewish Roots- A MUSICAL EXCURSION by **Faye Kellerstein**. Accompanied by **Jordan Klapman**. Sponsored by Ont. Region, The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and Canadian Seaway Branch, Women's League for Conservative Judaism. $3

8:00 pm Isabel Vincent, author of *Hitler's Silent Partners* speaks on SWISS BANKS, NAZI GOLD AND THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE. Sponsored by Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Centre. $5

Friday, November 14

10:30 am Alvin Abram author of *The Light After the Dark* speaks on TRUE STORIES OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS with Eugene Katz. Sponsored by Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association. Free

Saturday, Nov. 15

8:00 pm THE MAN WHO CAPTURED EICHMANN. Painter, Poet, Soldier, Spy, **Peter Z. Malkin**, speaks on his book *Eichmann in My Hands*. With excerpts from Emmy nominated movie *The Man Who Captured Eichmann*, starring Robert Duvall. Sponsored by Canadian Society for Yad Vashem. $7

Sunday, November 16

10:30 am & 1:30 pm Renelle Kuntz, Jewish Book Fair's Official Puppeteer, presents THE LAND OF MILK AND HONEY. In Honour of Israel's 50th Anniversary. Ages 3-8. $1

11:00 am Panel Discussion by contributors to *Celebrating the Lives of Jewish Women-Patterns in a Feminist Sampler.* Featuring **Rachel Aber Schlesinger** (*From Generation to Generation*); **Sarah Taleb-Carlen** *(Wandering Jews: Lives Fractured by Geography)* and **Nora Gold** (*Pain and Healing, Sorrow and Hope*). Free

12 noon Brown bag lunch with **Ken Vegotsky**, author of *The Ultimate Power-222 Ways to Make Love*

2:00 pm Concert featuring Israeli clarinetists Roy Mezare and Guy Yehuda. Sponsored by du Maurier Arts and the Koffler Centre of the Arts. $5.

1:30 pm Concert Sponsored by du Maurier Arts and the Koffler Centre of the Arts. $3

3:30 pm Poetry Readings by poet **Shula Robin** and **Gladys Aaron** with musical interlude by **Eric Stein**. Sponsored by Canadian Friends of Ezrath Nashim-Herzog Hospital and Emunah Women of Toronto $3

4:00 pm Alan Davies and Marilyn F. Nefsky, co-authors of *How Silent Were the Churches?* speak on CANADIAN PROTESTANTISM AND THE JEWISH PLIGHT DURING THE NAZI ERA. Sponsored by Canadian Council of Christians and Jews and Christian-Jewish Dialogue of Toronto. $3

7:45 pm Phyllis Weinberg, author of *Yossi, the Boy who Wouldn't Speak Loshon Hora*, speaks on HAVE YOU HEARD THE LATEST GOSSIP? Sponsored by Aish HaTorah. $3

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JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO UJA

CJC-Q debates future in Congress

[Cont'd. from page 35]

Rabinovitch said even if the move did not result in a better fiscal position for CJC-Q, "we should still be close to the campus. That's where our constituency is and the physical connection is important.

"From a policy point of view, it is important to be located there. Sitting on Dr. Penfield Avenue is not a way to be representative of our community."

Teitelbaum believes that, "as to the issue of our autonomy, I believe the written guarantees being proposed...are an important step forward. Even today, we cannot and do not make decisions in isolation of the community institutions we purport to represent".

The move would also allow, "our program dollars to increase by one hundred percent, thereby making us somewhat less dependent on government grants in the pursuit of new projects, notably in the area of community relations."

Hershon said many issues remained to be clarified despite the federation guarantees of independence.

"We're political. We do different work," she said. "We can't necessarily do what we do under the federation banner. These things have to be clarified."

Plotnick noted that Quebec is the only Congress region in Canada where the CJC office is not yet located within the federation facility. He said CJC's Ontario region has retained its autonomy.

But Zalcman-Howard said the impact on CJC-national of relocating has to be among the many issues considered, because of the symbolic importance of its presence in Quebec.

"The fact that other communities have 'merged' is not enough," she said. "Our region is in a different situation than other regions across Canada and there are a lot of other complex issues that have to be thought through.

"Congress' autonomy with regard to advocacy has to be protected. It's very important that the historic and traditional mandate of CJC be respected."

Zalcman-Howard was not yet prepared to answer under what conditions she could support the proposed move. But she did say parties should be prepared to spend the necessary time – at least three months – to resolve all the issues.

Plotnick, meanwhile, remained convinced that relocating CJC-Q office while maintaining its autonomy would be in its best interest, as well as that of FEDERATION CJA and the Jewish community as a whole.

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL

Open Meeting of the Board of Directors of Mount Sinai Hospital

Thurs., Nov. 6, 1997
12 noon
Mount Sinai Hospital
600 University Avenue
Executive Board Room
Main Floor

To confirm attendance or to receive agenda and procedures, contact the Corporate Secretary at (416) 586-5082.

New book out on the Rebbe

By DAVID J. LITVAK

VANCOUVER — A new book, *Bringing Heaven Down to Earth,* presents 365 teachings of the late Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson.

For the most part, the book, published by Vancouver author Tzvi Freeman, contains Freeman's paraphrasing of the Rebbe's teachings, as well as some commentary and some quotations translated from Yiddish.

Rabbi Schneerson, who died June 12, 1994, was considered by his followers as one of the leading lights of our generation, a brilliant scholar and tzaddik.

Jews and non-Jews flocked to his home in Brooklyn to find a cure, to benefit from his advice, or to celebrate holidays and festive gatherings with him, according to Freeman.

"The Rebbe has a track record of a truly enlightened being who uplifted literally tens of thousands of people directly and many, many more indirectly."

Freeman himself was profoundly affected by the Rebbe and "studied in the yeshivahs of the Rebbe for nine years" (where he received his rabbinic ordination). The Rebbe, Freeman says "is a teacher for all people, no matter what their background or belief system is."

Wulfing von Rohr, who has translated the book into German and who is the author of over 50 books on metaphysics, concurs with Freeman's assessment that the Rebbe's teachings are relevant to both Jews and non-Jews.

"The Rebbe presents a wisdom and light which help every reader, Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Bhuddist or otherwise to open up to the Divine guiding force within each living being."

For further information about the book, visit the Web site at [members.aol.comzviF], phone 1-800-247-6553 or e-mail [order@bookmaster.com].

From coast to coast

TOTS IN THE SUKKAH

Junior kindergarten classmates at Torah Tots Preschool enjoy their sukkah made out of refrigerator cartons, corregated cardboard, and a lot of imagination. Seen [from left] four-year olds Nikki Altman, Jesse Smiley, Carly Holtzman and Lori-Elle Scheftz. [Photo courtesy Torah Tots Preschool]

Internet racism said not major threat

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Racist and ultra-right expression on the Internet is not the threat certain Jewish organizations have made it out to be. The number of proponents on line is only a couple of dozen at any given time, among the estimated 50 million users, says Matthew Friedman, author of the new book *Fuzzy Logic/Dispatches from the Information Revolution* (Vehicule Press).

The ultra-right gives the impression with its slick, elaborate Web sites that it is pervasive and well-organized, but that is far from the reality, contends Friedman, who argues vigorously against any government regulation of Internet communication and for online anti-racist activism among the users themselves.

"The neo-Nazi movement on the Internet is an iceberg inverted: apparently solid and threatening on the surface, but without substance or support below."

Friedman believes the disseminators represent very few people and he doubts they have gained many recruits. Above all, he is convinced none of them could be prosecuted under Canada's hate speech law, let alone statutes in the United States, where the vast majority of these sites originate.

"There are some really obnoxious people out there, who should be monitored and catalogued, but they are not worth panicking about.

"The community as a whole has over-reacted to these jerks...I can understand this – the bile rises in my throat when I see a swastika – but as upsetting as it may be, we should keep it in perspective," he said in an interview.

Friedman writes a weekly column on business computing in the *Gazette*, is a contributing editor to *NetGuide* and teaches computer-assisted journalism at Concordia University.

The ultra-right is not a "single, monolithic ideological entity," according to Friedman, but as "fractious and muddled as it ever has been" and its Internet activities are "at best, haphazard."

"The vast majority of ultra-right militants on the Internet are freelance propagandists...operating on their own initiative and pursuing a campaign of 'leaderless resistance.' If they even belong to established organizations, their online activities are neither controlled nor explicitly sanctioned by the traditional leadership."

Friedman applauds the efforts of Ken McVay, the British Columbia man who counters neo-Nazi propaganda and Holocaust denial directly on the Internet with refuting historical documentation.

Hate over the Internet can, in Friedman's view, be seen positively. "Rather than a threat, the Internet provides an extraordinary opportunity to those people who want to battle racism and fascism both on line and off. It is, after all, easier to kill cockroaches when they crawl out from under the fridge...

"While printed books, paper pamphlets and newspapers – the ultra-right's traditional propaganda media – permitted no interaction or confrontation, anti-racists can respond immediately...or use the Web to create an immediate context for links to hate-related sites."

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Deadline is Wednesday, 4pm, 8 days preceding issue date.

For rates or to place an ad, call:

Lisa at (416) 391-1836

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

*****Co-ed Volleyball.** MTS Presents...It's 5th Annual Co-ed Volleyball Season.Recreational & Compet. Div.**Next registration: Sun., Nov. 2nd,** 4-6pm at the Tickled Toad, 330 Steeles Ave. W. **Limited Space.** Almost Sold Out! Call: 416-222-7111

NEW IMAGE 50+ SINGLES** is having a ***Mix 'n Mingle, Sunday, Nov. 2nd at Earl Bales Comm. Centre, 7:30 pm. Refreshments, tapes by Murray. Members $2., Guests $4. **AND...Saturday, Nov. 22nd,** a dance, DJ Phil Allenbick. Members $5., Guests $7., **FREE Dance lesson** from 7:45-8:15pm. **Enjoy!**

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Bombay family experiences joy, pain in moving to Canada

By KYLE BERGER
Jewish Western Bulletin

RICHMOND, B.C. — Everybody who has ever moved knows the pain of packing up one house, setting up another, reorganizing your life and leaving old friends and trying to make new ones.

Imagine if you had to make that move to a completely different culture, and the only thing you and your family could take with you was the clothes on your back.

Nissim Samuel, 42, his wife Keren, 31, and their two children Jonathan, 10, and Shaun, 5, made that kind of move in May – from Bombay, India, to Richmond.

The government in India does not allow citizens to take their possessions out of the country. So the Samuels left their home, their life savings, all their possessions and their family behind and came in search of a better future for the children.

In Bombay, explains Nissim, the children's future prospects were not good. Getting admitted to colleges and finding jobs, endeavors that are already difficult, would become more difficult over time.

Although their children have adjusted well, Nissim and Keren are struggling to get their lives going in Richmond. Keren was able to find a job as a travel agent, which is what she did in Bombay. Nissim, however, has not been as fortunate.

"In India I was working on the ships as a communications officer. I have given my resume to many places here, but it has been hard," he says. "You have to live, you have to pay the bills."

Even more frustrating for the family was leaving all their previous successes in Bombay. "In Bombay, apartments and houses are very expensive and very hard to get; so leaving that behind and coming here where it is much smaller and not very comfortable was very hard," explains Nissim.

The Samuels discovered Richmond when a ship on which Nissim was working docked in Vancouver. Although weather and cleanliness were factors in their decision to settle in Richmond, Keren says that the multicultural communities in Richmond were the main reason. "We didn't want to come to a place where there is one community, one majority," she says. "We wanted to go some place where there are many cultures."

Nissim and Keren met at their synagogue in Bombay and have been married for 11 years. They say that despite over-population, lack of cleanliness and educational complications, Jewish life in Bombay is good.

"We have six or seven Synagogues in Bombay, with 5,000 to 6,000 Jews, and everyone knows each other," says Nissim. "The children were learning Hebrew and all the prayers. In a few years, Jonathan will be having his bar mitzvah so we want them to continue learning Hebrew here also."

It takes a lot of courage to leave your life behind and move your family to a strange land, but Nissim and Keren believe their ultimate goal of parenting is to give their children all the opportunities to live a better life than they have.

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"Do I Have to Live in Israel?:
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November 19, 8:00 p.m.
"Sex and Love"
November 26, 8:00 p.m.
"A Time to Rest: Explore Shabbat"
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Help sought for rebbetzin

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Jewish community here is being asked to help the wife of a former local rabbi.

Kathy Rosenzweig is being treated for liver cancer in a hospital in Windsor, Ont., while her husband, Rabbi Yosil Rosenzweig, is finishing his contract with a synagogue in Newport News, Va.

The Winnipeg campaign is being spearheaded by Miriam Kuropatwa, a longtime friend of Kathy Rosenzweig. They met in the mid-1970s, when Rabbi Rosenzweig was the spiritual leader of Winnipeg's Beth Israel synagogue. He took the position in Newport News last year, after serving for many years as Windsor's rabbi.

Kathy Rosenzweig was treated for breast cancer three years ago, Kuropatwa says.

"She was clear of cancer until last spring, when the cancer returned and spread to her liver," Kuropatwa explains. "This past summer, Yosil let us know about her condition...I asked him if I could follow up with former friends and acquaintances of theirs in Winnipeg to help out. I don't know if anyone anywhere else is doing this."

Kathy Rosenzweig, who is in her late 40s, is currently receiving treatment in Windsor. Her husband is looking for another rabbinical position close by.

From coast to coast

Holocaust expert wants to involve younger people

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Dr. Elisabeth Maxwell, an acclaimed expert on the Holocaust and a member of the editorial advisory board of the Journal of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, says it's important to get younger people involved in Holocaust study and research.

"We want to ensure people are carrying the torch," she stressed in a Halifax interview after speaking to a public gathering and addressing students at Saint Mary's University.

"We want to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive, to stop it becoming fossilized as a historical event, as events become after a great many years. Research and discussion will keep it alive and negate the deniers."

The French-born and British-educated Maxwell, 76, has spent most of the past 17 years studying, speaking about and promoting conferences on the Nazi horrors of World War II.

Brought to Halifax, Fredericton and Saint John by the Atlantic Jewish Council and Atlantic Human Rights Centre, she confessed she feels guilt for what happened in Europe in World War II.

"I was a French Huguenot, a Protestant. We were persecuted as were the Jews, but we stood by and did nothing as Hitler murdered millions of them.

"It wasn't really anti-Semitism. We were just totally-ingrained in the Christian culture and I inherited that. We were never taught that there was a Jewish religion."

She didn't convert to Judaism, even though her husband, scientific publisher Robert Maxwell, was a Czechoslovakian Jew whose family was destroyed in concentration camps.

"Conversion would have been the easy way out, a way of getting rid of the guilt. As a Christian, I can say 'we' are guilty. I don't exclude myself from guilt."

Now lecturing extensively, Maxwell, who holds two degrees including a doctorate from Oxford University, began her study of the Holocaust in 1980 when she tried to piece together the fragments of her husband's family tree.

She found 17 of his cousins in the United States and, in five years, expanded the tree to 1,250 names, including more than 500 close relatives who died in the Holocaust.

Her effort led her to many academics researching the Holocaust.

"I told several mentors I wanted to learn. They helped me, and I helped them produce the journal through my husband's publishing company."

She helped organize Remembering for the Future, the first major international conference on Holocaust studies in 1988 at Oxford. A second conference was held in Berlin in 1994 and she is planning Remembering for the Future 2000, to be held at Oxford in July 2000.

"The press wasn't interested in 1988, but today everyone talks of the Holocaust," she said. We made the Holocaust a world concern, not just a Jewish concern."

Benefits of her work include establishing university study chairs on the Holocaust, both in the United States and Europe.

"At long last, Europeans are coming to terms with the war. They were initially unwilling to accept their guilt but this has changed."

Maxwell, with honorary degrees from Temple University (Philadelphia) and Tel Aviv University, is unsure whether people have learned from the Holocaust but thinks it is so self-contained and well documented that we can learn much about how to stop other genocides.

"The Holocaust never happened before or since," she said. "Mass murderers have not aimed to destroy an entire people. The atrocities were dehumanizing, sadistic, cruel and brutal."

DOROT 3 LAUNCHED AT YORK

The third issue of the student-run Jewish literary magazine *Dorot* was launched recently at York University's Jewish Student Federation office. From left, top row, are Carolynn Schwartz, Dave Gordon and Lenny Cohen; bottom row from left, Sidura Ludwig, Janna Cohen and Moishe Weinberg. [Sam Stone photo]

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TO SECURE COMMUNITY CALENDAR LISTINGS CALL FRAN AUGENBLICK AT JEWISH INFORMATION SERVICE (416) 635-5600 OR FAX 631-5735

DATE		EVENT	ORGANIZATION	TIME	PLACE
NOVEMBER '97					
Sat	1	50th Anniv. Dinner hon. Rabbis Dr. David Monson & Mendel Kirshenblatt	Beth Sholom Synagogue	6:30 pm	Beth Sholom
Sun	2	Israel Fair	UJA Federation	10:00 am	Bathurst Jewish Centre
Sun	2	"A Day of Yiddish" - Lectures & Entertainment	Beth Tzedec Synagogue	10:00 am	Beth Tzedec
Sun	2	November Telethon	UJA Federation	12:00 pm	Lipa Green Building
Sat 8 - Sun	16	21st Annual Jewish Book Fair (Opening)	Bathurst Jewish Centre	8:00 pm	Leah Posluns Theatre
Sun	9	"Life & Legacy of Nehama Leibowitz"	The Centre for Jewish Studies at York University	7:00 pm	Beth Tikvah
Mon	10	Outlook '98 with Robert Shapiro	UJA Federation Professionals Cabinet	7:30 am	Shaarei Shomayim
Mon	10	An Evening with Robert Shapiro	UJA Federation Business Cabinet	8:00 pm	Ford Centre Recital Hall
Thurs	13	Current Affairs with Erika Biro	National Council of Jewish Women	8:00 pm	Council House
Sun	16	Play "The Return of the Markham Messiah - The Civil Suit"	Chabad Lubavitch Community Centre of Markham	8:00 pm	City Playhouse
Mon	17	Musical Event with The Jerusalem Trio	Canada Israel Cultural Foundation, Ontario Chapter	8:00 pm	St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts
Thurs	20	3rd Annual Art & Soul Art Auction	Baycrest Centre, Leadership Development	7:00 pm	Joseph E. & Minnie Wagman Centre
Sun	23	Major Gifts Dinner	UJA Federation	5:30 pm	Four Seasons Hotel
Tues	25	Opening Night of "Rent"- RRSP State of Israel Bonds Awareness	State of Israel Bonds	8:00 pm	Royal Alexandra Theatre
Tues	25	"Taking Charge: What's Up In Depression"	Canadian Society of the Weizmann Institute of Science	8:00 pm	TBA
Wed	26	UJA Federation Ottawa Fly-In	UJA Federation	6:30 am	Ottawa
Thurs	27	Memorial Service	Jewish Family & Child Service, Jewish Hospice	7:30 pm	Lipa Green Building
Sat	29	Labour & Management Dinner celebrating Israel's 50th Anniversary	State of Israel Bonds	6:30 pm	Sheraton Centre
Sun	30	"Bridging the Generations"	State of Israel Bonds Women's Division	10:00 am	Club Monaco Store, Bloor Street
Sun	30	25th Anniversary Dinner hon. Phil Schwartz	Or Chaim Yeshiva	6:00 pm	Shaarei Shomayim
DECEMBER '97					
Tues	2	Educational Event & Panel Discussion	Jewish Family & Child Service, Jewish Hospice	7:30 pm	Lipa Green Building
Sun	7	National Annual Meeting	Canadian Society of the Weizmann Institute of Science	10:00 am	Sutton Place
Sun	7	Annual Negev Dinner	Jewish National Fund	5:00 pm	Sheraton Centre
Sun	7	NCSY Music Concert	National Conference of Synagogue Youth	7:30 pm	Bassett Theatre, Metro Tor. Convention Centre
Sun	14	Family Pre-Chanukah Concert	Canadian Shaare Zedek Foundation	10:00 am	North York Library, Main Branch
Wed	17	UJA Federation Campaign Closing	UJA Federation	7:30 pm	Sephardic Kehila Centre

UJA FEDERATION

Community Calendar is published as a community service by UJA Federation which reserves the right to include/exclude listings.

Features

Performer's 'ethno-classic' music soothes, relaxes

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

Bluma Schonbrun's latest audiocassette, *Shayne Chalomes V* (Yiddish for beautiful dreams) is a selection of haunting and nostalgic current and classic Hebrew music.

A performer and teacher, Schonbrun has created serene and lilting instrumental and vocal arrangements. The newest tape, the fifth in the series, includes such favorites as *Avinu Malkenu, Shalom Aleichem* and *Torat Emet*.

Shayne Chalomes V, a celebration of the Jewish holidays, comes with a colorful book. The tape and book, which give a cross-generational view of a family celebrating the holidays, are a treat for children as well as adults who wish to learn about Jewish holidays.

Schonbrun's tones on the recorder and flute are melded with the cello, accordion and percussion.

Bluma Schonbrun – "a soothing effect."

The tape features cellist Jose Shapero, a musician at Temple Sinai, and Israeli performer, Doron Ophir.

Schonbrun describes her recordings as "ethno-classic." Non-intrusive, relaxing and soothing, Schonbrun's music is often played as background music at restaurants and bookstores, and is enjoyed by both Jewish and non-Jewish audiences.

In 1989, Schonbrun formed Music a la Carte, a company that provides one to six musicians for any occasion. They entertain at many ethnic weddings and community events, and have become known as the strolling minstrels with guitar, flute and vocals.

Schonbrun, a Buffalo native, says, "I chose [to work in] Toronto because of its multicultural atmosphere and strong Jewish community, and because it is a cosmopolitan city.

"I get satisfaction knowing that my recordings have such a useful and soothing effect on so many people. I hope that I am importing to the non-Jewish world some of the richness of our culture and music."

Schonbrun's tapes and CDs are available at all Judaica shops and finer gift stores.

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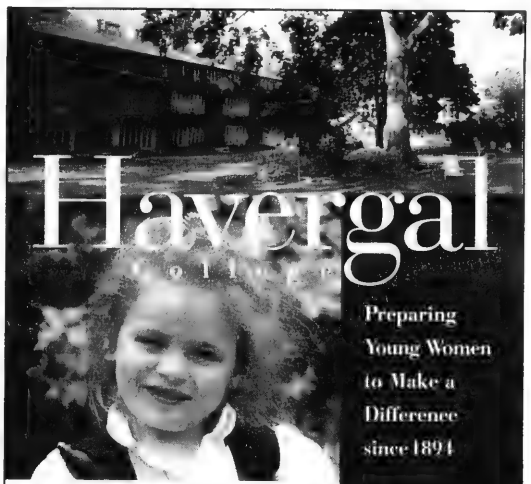

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Compromise sought on Israeli conversion bills

By HAIM SHAPIRO AND LIAT COLLINS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Representatives of the Reform and Conservative movements on Sunday seemed to be on the verge of accepting a government proposal to delay submitting petitions to the High Court over registering their converts as Jews and seating representatives on religious councils.

Leaders from both movements held conference calls late into the night with their United States peers to decide whether to accept a government compromise.

The proposal calls for Reform and Conservative leaders to postpone their petitions in exchange for the government holding back Knesset bills demanded by religious parties that would essentially outlaw non-Orthodox conversions and exclude the non-Orthodox from religious councils.

Government proposals, as drawn up by the Neeman Committee, also call for setting up a central institute to which conversion candidates from all religious streams would be sent. Final conversions would be carried out by an Orthodox rabbinical court.

The guidelines also provide for Reform and Conservative rabbis to conduct recognized marriages in Israel in the presence of two witnesses from the Chief Rabbinate.

Reform and Conservative leaders said a factor toward accepting the compromise was the presence of more moderate rabbis of the religious kibbutz movement at the Neeman Committee meeting.

Rabbinical authorities have previously rejected compromise, and were suggesting a compromise stance for the first time, the Reform and Conservative leaders said.

But their flexibility also followed some stepped-up pressure from Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, who threatened to present the religious councils and conversion bills to the Knesset if the High Court petitions went ahead.

Leaders of The Third Way and Yisrael Ba'aliya parties, who had said in the past they would vote against religious legislation, also indicated they would vote for the bills if the non-Orthodox movements did not agree to the proposed freeze.

A top delegation of Reform rabbis from the United States and elsewhere, led by Rabbi Amiel Hirsch, head of Arza, the Reform movement's Zionist arm in the United States, arrived Sunday and met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the issue.

The rabbis told Netanyahu that passage of the Conversion Law, which would give the Chief Rabbinate the authority to validate all conversions carried out in Israel and would thus invalidate all non-Orthodox conversions done in Israel, would be a slap in the face to the American Jewish community, which largely identifies with the Reform and Conservative movements.

The rabbis said that Netanyahu told them the unity of the Jewish people is of utmost importance to him and that, just as he seeks diversity in economics, he wants diversity in Jewish expression. However, Netanyahu also reportedly told the rabbis that he needs time to achieve this goal.

Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform Movement's Israel Religious Action committee, seemed less willing than others to accept the compromise. He said the delays in court action would serve the interests of the rabbinical establishment and the religious parties, which have been fighting to prevent any changes that could endanger their monopoly on religious matters.

"The religious parties have always been willing to delay any action until the coming of the Messiah in order to preserve the status quo," Regev said.

Regev also said that converts who had petitioned the court would suffer as a result of the delays.

The first scheduled High Court hearing, would hear a petition to seat Reform and Conservative representatives on the religious councils of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, and Kiryat Tivon. Since the Court has already ruled that a Reform representative could join the Netanya religious council, it was expected to make a similar ruling.

Next week, the High Court is due to receive the attorney-general's response to a petition calling for the registration as Jews of adopted infants converted by the Conservative movement in Israel.

It was also due to rule on the case of a woman who studied in Israel and was then converted by a Liberal rabbinical court in London, and of two infants, adopted abroad, who were converted by the same rabbinical court before being brought to Israel. In all these cases the Interior Ministry has refused to register the converts as Jews.

Meanwhile, National Religious Party MKs met to discuss a proposal by three members to adopt the Neeman Committee's recommendations on the conversion bill. The MKs — Hanan Porat, Zvi Hendel, and Shmaryahu Ben-Tsur — spoke of a need to avoid creating a split in the Jewish world and to find a mutually acceptable solution which would avert the need to pass the conversion bill. Hendel called the committee's work "a historic opportunity to reach a compromise among all streams of Judaism."

Batsheva Tsur contributed to this report.

Vatican symposium set

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

ROME — The Vatican is holding a symposium on the roots of anti-Semitism in Christian teaching, but no Jews were invited.

Jewish leaders have expressed disappointment that there will be no Jewish presence when the Vatican holds its closed-door symposium.

Vatican cardinals and other church officials, as well as about 60 Roman Catholic scholars and theologians, will take part in the meeting on the topic, The Roots of Anti-Judaism in the Christian Environment.

Representatives of other Christian denominations, including Protestants and Orthodox Christians, also will attend the sessions, scheduled to take place from Oct. 30 to Nov. 1.

Tullia Zevi, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, said she had hoped that some Jewish scholars might be invited as observers.

"The answer was very polite but firm that this was an internal church" matter, she said, but added, "We have great confidence in the work of the commission."

The Vatican said in a statement that the conference would focus on "essentially Christian themes."

"This is the reason why their development and elaboration has been entrusted for the most part to Catholic theologians," it said.

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Papon testimony sparks outrage

By LEE YANOWITCH
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

PARIS — The families of Jews deported from Bordeaux during the Nazi occupation of France were angry and stupefied after accused wartime collaborator Maurice Papon told a court that he had spent the war years helping Jews.

"I spent the occupation fighting for Jews and for others. Since then, I have mourned in my heart for the deaths of my Jewish compatriots and foreign Jews," Papon said last week, speaking for the first time at his trial, which began earlier this month.

"I risked deportation, maybe even my life, by taking the names of 139 Jews off the lists," he snapped when questioned by Arno Klarsfeld, one of 23 lawyers for the civil plaintiffs.

Papon, 87, is accused of ordering the arrest and deportation of 1,560 Jews, 223 of them children, when he was a senior official for the pro-Nazi Vichy regime. Nearly all died in the gas chambers at Auschwitz.

After proceedings against him were obstructed by French officials for 16 years, his trial for crimes against humanity, which is expected to last until the end of December, is now under way in the southwestern French city of Bordeaux.

The trial of Papon – who will in all likelihood be the last Frenchman to face trial for crimes against humanity – is also seen as the nation's last chance to come to terms with a past it has long tried to forget.

His remarks provoked a wave of protests by the civil plaintiffs, many of them relatives of Holocaust victims, and their lawyers.

"He showed himself for what he is – the hard, cold and cruel man who signed the deportation orders without any scruples," Georges Gheldman, whose mother was deported from Bordeaux in 1942, said in an interview.

Therese Stopnicki, whose younger sisters Nellie, 5, and Rachel, 2, were taken out of hiding, allegedly on Papon's orders, and sent to Auschwitz, said Papon's remarks created "the impression that the cover of a sewer has been lifted and everything inside is flowing out."

Papon also told the court that as prefect of the French Mediterranean island of Corsica in 1947, he was in charge of a secret mission to set up air bases on the island for American planes to send arms to help "the Israeli people in their struggle for independence. It is an honor for me to have always protected the Jewish community."

Papon went further, denying that he ever signed arrest or deportation orders when he was a Vichy official and demanding to see proof of the charges against him.

Alain Levy, the lawyer for an association of former Resistance fighters and deportees, described the testimony as "totally pernicious."

In a dramatic turn, a historian who in 1981 helped uncover Papon's wartime role said further research had convinced him that Papon had indeed helped Jews rather than send them to their deaths.

Michel Berges said in an interview with the daily newspaper *Le Monde* that prosecutors had erred in their assessment of wartime documents and had turned Papon "into a political myth."

He said Papon had struck the names of more than 100 Jews from deportation lists.

He also stated that Papon had in other instances merely countersigned orders decided upon by his superiors and had no authority to initiate roundups.

Michel Touzet, a lawyer representing some of the civil plaintiffs, criticized Berges for making the comments before he was scheduled to testify in December. Papon, who enjoyed an illustrious political career after the war, has maintained in the past that he joined the Resistance in 1943 and remained in his job as wartime secretary-general of the Bordeaux prefect's office – the second highest-ranking official in the region – at the anti-Nazi movement's request.

But some of the plaintiffs noted that being a member of the Resistance did not necessarily imply he was innocent of anti-Jewish actions.

"People are suddenly losing sight of the objective. The defence is trying to prove that he was a member of the Resistance, a good civil servant, but the essential is the deportation of the Jews," Stopnicki said.

During the second week of the trial, the court heard witnesses for the defence attest to Papon's character and his devotion to his work in various post-war government positions.

One of them was Raymond Barre, current mayor of Lyon, who as France's prime minister in 1978 named Papon his budget minister.

Barre was questioned by a juror – a rare procedure in the French legal system – about whether he had inquired about Papon's past before appointing him.

"I did not have to ask many questions. Maurice Papon had an excellent reputation," Barre replied.

"I benefited from his devoted and efficient assistance."

Perhaps one of the most revealing testimonies in demonstrating how Papon was able to continue his career under post-war French leader Charles de Gaulle and rise to become Paris police chief from 1958 to 1967 came from Olivier Guichard, one of de Gaulle's closest aides.

Guichard said de Gaulle had sought to readmit senior Vichy officials into government service after the war in the name of national unity.

Meanwhile, the trial has been temporarily halted. Papon was hospitalized last week with bronchitis. As of this writing, it had not resumed.

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The Week in Israel

Oct. 20

• The spiritual leader of Hamas said the group is observing a "cooling off" period on suicide bombings. Sheik Ahmed Yassin said the lull would last only if Israel stopped economic closures, demolition of Palestinian houses and, what he called, the seizure of land.

Oct. 21

• Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Yasser Arafat met in the Gaza Strip and agreed to resume security cooperation. After the two-hour meeting, Arafat said that Israel and the Palestinians "had agreed to cooperate on all security matters."

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office announced it may postpone a trip to the United States from mid to late November if the White House cannot accommodate a meeting. This would rule out a planned appearance by Netanyahu before the General Assembly of the Jewish Federations in Indianapolis on Nov. 16.

Oct. 22

• U.S. Middle East envoy Dennis Ross left Israel after four days of meetings with Israeli and Palestinian officials. Israeli officials said progress was being made, but a Palestinian official said Ross' mission had failed and warned of renewed violence.

Oct. 23

• Khaled Meshal warned Israel that Hamas will continue its terror campaign "in the coming days." In an interview with a weekly Jordanian newspaper, Meshal said: "Our path is clear: armed struggle (will continue) until the occupiers have been banished...and in the next few days it will become evident that Hamas has not strayed from its path."

Oct. 24

• An Israeli government report said that the dwindling Christian minority in the areas controlled by the PA is being persecuted. According to the report, cemeteries are being vandalized, churches are being burglarized and Islamic militants fearlessly harass Christian youngsters. At the same time, the PA has taken control of the churches.

With files from JTA

Jordan's balancing act

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

As the dust of the Khaled Meshal affair settles, Jordan has decided to patch up its relationship with Israel.

Mideast Analysis

In the wake of the furor caused by the Mossad's botched attempt to assassinate Meshal – the political leader of Hamas – in broad daylight in Amman, King Hussein recently put an official end to the embarrassing incident by phoning Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and informing him that he wished "to rebuild" Jordan's frayed relations with Israel.

And in two more unmistakable signs that King Hussein wanted to let bygones be bygones, he permitted the commander of the Israeli air force, Eitan Ben-Eliahu, to proceed with his planned visit to Jordan and accepted the credentials of Israel's new ambassador, Oded Eran.

But before he closed the books on the Meshal affair, which he had described as a reckless and insulting act, King Hussein reportedly expelled the Israeli intelligence mission in Amman, lowered the level of security cooperation with Israel and extracted a promise from Netanyahu that a similar operation would never again be staged on Jordanian soil.

If nothing else, the Meshal affair demonstrated the degree to which Israel's strategic ties with Jordan, formalized by a peace treaty signed three years ago in November, are inextricably bound up with the ebb and flow of Palestinian politics.

This is something that Netanyahu does not quite appreciate. In an impassioned letter to King Hussein last March, Netanyahu wrote: "We cannot make the Jordanian-Israeli relationship hostage to the Palestinian-Israeli track. We cannot give every Palestinian-Israeli impasse the power to hurt our own relationship."

But as the Meshal affair showed beyond a doubt, the Palestinians do affect King Hussein's perception of Israel. How could it be otherwise when two-thirds of Jordan's population consists of Palestinians, the majority of whom are hostile to Israel?

It's clear that King Hussein, who values the survival of his Hashemite kingdom above all other considerations, would not have entered into a peace accord with Israel unless the PLO had done so first a year earlier through the Oslo agreement.

Having taken his cue from PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, King Hussein defied the wishes of many of his subjects by speeding up the process of normalization with Israel in every conceivable sphere. As a result, Jordan became Israel's closest friend in the Arab world, particularly during Yitzhak Rabin's reign as prime minister.

But since September 1996, Israel's friendship with Jordan has been badly strained by three decisions taken by Netanyahu: the opening of a new entrance to an archeological tunnel in eastern Jerusalem, the construction of a massive housing project in Har Choma and the offer to redeploy from only two percent of Area C in the West Bank.

Especially offended by the first two decisions, King Hussein angrily suggested that Netanyahu was leading the region to war and pointedly questioned his commitment to peace.

But in the interests of maintaining strong relations with Israel, King Hussein, in March 1997, fired his prime minister, Abdul-Karim Kabarati, who had warned Netanyahu that his policies threatened the pace of normalization, and replaced him with Abdulsalam al-Majali, the signer of the 1994 peace treaty. It was a development that did not go unnoticed in Amman's anti-Israel circles.

In yet another gesture to Israel, King Hussein visited Israel to pay his respects to the families of seven girls who had been gunned down by a Jordanian soldier at Naharayim.

And most recently, the Jordanian government announced that a military court would soon try four citizens charged with plotting attacks against Israel and three others suspected of smuggling arms to the West Bank.

Clearly, King Hussein is like a highwire acrobat, balancing his relations with Israel and the Palestinians ever so finely.

Jewish schools get $36M boost

[Cont'd. from pg. 1]

schools, and the quality of day schools throughout the spectrum, including the Orthodox schools," said high-profile investor Michael Steinhardt, who founded the partnership along with Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress and chair of the Seagram Corp., and his brother Charles, Seagram's co-chair and head of the CRB Foundation.

In addition to grant money, the program will offer resource material, ongoing consultations and mentoring to a new school's leaders.

Announcement of the program was welcomed "very warmly and enthusiastically" by Shlomo Shimon, executive director of the Jewish Educational Council of Montreal. "It's an important recognition of Jewish education."

Rabbi Jeremiah Unterman, director of Toronto's Board of Jewish Education, said the grant fund is "significant. It could be a real boon for start-up costs, hiring of staff and rent for new schools."

The program is accepting grant applications for new elementary and middle schools. Initial letters are due by Feb. 1, 1998.

The Partnership for Excellence in Jewish Education may be reached at 617-868-6741, or visit its Web site at [www.peje.org].

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For more information about winter camp, summer camp or other Hashomer Hatzair activities, contact Yehuda Marle at (416) 736-1339

IDF, SLA thwart Hezbollah attacks on Lebanon outposts

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — IDF and South Lebanese Army (SLA) soldiers Sunday repulsed what appears to have been an attempt by Hezbollah gunmen to try and over-run a position in the northeastern sector of the security zone.

The foiled attempt follows a number of recent attacks in the same area by three or four Hezbollah squads.

One of the aims of the gunmen in the activities around the Soujud outpost might have been to try and kidnap an IDF soldier, military sources reported.

A South Lebanese Army soldier was seriously wounded in the fighting, during which Hezbollah fired mortars, anti-tank missiles and machine-guns at the post.

The attempt to approach the position, however, was thwarted by heavy return fire by IDF and SLA soldiers and gunners. Later, IAF warplanes struck at Hezbollah targets in the Soujud region with the pilots reporting accurate hits.

Earlier, IAF jets raided Ahmed Jibril's PFLP-General Command base at Nuemeh, south of Beirut, for the fourth time in recent days. Reports from Lebanon said an activist who worked as a nurse for the organization was killed in the raid.

The IDF spokesperson said that in both raids the pilots reported accurate hits and that all the planes returned safely to their bases.

The air strike on the PFLP-GC base followed early morning bombardments by Hezbollah gunmen on over 15 IDF and SLA positions along the length of the security zone — from the coast to the foothills of Mt. Hermon.

There were no casualties in the long-range mortar and anti-tank missile attacks, which prompted heavy return fire from IDF and SLA gunners. The exchanges began around 6:30 a.m. and lasted for over two hours.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, accompanied by Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak visited a position on the northern border Sunday to receive first-hand reports of the situation in the security zone.

The visit is part of a general assessment that the security establishment is conducting of the overall situation in south Lebanon.

SHEILA COHEN ז"ל

In loving memory of Sheila, who died three years ago, on 3 Cheshvan 5755, but whose love and compassion and generosity and kindness and sense of fun touch us to this day. At the rising of the sun and at its going down, we remember her.

Bob, Ellen, Norton, Vicki and Molly

The MARGEL *and* BENAIM *families extend sincere thanks and appreciation to our many relatives, friends and colleagues for their comfort, support and thoughtfulness following the loss of our beloved*

PERRY MARGEL ז"ל

CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants: 1. Twelve years old and under; 2. Thirteen to 18 years old; 3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter: The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem.

We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.

We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: "Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 12, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 25, 1997. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Terrorist group difficult to infiltrate

The assessment is carried out every six months but is likely to have more significance this time in light of the recent mishaps, tragedies and high casualties suffered by the IDF. The IDF's methods of operation in the war against Hezbollah are expected to be discussed along with other tactical and strategic issues.

According to Channel 2 news, Shahak informed the cabinet Sunday that the IDF knows very little about the situation and has a serious intelligence problem in trying to penetrate Hezbollah.

Mordechai was briefed by OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine and senior officers. He maintained that despite the recent series of incidents, there was no over-riding problem.

He said that all the incidents were being thoroughly investigated and lessons learned were being implemented. Mordechai stressed that the aim was to minimize casualties while increasing the IDF's ability to hit Hezbollah.

Mordechai denied recent reports of tension between himself and Shahak, saying they were working together to tackle the problems.

Levine revealed that the IDF thwarted concerted attacks by "three or four Hezbollah squads" whose primary aim was apparently to hit tanks and IDF troops "and perhaps even to try and kidnap a soldier."

Emergency Services CLOSING

Monday, Nov. 3, 1997

The **Emergency Department**
at the former Northwestern General Hospital
will **close** at 7:30 a.m.
Monday, November 3, 1997.

A new **Ambulatory/Walk-in Service**
will open at 7:30 a.m. on
Monday, November 3, 1997
at the same location, the Keele Street site of
Humber River Regional Hospital (HHRH), 2175 Keele Street.

HRRH's new Keele Street Ambulatory/ Walk-in Service will provide non-emergency medical care to those in need of medical attention. The Walk-in Service will operate from 7:30 a.m. until 10 p.m. seven days a week.

The Church Street (formerly Humber Memorial Hospital) and Finch Avenue (formerly York-Finch General Hospital) sites of HRRH will continue to provide emergency services 24-hours-a-day.

HRRH will relocate other programs and services this fall. These changes are outlined in Humber River Regional Hospital's *Service Update*, which will be published in local community newspapers October 26 and 28. To obtain a copy, or for more information on hospital program and service changes, call our Patient Services Information Line at (416) 658-2044.

Humber River Regional Hospital was formed January 1, 1997 with the voluntary merger of the former Northwestern General, Humber Memorial and York-Finch General Hospitals.

Church Street Site
200 Church Street
Weston, Ontario
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Finch Avenue Site
2111 Finch Avenue W.
Downsview, Ontario
(416) 744-2500

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For more information, call the Humber River Regional Hospital Patient Services Information Line at (416) 658-2044.

Violinist encourages young people's musical interest

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

Surrounded by paintings and mementos, Eugene Kash, 85, talks about learning the violin when he was just five, studying with klezmer musician Moishe Spielman.

After six months, "Spielman took me by the hand and gave me to Luigi von Kunitz," Kash remembers. He was with von Kunitz for 10 years until he left Jarvis Collegiate at 16 for Philadelphia's Curtis Institute.

Then it was on to Czechoslovakia for lessons with Otakar Sevcik, whose name was synonymous with development of violin technique, but Kash wanted more than technique and moved to Vienna, where he joined a newly formed young people's orchestra for musicians who couldn't get into the philharmonic.

In 1952, he debuted in Vienna. He became known for his chamber music as well as for his orchestral work, and he was a member of Bronislaw Huberman's master class.

Eugene Kash.

Huberman founded the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra in 1936 and later smuggled several exceptional Jewish musicians out of Hitler's Europe.

Kash was in England in 1936 when his mother, prophesying a war with Hitler, urged him to come home.

Back in Toronto he played for the CBC with Percy Faith and the Toronto Symphony under Sir Ernest MacMillan. This reporter, who was about 12 at the time, thrilled to Ravel's *Bolero* and the eerie *Danse Macabre* at after-school children's symphony concerts in Massey Hall, and clearly remembers the rapt, young, long-haired violinist onstage.

Kash also served as concertmaster under Reginald Stewart at the 1941 and 1942 summer Promenade Concerts in Varsity Stadium.

After being appointed music director of the National Film Board in Ottawa, he spent 15 years in that city, eight with the film board, seven as conductor of the Ottawa Philharmonic Orchestra.

During his tenure with the film board, he met Montreal-born contralto Maureen Forrester and they were married in Montreal's Temple Emmanuel, where Forrester had been soloist. They have five children.

Over the years, there were moves to Connecticut where Kash was assistant conductor of the symphony; a return to Toronto in 1963 to fill the position of academic administrator for the National Youth Orchestra; a stay in Philadelphia, where Kash taught; and touring on three continents.

From 1952 to 1975, Kash also participated annually in the Casals Festival in Puerto Rico.

Once again in Toronto, in 1975 he began a 10-year association as conductor with the Etobicoke Philharmonic Orchestra.

He and Forrester are separated. "We were together 20 years and apart 20 years," he says, "but we see each other on many occasions and our whole family gathers each year for the seder." There is caring in his voice.

He continues to play his violin, is involved with conducting and teaches at the Royal Conservatory, still very much a part of the music scene.

"I feel it's very important to share, to plant the seeds among the young generation, encouraging them to carry on to a more fulsome life with music and art," he says.

In response to my request, he brings out his violin and plays my favorite, *Melody from Thais.* Then it is his choice, a Hebrew melody that fills the air with warmth and sweetness.

Little did I know when I was 12 years old, that one day, Eugene Kash would play a solo performance for me.

Concert to benefit Hachnosas Kallah

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rochel Miller, a New York singer, composer and recording artist, will headline a women's only concert at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts in North York on Nov. 2.

The musical soiree will benefit Hachnosas Kallah, an organization that raises money to help needy brides with wedding expenses.

Miller, accompanied by a pianist, will offer a selection of traditional Jewish songs.

The Kol Shira Girls Choir, 50 girls of high school age, will also appear at the concert, singing Jewish songs by local composers.

Organizers expect 1,000 women to attend.

Hachnosas Kallah, under the leadership of Penny Zimmerman, Ruchie Anisfeld and Linda Hofstedter, has several fundraising projects a year, including a tea and luncheon. The organization also raises funds by renting artificial flower arrangements for simchahs as well as mechitzahs.

General admission tickets are $18 and $36. Sponsor tickets are $50, $100 and $180.

For more information, contact Tami Janowski, 416-633-2479.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

RARE JUDAIC BOOKS ON AUCTION IN NEW YORK

For only the second time in its 100-year history, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America is auctioning off some duplicate volumes from its library, one of the world's most important collections of Hebraica and Judaica.

Scheduled for Nov. 25 in New York, the auction will comprise approximately 300 select Hebrew and Yiddish printed books. They range from the 15th through the 19th century, with a strong concentration of 16th-century books, many of which have never appeared at auction before.

Among the noteworthy titles is a six-volume set of the Mishnah with commentary by Maimonides, printed in Naples in 1489 and expected to fetch between $20,000 and $30,000 (US). Another is Mashal Hakadmoni (Proverb of the Ancient), by Isaac ibn Sahula, with 80 unusual woodcut illustrations; printed in Venice circa 1547, it is expected to bring in up to $10,000.

Doral Park Ave. Hotel, New York. Previews Nov. 23 and 24. Kestenbaum & Co., auctioneers. 212-366-1197.

* * *

Jewish Radio: The Max Mandel Jewish Hour, starring Michael and Max Mandel Jr. presents an actual "live" re-creation of a Jewish radio show, featuring a collage of Yiddish melodies and personalities heard on the original radio show. This version is bilingual for those who are "Yiddish challenged."

Also featured are Stella Walker, Dvoira Yanovsky, David Abramowitz and the Winchevsky Ensemble Theatre. Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave.

Tickets $12 in advance, $15 at the door. 416-789-5502.

* * *

Hollywood and The Jews: The Bloor JCC and the Riverdale JCC present a gala premiere screening of *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies, and the American Dream*, a new film from Emmy Award-winning Associated Producers of Toronto.

The film's tag-line is most intriguing: "They fled a nightmare to build a dream." Among the ideas the film explores is the notion that immigrant Jews fleeing the pogroms of eastern Europe and Ukraine transposed that dark vision onto the American frontier, filming stories of towns in the American Wild West beset by similar lawless gangs of thieves and rogues on horseback.

Both director **Simcha Jacobovici** and author **Neal Gabler**, who wrote the book on which the documentary is based, are slated to attend the premiere at the Princess of Wales Theatre, Nov. 24. Reception 6 p.m., film premiere 7 p.m., patron gala party 9 p.m. Tickets $36, patrons $180. 416-872-1212.

* * *

The Lifelong Learning Institute of the Bernard Betel Centre presents a literary luncheon with psychologist-lecturer Anne Balaban who will review the book *The Heart Of A Woman*, by **Maya Angelou**. Betel Centre auditorium,Nov. 3, noon, members $8, non-members $10. Includes full-course kosher lunch. Book review only, $5. 1003 Steeles Ave. W., one block west of Bathurst. Bookie Kwart, 416-225- 2112.

* * *

Rare Films Shown: Film lovers, take note, Cinematheque Ontario is screening the films of **F.W. Murnau**, Oct. 31 to Nov. 17 at the Art Gallery of Ontario's Jackman Hall. Also, a retrospective of the works of **Douglas Sirk** and **Rainer Werner Fassbinder** continues to Nov. 11. Tickets for all screenings, $8 for non-members. 416-968-FILM.

* * *

Miscellaneous Notes: Congratulations to Honest **Ed Mirvish**, who recently launched a new book, *There's No Business Like Show Business (But I Wouldn't Ditch My Day Job)*...

The **Yorkminstrels Show Choir** is seeking new voices for its dynamic choir. Call Bonnie Gold, 416-733-8562, or Michael Bines, 905-764-6648...

Speaking of the Yorkminstrels, the drama troupe is presenting the classic Broadway musical *Guys & Dolls* as part of its 40th anniversary season. Leah Posluns Theatre, Nov. 29 to Dec. 7. 416-622-1971...

Amicus Productions (416-812-6756) presents *The Miracle Worker* by **William Gibson**, Oct. 29 to Nov. 8 at the Fairview Library Theatre...

Actor-singer-songwriter **Marilyn Lightstone** performs at the Bloor JCC, Oct. 30, 8 p.m. Tickets, $15 at the door. All proceeds to benefit the Bloor JCC...

Hear pianist **Mark Pinkus** playing original solo piano compositions, Trinity-St. Pauls Church, Nov. 8, 8p.m. Tickets $12 advance, $15 door. Sound City, 416-690-8194 or Health Valley, 416-963-9695...

TimeChase, a new quiz show on History Television hosted by **Sheldon Turcott**, is seeking people with a good knowledge of historical events to be contestants.

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

KIDDUSH, SAN FRANCISCO STYLE

Kiddush in San Francisco: L'Chaim! A Kiddush Cup Invitational opened this month at the Jewish Museum of San Francisco. The exhibit features more than 160 original kiddush cups (ceremonial wine goblets) handcrafted by various contemporary American and Israeli artists. 121 Steuart St., San Francisco. Until Feb. 8. 415-543-8880 or 415-543-2090.

Thistle Hotel Promotion: Thistle Hotels, one of Britain's leading hotel chains, has announced a special promotion for Canadians this winter. At all Thistle properties in England, Scotland and Wales, the chain is offering to accept Canadian dollars as equivalent to British pounds.

The special "pound for Canadian dollar" promotion runs from Dec. 14 through March 1, 1998, and gives Canadian visitors savings of more than $100 per night per room, based on a two-night minimum stay. Bookings must be prepaid in Canadian dollars.

Thistle operates more than 90 hotels in Great Britain, including 24 properties in London. Reservations, 1-888-844-4788.

* * *

ElderTreks: This Toronto company provides adventure tours for travellers over the age of 50. It specializes in exotic destinations and off-the-beaten-path adventures. All trips involve some outdoor activity and cross-cultural contact.

Destinations include Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Borneo, Indonesia, Tibet, China, Bhutan and Darjeeling and Sikkim, Mongolia, Nepal, India, The Silk Road, Turkey, Morocco, Queen Charlotte Islands, Alaska and the Yukon, Costa Rica, Belize, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, Peru and Bolivia, and New Zealand. ElderTreks, 597 Markham St., Toronto M5G 2L7. 1-800-741-7956.

* * *

Israel Calendar: Israel's food exporters and manufacturers sell nearly $1 billion worth of exports annually. They display their products at the huge Tel Aviv Fair Grounds, Feb. 8 to 12, 1998.

More than 500 exhibitors from 60 countries are expected to attend Israel '98, the world stamp exhibition in Tel Aviv, May 13 to 21, 1998.

Both events are being held to commemorate Israel's 50th anniversary.

* * *

Viennese Display: Chicago's Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies operates a museum that holds the most comprehensive Judaic collection in the American midwest, with more than 10,000 objects, artifacts and works of art.

Vienna Today, a new exhibition running to Feb. 28, captures contemporary Jewish life in Vienna as viewed through the lens of photographer Harry Weber. The show is on loan from the Jewish Museum of Vienna. At 618 South Michigan Ave. Chicago. Adults, $5. 312-322-1747.

* * *

History of Bedlam: The 750-year history of Bethlem Royal Hospital, the world's oldest hospital for people with mental disorders, is the subject of an exhibition at the Museum of London (England) until March 15. Bedlam: Custody, Care and Cure, 1247-1997 tells the remarkable story of the hospital. The word "bedlam," a place of madness and disorder, is a derivation of Bethlem. 0171-600-3699.

* * *

Israel Hotel Deal: Following its popular We Love Kids program, the Renaissance Jerusalem Hotel announces the Real Deal for the hotel's royal wing. From Nov. 1 to Dec. 24, and again from Feb. 1 to March 31, guests staying a minimum of three nights receive on arrival an $18 credit voucher for each adult guest night at the hotel.

The credit can be applied towards meals in the dining room or at the A La Carte restaurant. Maximum two vouchers per room per night.

The Renaissance, the largest hotel in Israel, recently opened a business centre that provides traditional services, such as faxing, copying, translations, typing and computer rentals. Tel: 02-6528111. Fax: 02-6511824.

* * *

Attention Snowbirds: *The Canadian Snowbird Guide*, by Douglas Gray, is meant for Canadians who choose to spend part or all of the winter in a warm climate. The book purports to offer "everything you need to know about living part time in the United States and Mexico."

The book discusses many pertinent issues, such as currency fluctuations, investments, taxes, immigration, customs, housing, travel, safety, and medical and other types of insurance. Published by McGraw-Hill Ryerson, the large 304-page softcover is available in bookstores for $21.99.

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Jewish scientist wins Nobel Prize in medicine

By DOUG SETO
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO — This year's winner of the Nobel Prize in medicine has a strong connection to Israel.

Dr. Stanley Prusiner has long conducted collaborative research with scientists at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem; in 1995, he received an honorary degree from that institution; and last year he won Israel's prestigious Wolf Prize in medicine.

Prusiner, 55, was awarded the Nobel Prize for his 1982 hypothesis that several rare brain diseases in humans and animals were caused by a microscopic life form.

A professor of neurology, biochemistry and biophysics at the University of California at San Francisco, Prusiner linked mad cow disease to a human brain disorder.

Although Prusiner is now regarded as an international authority in the study of dementia-related illnesses, the scientific community scoffed in disbelief after he announced in 1982 that several rare brain diseases in humans and animals were caused by prions, a microscopic life form that has no traces of RNA or DNA.

Prions, which are proteinaceous infectious particles, have been linked to scrapie in sheep, as well as to human disorders, including Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Prions may also be linked to Alzheimer disease.

Prusiner discovered that the proteins can cause infectious diseases, such as bacteria or viruses, as well as hereditary illnesses.

Asked if he thought it was fortuitous to receive the Nobel Prize during the High Holy Days, Prusiner, an active member of a San Francisco synagogue, exploded with laughter.

"That's like asking me if I believe in that code book. You know, that one on hidden codes in the Torah. I'm a scientist," he said.

Caring for aging parents

TORONTO — Caring for aging parents, will be the focus of the Baycrest Public Health Forum on Nov. 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Judith Globerman will address the topic: The Encumbered Child: "Why is it always me?"

A prominent researcher and lecturer on family care of the elderly and an associate professor of Social Work at the University of Toronto, Globerman will help people understand how families make decisions about who does what and when.

"Family patterns that develop as we grow up are a good indicator of how we cope," Globerman explains.

Following her presentation, Globerman will be joined by two experienced Baycrest social workers to answer questions.

The lecture will take place in the Abe Posluns Auditorium, second floor, Jewish Home for the Aged, 3560 Bathurst St. Admission is free.

For information call 785-2500, ext. 2049.

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-SWAP/EXCH.
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
386 DANCING
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
483 SKIING
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
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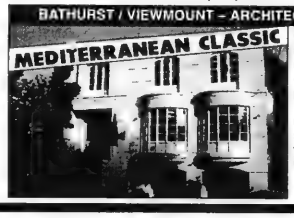

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Harry Schwartz passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 12, 1997, at 3:45 pm, at Peterborough Civic Hospital. He leaves a loving family, his 3 daughters, Faye, Myrna, and Rochelle; his son-in-law, Dr. Edgar Singer, and 4 grandchildren: Pinchus, and Sara-Eta, and Anna and Jonathan, and beloved deceased wife, Edythe, his dear sister, Bessie, and Libby and Faigai and Monty, and all their children, and other relatives. He was a learned man who devoted his life to good causes, strong tradition, and inspired leadership. In and for the synagogue, and kindness to all. He will be missed by many, both in the business world and in the community. Harry Schwartz was a mason and a shriner; and past president of Beth Israel Synagogue, and B'nai Brith, and it's treasurer for 50 yrs. He devoted much of his entire life to the Jewish community in Peterborough, and was the inspiration and the guiding force behind the creation of the present synagogue. Harry Schwartz lived his life with tradition and honor. He was charitable to all. He was a business man who owned his own clothing store- The Co-ed Shop for 38 yrs. He was a quiet man, he was a humble man; but he was also a practical, proud and sophisticated man, with a wonderful sense of humour. We will all miss him. The funeral was held on Tuesday, October 14, 1997 at 1 pm at Beth Israel Synagogue, Peterborough. Shiva was held at 1499 Glencairn Ave., Tues. & Wed. until sundown.

ROSENHEK, Moses Aaron - Suddenly, on Saturday, October 4, 1997, in Quebec City. Moe, beloved husband of Regina Vinegar. Dear father and father-in-law of Shaul and Esther, and Felix and Joanne. Dear brother and brother-in-law of Dr. Clarence and Doris Rosenhek. Loving grandfather of Adam, Holly, Ashley, Joshua, Benjamin, Daniel, Zachary, Gabriel, and Akiva. He will also be missed by his nieces, nephews and many friends. A funeral service was held on October 6. Interment, Beth Israel Cemetery, in Quebec City. Shiva was observed at 2693 Morgan, Ste. Foy, Quebec, G1W-4R9. Memorial donations may be made to the Beth Israel Cemetery Memorial Fund.

RAPOPORT, Jack - on Oct. 3, 1997, late of 147 Almore Ave.
RICHMOND, Ted - on Oct. 4, 1997, late of 92 Combe Ave.
WALTERS, Judith - on Oct. 4, 1997, late of 20 Shallmar Blvd., #114.
DETSKY, Louis - on Oct. 5, 1997, late of 1555 Finch Ave. E., #804.
HERSON, Fay - on Oct. 5, 1997, late of 7420 Bathurst St., #1005.
HURST, Renee - on Oct. 5, 1997, late of 68 Chiswell Cres.
ALEXANDER, Roy - on Oct. 6, 1997, late of 44 Falby Crt., #509.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

SHOOM, Saul - on Oct. 6, 1997, late of 225 Cummer Ave.
SIDENBERG, Rose - on Oct. 6, 1997, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
GALE, Ruth - on Oct. 7, 1997, late of 1A Millbank Ave.
WAGMAN, Arthur - on Oct. 7, 1997, late of 259 Forest Hill Rd.
ADAMS, David - on Oct. 8, 1997, late of 2075 Bayview Ave.
MANDELL, Anne - on Oct. 8, 1997, late of 342 Spadina Rd., #305.
SOMMER, Ethel - on Oct. 8, 1997, late of 4 Mascot Pl., #112.
ACKER, Ruth - on Oct. 9, 1997, late of 18 Wolfond Cres.
SOLURSH, Gertie - on Oct. 9, 1997, late of 3000 Bathurst St., #1407.
WAGMAN, Harry - on Oct. 9, 1997, late of 351 Christie Ave.
ABRAMS, Morris - on Oct. 10, 1997, late of 12 Goldfinch Crt., #1002.
SHEFFIELD, Max - on Oct. 10, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
PULLAN, Beulah - on Oct. 12, 1997, late of 11 Shallmar Blvd., #604.
ZELLITT, Harry - on Oct. 14, 1997, late of 150 Brighton Ave.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

CALLEN, Charles - on Oct. 6, 1997.
KRANDEL, Florence - on Oct. 7, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MURCIANO, Jacob - on Oct. 7, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
NOBLE, Fanny - on Oct. 8, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
SAPOCINIK, Aron - on Oct. 8, 1997, late of 4300 Bathurst St.
REISS, Lynn - on Oct. 9, 1997, late of 26 Burrells Rd.
SIMON, Irving Louis - on Oct. 9, 1997.
MARKHAM, Ruth - on Oct. 10, 1997, late of 119 Clifton Ave.
MARMELSTEIN, Sidney - on Oct. 10, 1997, late of 7601 Bathurst St.
AWERBUCK, Betty - on Oct. 11, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
SENDROVICH, Ester - on Oct. 11, 1997, late of 123 Hove St.
BRASS, Morris - on Oct. 12, 1997.
AMODEO, Marilyn - on Oct. 13, 1997, late of 139 Brighton Ave.
SHERWIN, Doris Dora - on Oct. 13, 1997.
LIVINGSTONE, Minnie - on Oct. 14, 1997, late of 34 Carscadden Dr.
ROBINSON, Ferne - on Oct. 14, 1997, late of 496 Sedan Cres.
RUBINOFF, Isaac Winston - on Oct. 14, 1997, late of 877 Yonge St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

330 OBITUARIES

DENNILL, Libby - on Oct. 15, 1997, late of 125 Willowbrook Rd.
JOSEPHSON, Eva - on Oct. 15, 1997.
NOSOVIZKI-KARPEL, Faina - on Oct. 15, 1997.
ROSENHOLTZ, Sarah - on Oct. 15, 1997, late of 133 Cactus Ave.
SHAPERO, Evelyn - on Oct. 15, 1997, late of 125 Combe Ave.
SWITZER, Harry - on Oct. 15, 1997, late of 81 Townsgate Dr.
DUBINSKY, Millicent - on Oct. 16, 1997, late of 6200 Bathurst St.
GIDELMAR, Ita - on Oct. 16, 1997.
GREEN, STRUB, Evelyn - on Oct. 16, 1997, late of 150 Wilson St. W.
GINDIL, Abraham - on Oct. 17, 1997, late of 523 Finch Ave. W.
COHEN, Norman - on Oct. 18, 1997.
ISAACS, Bella - on Oct. 18, 1997, late of 7420 Bathurst St.
ROSEN, Jack Mendel - on Oct. 18, 1997.
RODNEY, Samuel - on Oct. 19, 1997.
SORKINA, Eva - on Oct. 19, 1997, late of 298 Neal Dr.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

Unveiling
Anne "Chanchtse" Shuver
Sunday, November 2/97
10:30 am
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
New Fraternal Jewish Section

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
NORMAN CHARLES ל"ז
will take place
Sunday, Nov. 2nd, 11:30 a.m.
Roselawn Cemetery
Mozier
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
JOSEPH SMOLACK ל"ז
will take place
Sunday, Nov. 2nd, 11:30 a.m.
Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Hasiatiner Klaus *(Beth Israel)* Section
Relatives and friends are invited to attend

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Israel & the Jewish World

Swiss firms 'blocking' access

By FREDY ROM
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

BERN — Officials with the international panel of historians probing Switzerland's wartime past are complaining that some Swiss companies are refusing access to records dating back to the Nazi years.

The companies are "refusing to open their archives because they are afraid of compensation claims," according to one member of the Independent Commission of Experts, also known as the Bergier Commission, after its chair, historian Jean-Francois Bergier.

The international panel of historians was created by Switzerland last December to study the extent of the country's financial dealings with the Nazis.

Difficulties arose, according to members of the panel, when they attempted to investigate the operations of Swiss subsidiaries that operated in Nazi Germany. Some Swiss companies, they said, maintained that the commission had no legal authority to investigate the companies' subsidiaries.

Panel members cited the chocolate manufacturer Nestle as an example, saying the company refused to cooperate when the commission sought records about its Maggi subsidiary, which employed thousands of war prisoners and Jewish slave laborers at its factory located in Germany near the Swiss border.

"We are in a very delicate situation," said Linus von Castelmur, a historian who serves as secretary-general of the commission. "These records are absolutely necessary to investigate our history."

In a related development, some Swiss legislators are seeking to block parliamentary approval to provide additional funding for the commission's activities.

The Federal Council, as the Swiss cabinet is known, has called on Parliament to approve $11.5 million to cover the commission's operating costs during the next four years.

But some legislators want to block this funding, a move that would force the Bergier Commission to stop its activities by end of the year.

Slovenia shul rededicated

By RUTH E. GRUBER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MARIBOR, Slovenia — Five hundred years after Jews were expelled from what today is Slovenia, ceremonies were held here to rededicate the local synagogue.

Earlier this month, a mezuzah was nailed to the synagogue doorpost during a small ceremony that was held after a two-day international symposium titled, Medieval Jewish Communities in Central Europe and their Cultural Heritage.

"In the name of the Jewish community of Slovenia, I want to express thanks that we have lived to see this day and that we will work together with the city of Maribor and all people who are trying to preserve this synagogue as a living monument," said Mladen Svarc, coordinator of the Slovenian Jewish community, which numbers less than 100.

With work still to be completed on the synagogue, the mezuzah was taken down after the blessing was recited.

"It's just temporary and symbolic for now, as the synagogue is currently undergoing restoration, but we hope that when the work is complete, the mezuzah will be affixed here permanently," said Washington-based lawyer Mark Cohen, who brought the mezuzah to Maribor, which is located near the northern border of this former Yugoslav republic.

Cohen, who taught law at Maribor University several years ago, brought the mezuzah on behalf of the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, and Preserving Tolerance Inc., a private foundation.

The commission documents and preserves Jewish and other cultural heritage sites in Europe. Last year, in accordance with an agreement with the Slovenian government, it carried out a survey of all Jewish monuments in Slovenia.

The Maribor synagogue dates back to the 13th century and is one of the oldest buildings in the town.

Jews flourished in Maribor in the Middle Ages, and Maribor Rabbi Israel Isserlein was renowned throughout central Europe in the 15th century.

Jews were expelled from Maribor in 1497, and the synagogue was turned into a church in 1501. In the 19th century it was used as a warehouse and later as a dwelling.

City officials want to restore the synagogue for use as a cultural centre that would include an information centre on local Jewish history.

The symposium was the first full-scale international conference on a Jewish topic to be held in the town and was considered a prestigious local event.

Scholars and experts from Slovenia, Israel, Italy, Germany, Austria, Hungary and the United States presented papers.

Few of the participants in the symposium were Jewish.

REMEMBERING THE DAKAR
President Ezer Weizman recently gathered with some of the families of the crew from the submarine Dakar which was lost in 1968 with all 69 hands. [Israel photo]

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Jewish major leaguers missed out on playoffs

By HARLAN C. ABBEY
Special to The CJN

BUFFALO — When Hall of Fame pitcher Sandy Koufax said he wouldn't pitch in the 1965 World Series because it conflicted with Yom Kippur, it made headlines.

If the Los Angeles Dodgers had made it into this season's playoffs and pitcher Scott Radinsky had decided not to pitch because of his religion, it might have rated a paragraph at most. After all, the decision of a somewhat anonymous relief pitcher doesn't rate with that of a World Series starter.

Because of the lateness of the High Holy Days this year, Radinsky and the other Jewish major leaguers did not have to make any decisions about playing on the holidays – their seasons were already over.

Still, 1997 was satisfying for Radinsky, outfielder Shawn Green of the Toronto Blue Jays, catcher Jesse Levis of the Milwaukee Brewers and pitcher Andrew Lorraine of the Oakland A's, less so for pitchers Jose Bautista and Allen Levine.

Scott Radinsky

Radinsky was the subject of a feature story in *Sports Illustrated* that focused on his recovery from Hodgkin's disease, which cost him the entire 1994 season, and his musical talents, which included recording CDs with his bands Ten Foot Pole and Pulley.

A left-handed relief pitcher whose fast ball is consistently in the 90 mph range, Radinsky was called "the toughest left-hander I've ever faced" by superstar Ken Griffey Jr.

He posted 5-1 records in both 1996 and '97 as a set up man and sometimes as a closer in the late innings of a game.

A California native, Radinsky began his career in the White Sox chain in 1986. In 1990, he made the huge jump from Class A ball to the major leagues, the first player to do so since Dwight Gooden in 1984.

Over six seasons with the Sox, he posted a 24-16 record. Last year, with the Dodgers, he allowed a run in just nine of 57 games he pitched.

Shawn Green

Green, who turns 25 on Nov. 10, had a solid major league season. His .287 batting average was highest among all the Blue Jays and his 16 home runs and 13 stolen bases were career highs for the three-year veteran.

A California native and a first round draft selection, Green also scored 21 doubles, three triples and 53 ribbies. He tied the major league record with two assists from the outfield in one inning; tied the Jays' record for put-outs by an outfielder with nine in one game; tied the Jays' club record for a hitting streak by a rookie (14 games in 1995); he set a club rookie mark that year with 31 doubles, 50 extra base hits and a .509 slugging percentage, which made him the only rookie to lead the team in slugging percentage.

If the Blue Jays keep improving as a team and Green can conquer his early-season batting problem, he has the potential to become an all-star.

Blue Jays' slugger Shawn Green

Jesse Levis

Milwaukee was a threat to make the playoffs for much of the '97 season and Levis, in his second full season in the big leagues, was a definite asset.

Although he won't have enough at-bats to be listed in the official season summaries, his .278 average was one of the best for the Brewers and a giant leap up from last year's .236.

Levis set a team record for pinch hit at-bats with 45, but stroked only 11 hits, a drop from last season when he had a .306 average as a pinch hitter.

A native of the Philadelphia area and a third-team All-American at the University of North Carolina, Levis originally was signed by the Cleveland Indians, who traded him to the Brewers last April for pitcher Jared Camp.

During his seven minor league seasons in the Indians' chain, Levis, 27, hit .364 for Colorado Springs in 1992 and .311 with the Buffalo Bisons in 1995.

Jose Bautista

The son of a Russian mother – whose family fled Europe for the Dominican Republic – and a Dominican father, Bautista is married to Lea Robichek, a Jewish woman from Caracas, Venezuela.

In 1981, Bautista made his professional debut at the age of 16 with the New York Mets' team in Kingport, Tenn.; he was drafted by Baltimore in 1988, dropped by them and signed by Kansas City for the 1992 season. From there, he moved to the Cubs, where he had his best season (10-3, 2.82 ERA) as both a starting and a relief pitcher.

Then he was released again after an elbow injury, signed by San Francisco (6-8 over two seasons), dropped by them and signed by Detroit prior to the '97 season. With the Tigers, Bautista had only a 2-2 record and his ERA soared to 8.59 before he was waived and signed by the St. Louis Cardinals.

Now 33, the right-handed reliever may be nearing the end of his career.

Allen Levine

Levine and Lorraine are both young pitchers who spent part of the season in the "bigs" and part in AAA ball.

Levine played in 24 games for the White Sox, posting a 2-2 record and a 7.11 ERA and didn't fare any better when sent down to Nashville, where he was 1-1 with a 7.13 ERA.

In 25⅓ major league innings, he gave up 33 hits, 21 runs, walked 15 and struck out 18. In AAA, he was touched for 58 hits and 32 runs in 35⅔ innings, walked 11 and whiffed 29.

Andrew Lorraine

Lorraine, a left-handed starting pitcher, was in Oakland's minor league system for four years before being called up on Aug. 12, two days before his 25th birthday.

He won his first two starts and posted an overall 3-1 record, but with a 6.44 ERA. He started in six games and relieved in five others, giving up 45 hits in 29 innings, two homers, 15 walks and he struck out 17.

Lorraine has visited Israel with his family. At Yad Vashem, they looked up the name of their ancestral Polish village.

"A lot of family, great aunts and uncles, didn't make it out of the concentration camps," he said.

Luckily, his grandmother did.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A	S	A		S	T	O	O	G	E		H	O	B	O
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The Inside Back

New Israeli jet gets Canadian-built engine

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

BEN-GURION AIRPORT — Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI), Israel's largest hi-tech concern, recently unveiled its new executive jet, the Galaxy, powered by a Canadian-built engine.

The new plane is the product of a joint venture between IAI and the Hyatt Corp., which is owned by the Pritzker family from Chicago.

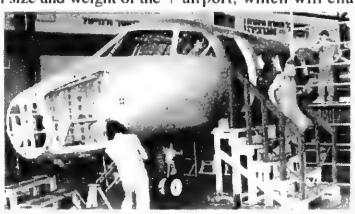
IAI and Hyatt have established a new company, Galaxy Aerospace Corp., and have invested $150 million (US) in the plane's design and production.

The new Galaxy Business Jet at its unveiling at the Israel Aircraft Industries. [Isranet]

If all goes according to schedule, the Galaxy is expected to make her maiden flight this December and the first deliveries will commence in the spring of 1999.

IAI designers and engineers considered several options for the Galaxy's engines, but in the end they opted for the new PW306A turbofan jet, manufactured by Pratt and Whitney in Canada.

IAI engineers were impressed with the engine's performance and fuel efficiency. As well, the overall size and weight of the PW306A was smaller than comparative engines available, making it an ideal choice for this new state-of-the-art executive jet.



Aircraft engineers work on the fuselage of the Galaxy Executive jet. [Isranet]

"The decision to build the Galaxy was taken in 1992," said IAI's president and CEO, Moshe Keret. "Our goal has been to expand into the non-defence market so that we could change our image and deepen our interest in the commercial markets. The eventual aim is to see 40 to 50 percent of IAI production going to the commercial market."

The Galaxy is expected to enable IAI to achieve its new commercial ambitions.

The specification and price/performance ratio reported by Galaxy are very impressive. It can seat between eight and 19 passengers, depending on the configuration. It has a range of 3,620 nautical miles, which enables the plane to fly nonstop from New York to Paris in 8¼ hours. Another attractive feature is the plane's price. It will sell for $16 million, which represents incredible value for money in the large-sized executive jet sector where prices range today from $20 to $37 million.

"The plane will be marketed and maintained by Galaxy Aerospace in a new facility based at Alliance Airport at Fort Worth, Tex." said Galaxy Aerospace CEO Brian Barents. "We considered 43 locations for our new worldwide headquarters. It had to be in North America because almost 70 percent of all executive jets sold in the world today are sold to North American customers. In the end we opted for Alliance because Federal Express [is] introducing a new hub at the airport, which will enable us to fly our spare parts to anywhere in the world at very short notice."

The prospects for Galaxy sales seem very good. There are today some 2,600 mid-sized business jets in operation around the world, with an average age of 17 years. This means that many will have to be replaced in an expanding executive market.

IAI is planning to produce two aircraft a month with the possibility of increasing to three per month if there is the demand.

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GOLDEN GLAZED CHICKEN

1 Spanish onion, sliced
salt and pepper to taste
4 chicken breasts with bone in
1/3 cup liquid honey
1/4 cup dijon mustard
2 tblsp. lemon juice
1 tblsp vegetable oil
1 tblsp curry powder

Spread onions in bottom of greased 13"x9" glass baking dish. Sprinkle with salt & pepper. Arrange chicken breasts on top (remove skin if you like) sprinkle with pepper.

In small bowl combine honey, mustard, lemon juice, oil and curry powder until well blended. Pour over chicken (can be prepared ahead of time and refrigerated for up to 8 hours). Bake uncovered in 375°F oven for 45 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink inside, basting 2 or 3 times during cooking. Serves 4. Enjoy!.

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

Last month, I quit my job because I was upset about the way my boss' partner acted towards me. Whenever he was near, it was too near and I often felt him brush an arm or leg against my rear end. He also tended to make suggestive comments to me when he thought no one could hear. Even though I was only there three months when I quit, I felt it was my only way out of attending a conference alone with my boss' partner. My question for you is this: How will I describe this situation when I interview for a new job?

Dear Reader,

You will say you left your job because of differences between yourself and your boss' partner. You may explain that it would be a breach of company confidence to discuss the situation further. Hopefully your former employer is willing to be a reference for you and you can give his or her name and number to the interviewer if it is desired. The fact that you were sexually harassed in your previous job is nobody's business but your own and it should not affect your future employment.

Job Search is a monthly column by career educator Lisa Galet Klug. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

YOU CAN NOW SEND YOUR LETTERS BY E-MAIL
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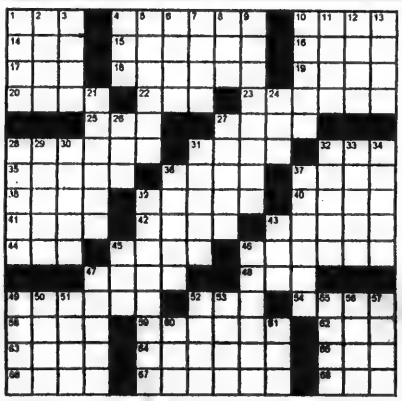
CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Degree
4. Ritual honor
10. Tu B'Shevat plantings?
14. Usurious instrument
15. Israel's progeny
16. 103
17. Use the tuches
18. Never a Nazarite
19. Occupied
20. Schlump (Eng)
22. Alphabet run
23. Bihemas (Eng)
25. Campaign org.
27. Simcha
28. Singer Bolotoo alias
31. "_ Cousins" Birmingham novel
32. Levenson or Goldwyn
35. Cohanim?
36. Chagall
37. "Kotter" star
38. Tzedakah
39. Moabite king
40. Son of Gad
41. E'er to Ha-Levi
42. Tsahal
43. Covet
44. Koppel
45. Youngman hope
46. Machpelah cave contents
47. Holes
48. Gaza to Jerusalem (dir)
49. Dead Sea Kibbutz
52. Damage
54. Snack (Yid)
58. Sound of MGM
59. Barn
62. 52
63. Demolish
64. Prayer shawl
65. Sof Pasuk
66. Political party
67. Mel and Woody
68. Haifa to Hebron (dir)

Down

1. Bituliah (Eng)
2. Make the bagels
3. Paul Newman's hobby
4. Einstein and Dreyfuss
5. Brokerage firm
6. "__ the Terrible", Treblinka
7. Yiddish org.
8. Enjoyed Latkes
9. Cartoonist nickname
10. Shema ender
11. Breaks the ninth commandment
12. Berle or Kamen
13. Sheldon and Gordon
21. Bialy spread
24. Hamantasch?
26. Michael Landon role
27. "Satan in _" Singer novel
28. Bare biblically
29. Israeli wood
30. Existed
31. Oasis trees
32. Avram's wife
33. Angel of Death path
34. Media
36. Spitz and Rothko
37. Eden
39. Baseball player
43. Jonathan Pollard?
45. Jew
46. Irving
47. Shimon
49. Gabbai catch
50. Ark builder
51. The strip
52. Ben Yehuda, Jerusalem
53. Competent
55. Judah Ha-Levi specialty
56. Hebrew letters
57. Jacob's disguise
60. Prayer for dew
61. Eat (Yid)

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 54.)

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The Canadian Jewish news
136 Pages Wednesday, October 1, 1997 Elul 29, 5757 75c

L'SHANA TOVA
5758

Moments of the present

[Paul Pascal photo]

GENERATION TO GENERATION

Like the tides that surge and recede by dint of beckoning forces, our lives too are shaped by energies and currents that we mostly feel, but can neither see nor understand.

However, during the first 10 days of Tishrei, the days of introspection and of self-assessment, the passage of our years becomes somehow clearer to us. For religious and irreligious alike, Rosh Hashanah reminds us of time's constant melancholy tug upon the forward momentum of our lives.

Time – and the awareness of it – are ever present factors that shape human life. And how we relate to time is an ever present factor that shapes individual lives.

The late Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik wrote that consciousness of time, along with consciousness of place, were the two fundamental dimensions of kedushah, of holiness. But he pointed out there were two categories of time-consciousness: qualitative and quantitative. Only the former, qualitative time-consciousness, he emphasized, was the means to a life of higher meaning and purpose, of commitment and creativity.

Editorial

Qualitative time-consciousness, he wrote, was "the appreciation of the enormous implications inherent in the fleeting moments of the present. No fraction of time, however infinite, should slip through the fingers, left unexploited; for eternity may depend upon the brief moment."

The above photo by Paul Pascal, one of the winners of *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah photo contest, conveys a sense of qualitative time-consciousness in a poignant and almost poetic way.

The contrast between the timeless, innocent, endearing little boy and the timeless, ancient craggy stones of the Wall enables us to see and helps us to understand what we usually can only feel, what Rabbi Soloveitchik referred to as the "enormous implications in the fleeting moments of the present."

The page of the calendar turns to 5758 and we will pray that no longer will infinite fractions of time slip through our fingers.

Bibi speaks to *The CJN*

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gave a Rosh Hashanah interview in his Jerusalem office to Edgar Asher, The CJN's Israel correspondent. The conversation covered many of the present political, social and economic issues that affect the Jewish people in Israel and in the Diaspora.

CJN: *Mr Netanyahu, would you give your views concerning the crisis over the occupation of the house in Ras Al Amud, following the Sept. 18 agreement with U.S. millionaire Irving Moskowitz, which resulted in the three families leaving his east Jerusalem property.*

NETANYAHU: Israelis have the right to live anywhere within the sovereign territory of Israel. But in the case of Jerusalem we tend to build neighborhoods in particular places. There will be a new neighborhood in Har Choma, thousands of houses for both Jews and Arabs. Har Choma is empty and very large. It is government policy to permit private contractors to build at Har Choma — we haven't decided to build in Ras Al Amud.

The question of the law of eviction and protection of property is clear, but the law is not so clear about national security risks and this we have to consider also. We want to defuse the tension and preserve the unity and rights of the people. It is a complicated equation, but I think it is achievable.

Continued on page 48

This Week
Coast to Coast

Supreme Court clears the way for Nazi war crimes trials to resume *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish school system set to examine education changes *Page 5*

Rosh Hashanah Greetings

Zionism after 100 years is the theme of this year's supplement *B Section*

Business

Minto Developments developing $100-million condominium. *Profile.* *Page 56*

Sports

Soccer pro looks forward to promoting the sport in Canada *Page 66*

Index

Coast to Coast 3
GTA 4
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
On Campus 26
Rosh Hashanah 5758 28
Just Between Us 31
What's New 32
International 39
The Year in Review 50
Travel, Arts & Business 52
Health 57
CJKids 58
Classified 61
Sports 66
Ask Lisa 67
Crossword 67

Shabbat Shuvah: Ha'azinu
Shabbat candles: 6:40
Tishrei 2, 5757
Havdalah: 7:45

INSIDE

Photo Contest Winners. Congratulations to *Mimi Fliess, Jonathan Myers* and *Paul Pascal*. Their entries were declared to be the "winners" of our Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest. Their photographs can be seen in this issue. We thank all those who submitted photos.

Don't miss an issue. Call 416-391-1836 today to have The Canadian Jewish News delivered to your door every week.

Shanah Tovah to all from the directors and staff of The CJN

Chanukah Continuity Campaign

The photo on the front page of our Rosh Hashanah issue conveys in a forceful and moving way the importance of feeling part of the Jewish community. The young boy, just at the dawn of his life, reaches for and kisses the Western Wall, which represents for us all the eternality of life. The photo captures the essence of Jewish continuity.

As a way of helping to ensure the irreversibility of that continuity, *The CJN* is launching a special continuity subscription campaign in time for Chanukah. We have decided to offer our readers a special, one-time opportunity to provide their children or their grandchildren with their own subscription to *The CJN*.

A gift subscription for your child or grandchild, **who does not already subscribe to *The CJN*,** will cost **$14.95** (taxes included) for one full year to anywhere in Canada.

Over the past few years, *The CJN* has grown and evolved into an award-winning national community newspaper widely read both here in Canada and abroad. We are extremely proud of this publication.

Could there be a better gift at Chanukah for your child or grandchild than the opportunity to feel part of the Jewish community?

Sincerely,

Mordechai Ben-Dat

The editor.

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PA spurns U.S. request

By HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

WASHINGTON – The Palestinian Authority (PA) Sunday spurned a last-minute U.S. request that it send a delegation of experts capable of bringing several major interim agreement issues to closure when the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations resumed.

The rejection is believed to be due to the PA's position that the talks should deal with issues outside the realm of interim status matters.

A Palestinian source said the PA's decision not to send any committee heads to Washington reflected its refusal to conclude deals on technical issues, such as the Dahaniya Airport, for fear they would provide Israel with political cover for its refusal to make concessions on substantive issues such as further redeployment. In taking this stand, the PA leadership was fully aware that it would provoke the American go-betweens, the source said.

Foreign Minister David Levy told reporters upon arriving here that he was "surprised" that the Palestinians are "projecting pessimism" in advance of the talks, an attitude which he said "usually doesn't go hand-in-hand with a willingness to make progress." Israeli officials have "the authorization and optimism and the serious intentions necessary to progress," Levy said.

Levy and the PA's Mahmoud Abbas are to meet with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright before proceeding to a suburban campus for the negotiations.

'Projecting pessimism'

In the absence of a complete Palestinian delegation, Saeb Erekat and Nabil Shaath have been authorized by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat to negotiate respectively on the opening of a jointly run industrial park at Karni and of a Palestinian airport at Dahaniya.

But an Israeli Embassy official called that a "disappointing" situation, because "it prevents the possibility of reaching an agreement" on those two items.

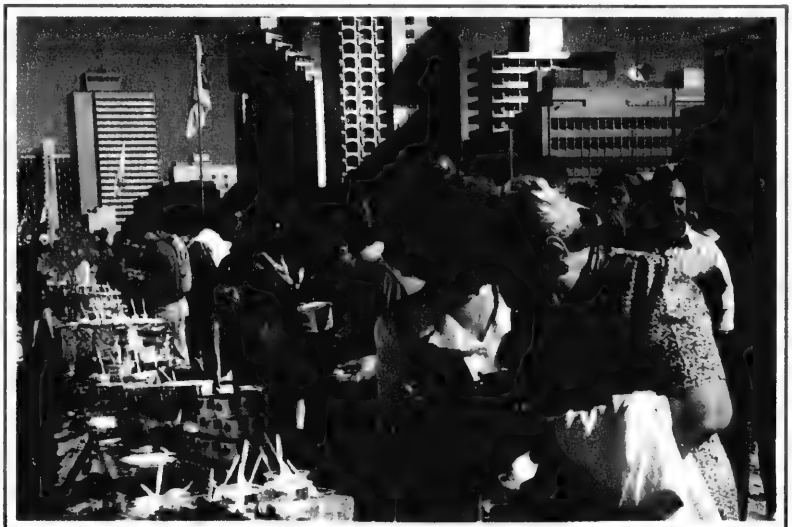
"Karni could have been concluded [here]. If there are no experts here, how can it be concluded?" he said.

Levy was scheduled to meet Sunday night with U.S. special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross and get a better idea how the discussions would be arranged in light of the truncated Palestinian team, the embassy official said. Israel was in touch throughout the day with the U.S. team, which passed on Jerusalem's concerns to the Palestinians, he added.

Concluding negotiations on the interim phase issues was to have constituted one portion of the talks. The sides will also discuss how to move into final status negotiations, improving security cooperation, the overdue IDF redeployments, and Albright's call for an Israeli "time-out" in settlement construction.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai was also to arrive here for a three-day visit unconnected to the negotiations.

Jay Bushinsky contributed to this report.



BREAKFAST IN ISRAEL

A mile-long table set at the beach in Tel Aviv beckoned Israelis as local chefs attempted to set a record for the world's longest breakfast. The table featured 120,000 yogurts and puddings, 20 tons of cheese, two tons of cornflakes, 3,000 loaves of bread and 20,000 jam jars. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Family, faith, identity

By DAVID HARTMAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

The modern world has witnessed the breakdown of a shared understanding among Jews of how they are meant to live. In contrast to many periods in the past, Torah and Halachah no longer define the collective or individual convictions of the majority of the Jewish people. The interaction with modern civilization and culture has weakened the controlling influence of classical Judaism over contemporary Jewry. While we may lament this loss and fear for the spiritual and cultural future of Jewish history, we must recognize this dramatic change in Jewish consciousness as a fact of modernity.

Commentary

This erosion of normative consensus was accompanied by the evolution of family into the basic concept informing Jewish self-understanding and commitment. Sociologically speaking, family rather than norm defines the fundamental experience of Jewish unity and accountability.

Family-related notions of "people," "memory," "shared suffering," and "history" have emerged as the primary cementing values uniting Jews

Continued on page 45

This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Reform, Conservative Jews use reprieve to cool off in battle over conversion bill. ***Page 3***

BJC runs a profit and prepares to welcome CHAT to its site. ***Page 5***

75th annual Hadassah-WIZO bazaar a huge success. ***Page 20***

National

Lynden, Ont. couple celebrates 50 years on the farm. ***Page 33***

Health

Early detection program in Israel helps in fight against breast cancer. ***Page 38***

Arts

Award-winning director Joel Greenberg stages 37 Shakespearean plays in just 97 minutes. ***Page 50***

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 22
On Campus 29
Yiddish Corner 31
Coast to Coast 32
Health 38
Fashion 40
International 41
CJ Kids 46
Travel, Arts & Business 48
Classified 54
Sports 58
Ask Ella 59

Shabbat: Lech Lecha
Candlelighting: 4:44
Cheshvan 7, 5758
Havdallah: 5:49

INSIDE

Simon Wiesenthal Centre says Australia a haven for war criminals.
Please see page 41.

Remembering Victor Frankl — please see page 9

The News in Brief

CANADA

Hadassah Bazaar

VANCOUVER — The Hadassah Bazaar took place this week at the Forum building at the Pacific National Exhibition.

According to Sheryl Morris, the publicity director for the 46th annual bazaar, "the theme of this year's bazaar was Something for Everybody." And to this end, Morris notes, a concerted effort was made this year to cater to a broad range of people.

Aside from raising money for a worthwhile cause, Morris feels that the bazaar "pulls the community together."

Commemorative Book

TORONTO — To celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary, Toronto's Jewish community is producing a commemorative book, *Toronto Remembers*. This photo-history book will highlight Torontonians' connections with Israel, through personal stories and photos. The book will also profile organizations and individuals who helped build the State of Israel. The deadline for submissions is Nov. 10. For more information, call 416-635-2883, ext. 705.

BB Opens New Office

OTTAWA — B'nai Brith Canada recently opened its new office here at 112 Kent St. It will be staffed by Rubin Friedman as the director of government relations.

Canadian Jewish Press

OTTAWA — To mark the centenary of the Jewish press in Canada, the National Library of Canada is hosting a lecture on Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

CJC Meets With Robillard

OTTAWA — Canadian Jewish Congress representatives met recently with Citizenship and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard to discuss issues of concern to the Jewish community.

Names Sought

MONTREAL — The State Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau is compiling a list of persons who were deported to this former Nazi concentration camp with their family and friends.

The purpose is to enable the museum to honor both survivors and the memories of those who perished. Individuals are asked to enclose their own address and to mark the envelope as archive material.

Information should be mailed or faxed to Henrik Swiebocki, State Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau, 32-603 Oswiecim, Wiezniow Oswiecima 20, Poland, fax: 011-4833431934.

Harmony Award

TORONTO — Ruth Goldbloom was honored at the Harmony Movement's second annual Harmony Award Banquet. The award is given in recognition of "an individual or organization that has made significant contributions towards eliminating the social barriers to mutual understanding and trust."

Barrie Lawyer Honored

BARRIE, Ont. — Barrie lawyer Sam Delmar was recently presented with the first Simcoe County Law Association's Lawyer of the Year Award.

The 36-year-old lawyer was diagnosed with cancer over two years ago and despite his illness, he continued practising until recently.

ISRAEL

Pollard Petition

JERUSALEM — The Israeli High Court of Justice is considering a petition calling on the Israeli government to recognize that Jonathan Pollard was an agent for Israel.

The petition also asked the court to order the government to release classified documents which claim to prove that Pollard's activities were overseen by senior Israeli authorities.

WORLD

Religious Freedom

MOSCOW — Human rights activists have established an organization to protect the freedom of religion in Russia.

The new group was formed as a direct response to a law passed last month restricting the rights of religions that have not officially operated in Russia for at least 15 years.

Property Claims

MOSCOW — Officials in the western Ukrainian city of Lvov are refusing to return a building that previously belonged to the Jewish community.

Russian Nukes

MOSCOW — On the heels of reports that Russia is helping Iran develop missile technology, Moscow appears to be ready to increase its dealings with Libya.

The Russian minister for emergency situations has announced that Russia is ready to start talks with Libya on overhauling one of its nuclear research centres.

Claims Conference

NEW YORK — The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany has appointed Ze'ev Sher, a noted Israeli attorney and government official to head the Independent Review Office of the Article 2 Fund, which provides pensions to needy Jewish survivors of Nazi persecution. For further information, call 212-696-4944.

Warsaw Jews Organize Communal Body

ROME — Warsaw's Jews have formally established an organized Jewish religious community, electing a board that for the first time in Poland includes women.

Five out of seven of the new board members were born after World War II, marking a significant change in the local Jewish leadership profile.

Prior to its creation this month, there was no official Jewish community operating in Warsaw.

Warsaw Jews instead came under the Warsaw-based Federation of Jewish Religious Communities in Poland, the umbrella organization of the country's Jewish groups.

The new Warsaw community plans to broaden its scope of activities so that local operations will no longer be identified only with synagogue service and charity.

This, founding members say, is aimed at attracting membership, particularly among young people.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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Reform, Conservative Jews use pause to give Israel time

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Reform and Conservative Zionists in Canada will use the three-month reprieve granted in the battle over Israel's conversion bill to cool off and regroup, after weeks of a pressure campaign that included letter-writing and meetings with the Israeli ambassador.

Both groups say they will keep low profiles for the next three months to allow the commission headed by Israel's Finance Minister, Ya'acov Ne'eman, to find a compromise with Israel's Orthodox establishment.

Last week in Jerusalem, leaders of Arza, the North American Reform movement's Zionist arm, met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to express their alarm at the legislation. Included in the delegation was Harvey Zimmerman of Toronto, the immediate past president of Arza Canada, the Canadian Association of Reform Zionists.

Zimmerman told *The CJN* that the purpose of the 90-minute meeting was "not to tell Israel what to do or how to vote, but to tell them of the consequences for Diaspora Jewry should these bills pass. They would create a great rift between Israeli Jews and Diaspora Jews.

"Our argument is not with the Orthodox. Our concern is the consequences," he said.

A delegation from Arza Canada met early last week in Ottawa with David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada, to express this country's large Reform community's "firm opposition" to the conversion bill, and to another bill that would ban Reform and Conservative Jews from sitting on regional religious councils.

The statement to Sultan said Canadian Reform Jews consider legislation preventing the non-Orthodox from "articulating [their] religious needs... a willful attempt at destroying the very foundation on which the Jewish state was built."

The next day in Israel, the Conservative and Reform movements, at the urging of Israeli President Ezer Weizman, gave Netanyahu a three-month reprieve in the dispute over the bills.

Leaders of the two movements had said they would press on with their court challenge to the bills, but reversed themselves to allow the Ne'eman committee to find a compromise.

The committee has until Jan. 31, 1998 to hammer out a deal that would accommodate the non-Orthodox.

In the interim, "we won't be doing anything of a public nature," said Mark Anshan, president of Arza Canada. "We'll take a back seat."

Anshan spoke to *The CJN* from Dallas, where he was attending the biennial meeting of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the North American Reform movement's umbrella.

He said movement president Eric Yoffe implied in a speech that Reform Jews the world over will not stand for any more extensions of the committee's work.

The Ne'eman committee missed an Aug. 15 deadline and has yet to offer any proposals.

The conversion bill, which seeks to invalidate all non-Orthodox conversions, last spring passed the first of three readings in the Knesset by

[Cont'd. on page 17]

HADASSAH BAZAAR

Hadassah-WIZO volunteers display wares at last week's 73rd annual Hadassah Bazaar. For more photos, see page 20.

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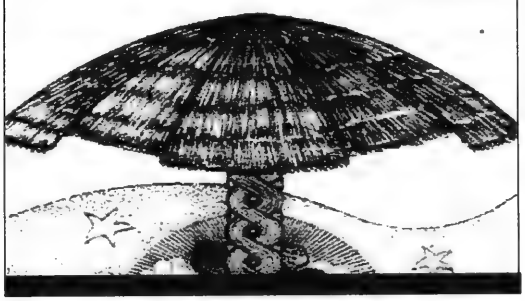

Honor guard at dedication of Sefer Torah given by the Nudelman family to Sunnybrook Jewish chapel.

We owe a great debt to those who fought bravely

From the editor's desk

Like most of my generation, I was born into a world in which Hitler had been vanquished and the State of Israel had arisen just a handful of years earlier.

I understood the world in the innocent and simplistic way of most youngsters, as if history was a documentary and time a projector reeling out yesterday's events in the reliable testament of black and white celluloid.

It would take many years before I understood that I was not even at the beginning of understanding what those words actually meant.

The Nazis were the flesh and bones of pure evil. And they were defeated by the Allied forces.

This was the anchor that lent stability and certainty to my moral compass, namely, that *our* soldiers helped to defeat the Nazis.

But even the term "soldiers," was more abstract than real. To a youngster, child of immigrants after World War II, soldiers were the men and women of the American army who fought bravely, in black and white, on the movie screen and though they were shot, seemed never to bleed. They were men like John Wayne and Gregory Peck.

But as I grew older and began to understand that I did not understand, it became clear that Hollywood was not war and that actors were not soldiers.

Soldiers were the "ordinary" men and "ordinary" women of "ordinary" life. We see them when strolling near a park or when buying our groceries in the market. That they lived when so many of their friends and comrades did not, was as often due to chance as to bravery.

We who have never gone off to war – now more than three generations born since World War II – will never understand the truth of their experiences.

Remembrance Day, once a more honored occasion in our schools and in our streets, is next week. It is important that we recognize our soldiers and that we remember who they were.

The honor guard that appears in the accompanying photo is intended to help us to do that. In their youth, they were our soldiers. Today, they are our parents and our grandparents and our role models.

We owe them all a great debt.

***

In last week's column, I included a poem by the distinguished writer and poet Simcha Simchovitch. Unfortunately, the very last line of the poem was omitted. With apologies to its author, and for the unimpaired edification of our readers, I produce the poem again.

Youth

Youth from poor Jewish neighborhoods
where you carried your lofty dreams
like flags unfurled, with joy and song.
You grew up in storm, feverishly
striving towards a sunny morn,
yet never to touch it.

I see you - a forest full grown with
curly heads proudly raised
like crowns of rustling trees,
eyes glowing with springtime dreams,
hands muscular, youthful and brave,
hearts trusting, full of glad tidings.

Your spirits still hover there,
in gutted towns, in ravaged lanes;
the cobblestone pavements yet wonder:
Where are those rebels and dreamers?

by Simcha Simchovitch
Translated by Faye Kellerstein

The community is cordially invited
to a special meeting of the Executive of
Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region
to hear

Eli Rosenbaum

Director,
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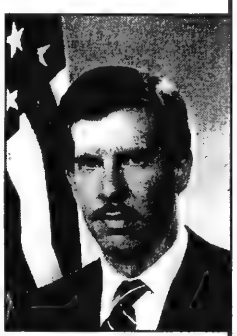

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Barbara Ferguson
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devoted grandfather
and great-grandfather.

Greater Toronto Area

BJC prepares to welcome CHAT to its site

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For the first time in three years, the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) has made a profit – $60,000, its annual meeting was told Oct. 30.

At the same time, BJC president Michael Kerbel reported that the centre's rescue from millions of dollars of debt is now "complete."

Other top officers said a new building for the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) at the BJC location will bring new life to the BJC.

Construction of CHAT to house 1,000 students will begin shortly, Kerbel said.

"This joint project of CHAT will turn the BJC into a real community campus," said Joey Steiner, UJA Federation president.

The new CHAT is a joint project of the Federation, the Jewish Board of Education and the BJC, he said.

Speaking of the difficult period the former Jewish Community Centre went through when it was threatened with bankruptcy, Steiner said: "It was with great trepidation that we embarked on rescue. But it was the right thing to do. The BJC is doing an absolutely vital job We're very enthusiastic about CHAT coming here."

(The UJA Federation guided the JCC to a solution of its financial problems. Today the BJC has a bank credit line of $2.5 million and another $2.5 million has been guaranteed by the United Jewish Welfare Fund of Toronto.)

The profit of $60,000 this year compares to a loss of $208,000 the year before, treasurer Bruce Leboff reported.

Gift donations and rental income were both up significantly , he said, and membership retention as of September this year is ahead of last year.

Reporting a 50 percent increase in donations, Kerbel said the BJC has made "dramatic progress" and has completed a strategic plan to take it into the next millennium. The BJC will expand its community outreach and "cutting edge" programs.

Membership retention stands at 87 percent, said executive director Deborah Pinsky. The BJC was able to raise $280,000 in donations and the opening in 1998 of the hands-on My Jewish Discovery Museum at the BJC will bring new families and children into its orbit.

"Our staff is doing more with less," she said, promising that the outdoor running track will be renovated in the spring.

On health issues, the BJC is co-operating with Mt. Sinai Hospital to sponsor programs on child and adult nutrition, cardiac care and general health lectures.

A total of 800 children attended summer camp it was reported.

Describing volunteers as an endangered species, Dorothy Shoichet of the Koffler Centre of the Arts, presented volunteer awards to Jean Rodak and Jessica Thompson. A special achievement award was presented to Dr. Irv Gottesman by BJC board member Howard Stevens.

USDS STUDENTS IN FOOD DRIVE

Students at United Synagogue Day School (USDS), Richmond Hill campus, participated in Project Isaiah, in which 1,500 lbs. of non-perishable food items were collected and delivered to the Richmond Hill Food Bank. The project was held in conjunction with Beit Rayim Synagogue. From left are Grade 7 students Joanna Gallen, Jeremy Levick, Erin Goldenberg, Jennifer Korn and Jaclyn Isen.

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Greater Toronto Area

Passengers, crew recall voyage of the *Exodus*

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ten local survivors of the *Exodus* helped launch Holocaust Education Week with tales of the heroic little steamer that helped launch a nation.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

The Leah Posluns Theatre was packed to capacity last Thursday night to hear first-hand accounts of the historic vessel that tried to carry over 4,500 Holocaust survivors to the shores of Palestine.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the voyage, immortalized in the Leon Uris book and a Hollywood treatment starring Paul Newman. Both were described last week as having taken a great deal of license with the truth.

Of the 64 ships that tried to smash the British blockade of Palestine from 1945 to '48 in the clandestine operation known as Aliyah Bet, none became better known than the *Exodus*.

While its passengers were turned back by the British following a fierce battle near Haifa harbor, the plight of the survivors galvanized world opinion against London and hastened the creation of Israel in 1948, the audience was told.

"What did the *Exodus* accomplish?" asked Nat Nadler of New York, one of the ship's crew members. "It created the State of Israel. It would have happened sooner or later, but this hurried it along."

Following a screening of a documentary on the *Exodus*, which aired recently on PBS, Nadler recalled that two babies were born during the voyage, despite the fact that pregnant women were not allowed aboard. He recalled meeting one of those babies 40 years later.

Meir Schwartz, a retired professor from Israel and former Haganah commander who accompanied the passengers on their voyage, recalled the heat, crowds and "dreadful" sanitary conditions aboard. But as the vessel pulled away from a French port en route to Palestine, "someone started to sing *Hatikvah*. This was Jewish hope, and we all got the feeling we would make it."

The *Exodus* was actually named the *President Warfield*, a luxury steamer built to carry 400. For years, it ferried people from Baltimore to Norfolk, in Chesapeake Bay.

British troops place *Exodus* passengers aboard trucks in Germany. [Photo from *The Jews' Secret Fleet* by Joseph Hochstein and Murray Greenfield.]

By 1947, it was a rustbucket, but was refitted and drafted into the secret operation that tried to bypass the British blockade of Jewish immigration to Palestine.

The *Warfield* took on its 4,515 passengers in the French port of Sete. After a series of cloak-and-dagger manoeuvres, it was attacked by the British in a pitched, four-hour battle just 40 kilometres from Haifa. Passengers hurled tinned food at the sailors and put up a brave fight.

"We were no pushover," said Nadler, then an idealistic 23-year-old volunteer. Nevertheless, two Jews died and over 100 were hurt in the battle.

Just before the fight, the ship's name was changed. A handwritten banner proclaimed her as *Haganah Ship – Exodus 1947*.

The British prevailed and the passengers were returned to France. When they refused to disembark, the British returned them to Germany – to the horror of the world.

It was then the public relations campaign turned in favor of the Jews. The world was outraged that Holocaust survivors were again interned in the land that spawned Hitler, and the British handed the matter of Palestine to the United Nations, which voted to partition the land between Arabs and Jews. That decision in turn led to statehood in 1948.

All that was a far cry from the movie, Nadler noted.

"There was no Paul Newman or [co-star] Eva Marie Saint. If there was, believe me, I would have tried to find her," he quipped.

Asked what motivated such young people to heroism and bravery, former *Exodus* passenger Hana Zimnowitz, now a 75-year-old widow in Thornhill, explained, "We wanted freedom, and nothing would stop us."

* * *

For information on Holocaust Education Week programs, call 416-631-5689.

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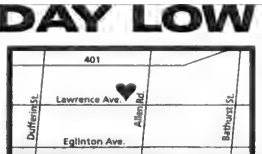

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Greater Toronto Area

Abuse of women comes in many forms: panel

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Too many Jewish women refuse to speak out about being abused because they don't want to bring shame to their family, says the supervisor of the women abuse program at Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS).

"They are embarrassed and humiliated, and they feel that by talking about it they will stain their children and family," said Gail Gould at a recent panel sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto section.

Also on the panel were Susan Brotman, coordinator of JF&CS' children witnessing woman abuse program, and two survivors of abuse, Shayna and Shawna.

Gould said she hesitates using the term violence when discussing woman abuse because it eliminates psychological and emotional abuse. "Woman abuse is the physical, sexual, verbal and financial abuse of women," she said.

She told the all-female audience about a woman who had endured emotional abuse from her husband for 50 years. The woman was desperately unhappy, she said, but because she had never been physically assaulted, she did not know she was in an abusive relationship.

Shayna, who spoke publicly for the first time about her marriage, said that before she got married, she was a self-confident woman who taught and did public speaking.

"Emotional abuse can obliterate one's entire sense of self. I was an intellectual, educated and articulate woman but I felt beaten. I searched for wounds [on my body], but they were not visible. Emotional abuse is the most devastating form of abuse. It scars for life."

The abuse comes in many forms, she said, but ultimately it feels the same. "A woman feels lazy, ugly, stupid. She is isolated from family and friends, blamed for everything that goes wrong and is treated with no respect.

"Young children [in these homes] learn to blame others for everything. They learn how to be abusive."

Shayna, who was raised in a small Jewish community, was taught that the Jewish family was "central to the universe. I was too embarrassed to say that something was wrong with my marriage. I didn't want to be seen as a failure."

She considered turning away from Judaism, she said, when her husband, who had become observant, made Shabbat an exhausting ordeal. "Finally, a rabbi convinced me that that was not right. That was not Judaism."

Shawna, a survivor of abuse that began when she was dating her future husband, said she decided to speak in public because she wanted to put a face on abused women. "I always thought abused women were on welfare. I never thought it was me."

She said that although the verbal and physical abuse began long before her wedding, things got even worse after the marriage. "He pushed me down the stairs when I was nine months pregnant and then talked me into staying."

Now, alone with her children, she lives in a "different kind of hell, but it is a hell I can control. I've gained back my self-esteem and I care about myself again. If I had known what leaving [my marriage] would be like, I wouldn't have left. Having left, however, I'll never go back."

Brotman advised young women and their mothers of the warning signs for potential controlling relationships. "Does he decide where you go or what you do on most dates? Does he reject the ideas you offer? Does he put down your family or friends? Is he possessive or jealous? Does he take responsibility for his own actions? For example, when he fails a test, does he blame the teacher? Does he have unexplained mood swings?"

Date rape, which includes unwanted touching or sexual activity, she said, occurs most often by people the young woman knows. "Physical abuse is rarely a one-time occurrence, it usually escalates over time."

Emotional abuse, said Brotman, is especially confusing for teens, "because it is behavior cloaked by love. It is abuse however, if one person feels fear or intimidation. In a non-abusive relationship, both partners can show anger without fear. Love includes caring, trust, honesty, closeness and respect – not jealousy, violence, pain, cruelty or the expectation that all needs should be met in one place."

MEGA-MAYOR HOPEFULS AT NCJW EXHIBIT

Present at the opening of the National Council of Jewish Women's archival exhibit marking its 100th anniversary were (from left) Roz Fine, president, NCJW, Toronto section; Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall; North York Mayor Mel Lastman and Hinda Simkin, NCJW Canada president.

17th Annual Holocaust Education Week
PROGRAM CHANGE - SUN. NOV. 9

"Brundibar," a children's opera performed in Terezin between 1943 & 1944.
NEW LOCATION: Beth Sholom Synagogue - 2 pm & 7:30 pm
1445 Eglinton Avenue West, Toronto

Holocaust Education Week, October 30 - November 9, is coordinated by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of UJA Federation.
For a daily program update, call (416) 631-5689 or visit our web site: www.feduja.org

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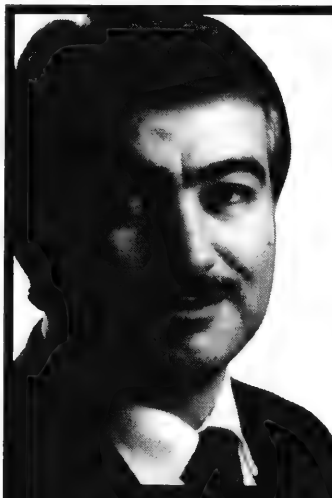

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Left unsaid

Last week in the Vatican, some 60 scholars met at the invitation of the Roman Catholic Church to explore, among other things, the sources of anti-Jewish teachings within church doctrine. The Pope addressed the august assembly on the subject of anti-Jewish currents in Christian theology. According to the *Globe and Mail*, he told the gathering "wrong or unfair interpretations of the New Testament had created 'hostility' to the Jews in the Christian world."

To the great disappointment of Jewish lay and religious leaders, and also, one would hope, of many non-Jewish lay and religious leaders, the Pope did not acknowledge, let alone admit, either church silence or church complicity in the Nazis' destruction of European Jewry. The most he could bring himself to say was that the erroneous or unfair interpretations of the New Testament "helped in deadening consciences, so that when the wave of persecutions inspired by a pagan anti-Semitism flooded Europe...the spiritual resistance was weak."

After expressing regret that the Pope did not deliver himself of a more explicit mea culpa in relation to the Church's role during the Holocaust, Rabbi Marvin Hier, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles, described the statement as a "breath of fresh air."

We do not have the benefit of the text of the Pope's remarks before us, but if the media reports of his presentation are accurate, the pontiff's statement was much less than a breath. It was nothing more than a mere whiff.

The intersection of Church history with Jewish history, for the most part, has been a bloody vector of torture, persecution and maltreatment. The Pope knows this. Therefore, while we appreciate the direction of his remarks, we rue their short distance.

"Humanity had a right to expect more defiance from the disciples of Christ," he was reported as saying in the *Globe and Mail*.

Humanity?

What about the Jews?

It was the Jews – so many of whom were consumed over the ages in the flames of Church-lit or Church-inspired fires – who had a right to expect more defiance from the disciples of Christ!

It was the Jews whose pitiful cries for a million of their children failed to move the "deadened consciences" of church leaders.

It was the Jews who, begging for refuge at any door of any church, were, for the most part, turned away by the "spiritually weakened" disciples of Christ.

This pontifical omission speaks volumes. It fills in eloquently what was left unsaid by the Pope to that colloquium of scholars.

What was left unsaid was: "To the Jews, we have sinned against you and against God. Please forgive us."

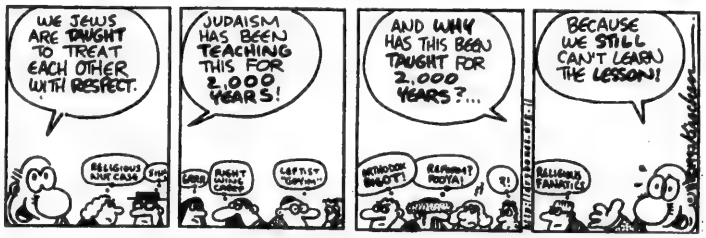
No one will be fooled

Protests and violence rocked the West Bank again last weekend. The images were, by now, quite familiar. A frenzy of masked men burned the Israeli flag in front of a video camera and shouted their invective and their hatred into the microphones for the benefit of the evening newscasts, many thousands of kilometres away in North America. There would be no peace, the protesters howled, without the release of Palestinians being held in Israeli jails.

They were trying to persuade viewers at the other end of the camera that peace was contingent on granting freedom from Israeli captivity to these criminals. But no one watching in the living rooms of the west, and certainly not in Israel, will be fooled. It was because they committed acts intended to prevent and to destroy peace that these criminals wound up in Israeli jails in the first place.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"There is no room for God in a man who is full of himself."
Baal Shem Tov

Dry Bones


WE JEWS ARE TAUGHT TO TREAT EACH OTHER WITH RESPECT.
JUDAISM HAS BEEN TEACHING THIS FOR 2,000 YEARS!
AND WHY HAS THIS BEEN TAUGHT FOR 2,000 YEARS?...
BECAUSE WE STILL CAN'T LEARN THE LESSON!

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Nov. 5, 1902 J.B Salsberg, former *CJN* columnist, was born.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Accept Gedenkdienst with open mind

*The following letter is in response to an article by David Lazarus (*CJN, *Oct. 22, Montreal edition only) dealing with a dispute at the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre (MHMC) over a project known as Gedenkdienst. It involves having an Austrian student work at the MHMC in lieu of military service in the Austrian army.*

In Claude Lanzmann's film *Shoah*, a Polish farmer was asked if he knew why the Germans were killing the Jews! "It is because they killed our Lord! They must be punished!" was his reply. Not until his 1956 encyclical, *Nostra Aetate*, did the Pope absolve the Jews of any responsibility for the Crucifixion and suffering of Christ. Thus was the Vatican distanced from the medieval dogma of "guilt by association."

I understand only too well the feelings of some of our fellow survivors, Elie Wiesel has expressed it perfectly: "For the camp survivor, life is a battle not only for the dead, but also against them. Locked up in the grip of the dead, he fears that by freeing himself he is abandoning them. Hence, the near-impossibility of loving, or of believing in humanity."

Yet Simon Wiesenthal has overcome this trauma and rightfully tells us that guilt is not collective, but belongs exclusively to the perpetrator, not to his descendants nor his compatriots.

An organization such as ours that teaches respect and tolerance for others, would do well to have as our credo, innocent until proven guilty.

Any gesture of good will extended to us, be it the renovation of a synagogue or of a cemetery, a formal or informal apology, amendments attempted or made, or even the services of a Gedenkdienst must be accepted by us with grace and an open mind.

Walter Absil
MHMC Board of Governors
Montreal

Israel has right to say who is a Jew

I am deeply offended by the full-page ad by the New Israel Fund (*CJN*, Oct. 15). It is misleading, divisive and harmful to the Jewish people. The basis of their ad is "imagine a Jew in this country being told how to practise religion. That's exactly what's happening in Israel."

If the New Israel Fund is really concerned about democracy as opposed to their preconceived anti-Orthodox notions, maybe they should be pressuring the Conservative and Reform movements to consult with all their constituents, the Jews of Israel, the Israeli government and Orthodox Jewry, to have a definition and process of being a Jew that is acceptable to a clear majority of Jews. They should word the questionnaires objectively and not politically. The onus is on the Reform and the Conservative to compromise and find agreement, since they are the ones who have changed the essence of who we are after following one basic way for 3,000 years. Without Orthodox Judaism would we have survived 3,000 years and have had enough Jews to form a Jewish State?

Israel has every right to define who and how one is a Jew, since they are the Jewish state. Naturally it will exclude some members of some groups. The Israeli government should be taking the offensive and telling the Reform and Conservative movements to reverse their decisions until a consensus and agreed upon solution can be found. As long as the Reform and Conservative movements don't play around with the definition and process of being a Jew, their members' *long-term* Jewishness will never be in doubt. The movements are responsible for creating this crisis. They obviously were aware of the ramifications. They have to pay the consequences.

Richie Cohen
Toronto

Questions Canada's actions on passport affair

Re: "Levy promises passport inquiry" (*CJN*, Oct. 9), I'm afraid the government of Canada will have to spend millions of dollars and millions of hours to investigate all the incidents where thousands of people in Canada have fake passports.

Maybe they should make an inquiry asking the illegal holders of passports how they procured one instead of asking the agents involved in a covert action to justify the methods they used to try to accomplish the goal of safety for their country.

Perhaps the Canadian government should be asked to explain its use of intrigue, falsification and spying when they feel it is necessary for their country and citizen's welfare.

I'm impressed with the quick response of the Canadian government to this incident. I wonder why I never hear a response to blatant violation of the laws when other countries besides Israel are involved.

Does Canada have a self-serving motivation to condemn and demand actions from Israel and respond with instant support for the Arabs? Do they ask the Arabs to show "actions that speak louder than words" when they make unfounded promises that they conveniently break and go against the rules of the Oslo peace accord?

Phyllis Weinberg
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Remembering Victor Frankl

By RABBI REUVEN P. BULKA

The death of Viktor Frankl on Sept. 2, went relatively unnoticed because it occurred right in the middle of the world's preoccupation with the tragic death of Princess Diana.

I use the term "relatively unnoticed" because based on the impact that Frankl had, and continues to have, on millions of lives, his passing deserved more comprehensive coverage and tribute. What follows is my own attempt at a tribute to a man whom I am proud to have called my mentor.

Frankl's death was officially attributed to heart failure. But that could not be true, because anyone who was privileged to know this great man will testify that he had a gallant, courageous heart that never failed him.

Frankl lived 92 years. It was, by any standard, a full life, including two very happy marriages; 32 books; a distinguished career as a psychiatrist, neurologist and neurosurgeon; 28 honorary doctorates; and hobbies as diverse as mountain climbing, cartooning, musical composition, playwriting and eyeglass design!

But what ensures Frankl's place among the great luminaries of this generation is his role as teacher and inspiration. He bravely and incisively cut through the malaise of our times and offered a powerful antidote to anomy, frustration, void, depression and suicide. That antidote is meaning.

He emphasized that the search for meaning was the primary motivational force in the human being. He insisted that we are all endowed with the free will to actualize meaning, that meaning can be found in any circumstance and that we all have the capacity to find that meaning.

Frankl offered encouragement and empowerment to a generation that had gone sour on life. He argued that we are responsible for our decisions and for our lives. It was a unique fusion of philosophy and preachment. Frankl was a thinking and caring person all his life. He could never simply state his views. The caring came through in the way he fervently presented his thoughts, and in the time that he always made available for people seeking his help.

What gave him credibility was not merely the power of his insights. It was that his insights had withstood the most horrific challenge imaginable: the Nazi concentration camps. He could inspire even hardened criminals on death row, because he himself had been on death row.

Ironically, it was because he lived by the principles of meaning that he was incarcerated in the first place. Frankl had obtained a visa to come to America, but was hesitant, not wanting to leave his parents behind. When he returned home, he noticed a little piece of marble on the table. His father told him it came from the rubble of a synagogue the Nazis had burned down.

The marble was part of the fifth commandment, to "honor one's parents so that your days may be long on the land." Frankl saw this as a sign that he should stay "on the land" and honor his parents by staying with them.

I cannot prove it, but knowing Frankl, I am convinced beyond doubt that he would have stayed with his parents, marble or no marble. He was too sensitive and caring a person to have left. But he saw the marble as the clincher that left no room for doubt. It was God corroborating what he intended.

Frankl's psychology, known as logotherapy, was already in formation before the Holocaust. But it was because he endured the Holocaust that Frankl and the message of logotherapy gained worldwide attention.

After I read a few of his books in 1968, I wrote to Frankl. He called me from Vienna, without any previous connection, just a letter I had written to his publisher that was forwarded to him.

Thus began a friendship that lasted until Frankl died. Never did he beg off from reading an article I had written, because he had no time. In fact, he had no time, but he made the time.

To hear Frankl speak was a treat. Every presentation combined wisdom and passion. Frankl was on a mission: to save the Western world from itself. He insisted that life had unconditional meaning, even in the midst of suffering, and he even dared to open up the possibility of a world beyond this world wherein the meaning of this world will become apparent.

After Elizabeth Kubler-Ross (who calls Frankl her hero) and Raymond Moody, the idea of afterlife has greater currency in the "rational" world. But all this came long after Frankl boldly suggested it.

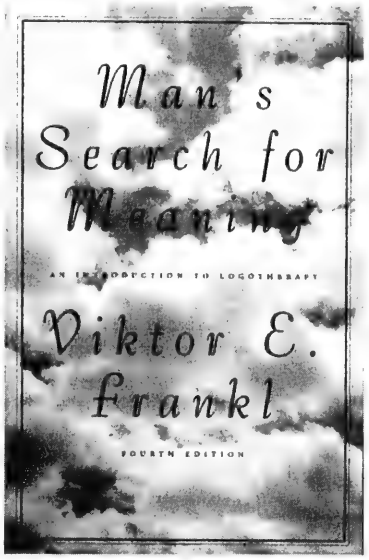
His emphasis on meaning has influenced millions. Indeed, his book, *Man's Search for Meaning*, which has sold 10 million copies, was voted one of the 10 most influential books in America.

My work on Frankl's philosophy concentrated on how his logotherapy (healing through meaning) relates to Judaism. Frankl always took great interest in this and was kind enough to write the forward to my book on this topic.

Frankl once said about himself that he had perhaps only one good quality: "I do not forget any good deed done to me, and I carry no grudge for a bad one."

I cannot think of anything bad that Frankl has done to me or to anyone else. But I can think of many good deeds and many inspirational ideas that he has shared with me, and with all of us. These, we should not forget. And we should remember them by applying them to our lives. We will be the better for it.

Rabbi Bulka is the spiritual leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa.



Recognize meaning in our lives

By MARNIN J. HEISEL

Viktor Emil Frankl, founder of logotherapy, "the third Viennese school of psychotherapy," died of heart failure on Sept. 2, in Vienna. Frankl, an Austrian Jewish neurologist and psychiatrist, was intimately associated with the two earlier schools of Viennese psychotherapy: Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis and Alfred Adler's individual psychology.

Logotherapy, literally "meaning therapy," is concerned with helping individuals discover meaning in life. Indeed, Frankl's best-known work is entitled *Man's Search for Meaning*. In it, Frankl described his survival of Auschwitz, and provided an overview of the main premises of logotherapy. Specifically, he wrote that the best way to prevent hopelessness, depression and suicide is to recognize meaning in life.

Frankl indicated that inherent in life are objective meanings in the here and now; that human conscience guides our choice of action; and that life challenges us to fulfil these potentials for meaning. Such a position is in stark contrast to nihilistic schools of existentialism, whose adherents considered life meaningless. Frankl contended that even situations of terrible suffering hold meaning, albeit perhaps on a dimension incomprehensible to the limited human intellect.

Victor Frankl

During the Holocaust, Frankl was incarcerated in four concentration camps: Theresienstadt, Auschwitz, Kaufering and Turkheim. At the time, he noted that individuals who maintained a firm commitment to continue living could be distinguished from those who submitted to despair and suicide, by the presence of meaning in their lives. Such meaning might include the hope of re-encountering surviving family members, the potential to carry out a task, or the promise of artistic creation.

Notably, Frankl attributed his own survival to his hope of once again finding his pregnant wife and his aged parents alive, and to the task of rewriting a manuscript on logotherapy that had been confiscated by the Nazis, later to be published as *The Doctor and the Soul*. Tragically, neither Frankl's first wife, Tilly, nor his parents survived the camps.

Central to Frankl's philosophy is the recognition that alongside biology and psychology, human beings are invested with spirituality. Accordingly, Frankl believed that every human being is both unique and valuable. The unique capacities of the human spirit include the capacity for defiance in the face of adversity, the quality of self-transcendence and the capacity to adopt an objective perspective on one's own situation.

At root, Frankl asserted that such capacities denote the freedom of will with which comes a responsibility for our fellow human beings, for our actions, and to life itself.

Frankl wrote that history stands as a storage house filled with monuments to one's life's deeds. History will remember him with countless monuments to his courage, wisdom, generosity, and caring. He will be remembered as one of the greatest humanitarians of his time.

He is survived by his second wife Eleonore, a daughter Gabriele, son-in-law Franz Vesely, and two grandchildren, Katharina and Alexander.

Marnin Heisel is a PhD candidate in clinical psychology at York University and holds a certificate in logotherapy from the Continuing Education Division of the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto.

Opinions

A surprise from Germany

It is now almost three months since my return from Germany, where I taught, also for three months, and since this may be my last column about it, I had better end with something good. Indeed, this is as good as it is unexpected.

By Emil Fackenheim in Jerusalem

For years I have felt that where the catastrophe happened is where the mending must be deepest. (I say "mending," not "healing," for scars of the Holocaust will always remain.) In this I wasn't alone either. The Christian theologian Franklin Littell has said that Germany needs a new Reformation. But I have long given this one up as wishful thinking, and so, probably, has Littell.

The Reformation has not happened, but a book of nearly 600 pages has appeared, in German, written by Christoph Muenz, a German in his 30s. To my knowledge, the book has not its like in all the English Holocaust literature. Its title is *Der Welt ein Gedaechtnis Geben.* (Guetersloh: Chr. Kaiser 1995) Several German theologians struggle with "giving memory" to theology – of Jewish existence before and after the Holocaust – but none has done so herculean a job of giving it. This book is a landmark.

The subtitle makes one almost feel it could only be written in German: *"Geschichtstheologisches Denken im Judentum nach Auschwitz."* I can translate the second part as "Thought in Judaism after Auschwitz," but what on earth is *geschichtstheologisch? Geschichte* is "history" and *theologisch* is "theological," but in English we do not bring the two together even verbally. But, argues Muenz, Judaism can be thought of rightly only if understood as *geschichtstheologisch*, and that has rarely been done by non-Jews, and often not even by Jews themselves.

Muenz' thesis, as complex as it is profound, can be simplified by a chassidic story he himself retells. An ignorant tailor knocks at the door of the celebrated Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berdichev, the morning after Yom Kippur. The rabbi wonders why he isn't at breakfast, but the tailor's story cannot wait. On Yom Kippur he related his sins to God but, not knowing enough Hebrew, he made up his own prayers, confessing dishonesty, lies, not keeping kosher strictly enough. But then – at this point he trembled as his confession went on – he cited God's sins: letting babies die, allowing wars, sickness, death; and he proposed a bargain – he would forgive God's sins if God forgave his own.

On hearing this, Rabbi Yitzhak got furious: "All you wanted was forgiveness for your own sins. But while you had God where you wanted Him you should have asked for the redemption of the world."

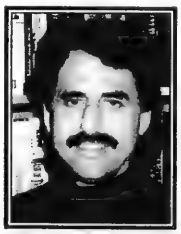
What do theologians do with this story? On Yom Kippur, even the most pious have "no merit" before God, for He is universal; but then they are parochial in claiming a special relation! But if an ignorant tailor can force his God, that God is as parochial as his human worshippers! The theologians, Christian but sometimes also Jewish, never get further, and forget that the God of *both* the pious and the ignorant Jew – to say nothing of Rabbi Levi Yitzhak – is to redeem the world. They do not grasp that whereas the Christian is with *Heilsgeschicte* – his faith, confirmed on the "Lord's Day" – the Jew lives with the memory of past history – the Exodus, Sinai – and present *real* history every day of his life, from great-grandparents to the youngest son just circumcised, trying, in one way or another, to retain fidelity in history's vagaries.

Seeing faith so closely bound up with Jewish history, Muenz shows, as few others and no other German have done, the crisis for Jewish faith in recent history, and the Jewish efforts to cope with it. It is a scandal that 50 years after the Holocaust, the German academy (history and theology departments) still virtually ignores the subject. But there could be no more apt, i.e. academic, exposure of it than Muenz' book.

A book won't start a new Reformation. But it is worth recalling that one book affected the original Reformation, most adversely. Because Martin Luther thought of Jews as stubborn rivals and a threat, his *Of the Jews and their Lies* made him hurl curses at them that embarrass Lutherans to this day. His Reformation might have taken a different course had he thought of Jews as fellow-believers who, even through the worst of history's adversities, seek to retain fidelity to a God who is also his own.

Looking for love

I admit the headline is plagiarized. I found it the other day at Tel Aviv's Cinemateque – an arty movie theater. Along with other journalists, artists, ambassadors and members of Israel's Labor party, I was invited to see Dan Katzir's gripping documentary, *I went to look for love, I'll be back soon.*



By Martin Himel in Herzliya

The occasion was a remembrance ceremony for Yitzhak Rabin, who was assassinated two years ago. You might ask: What does the murder of the prime minister have to do with looking for love? Dan Katzir's poignant answer: everything.

Katzir is really a shy Tel Aviv University student. Using a home video camera, he documented what many Israelis are searching for, especially after paying their dues in the army – love, a warm peaceful corner in which to develop an intimate life, an existence beyond the monotonous broken record of suicide bombings, terror and reserve duty.

Katzir finds Iris and they fall in love. But her army service, the bombings and ultimately Rabin's assassination make it difficult for the couple to develop their relationship.

Rabin may or may not have succeeded in bringing Israel closer to peace – it depends on your point of view. But he did instil in Israel's youth the hope that they could have the luxury of developing an inner life, a life where love, dreams, family, a business, profession, a hobby or a sport become dominant motifs – not the destiny of the Jewish people, the Middle East Conflict, the endless struggles that bombard Israelis hourly and daily over the air waves.

> The Labor party is troubled and frustrated

That dream died with Rabin. That hope, that search for "a life" so taken for granted by yourselves and so desperately needed in Israel, has sadly eluded this society.

With the peace process at a standstill and with a prime minister who can do little more than assure Israelis there will be more bloodshed, terror and no peace, Israelis have given up on finding "that inner love, that inner life."

That is why pessimism is everywhere. People are down. It doesn't matter if it is right-wing or left-wing Israelis, the upbeat mood of the Rabin era is dead and buried.

The Israeli left is quick to blame the right-wing Netanyahu government for the demise. The Labor party, however, is troubled and frustrated by the fact that it can't get its message through to the Israeli public.

The Cinemateque gathering was a case in point of the Labor party's built-in failure. The room was full of the "converted" – left-wing intellectuals, journalists, ambassadors from "pro Oslo peace process" countries. Not invited were right-wing politicians, religious leaders, Jewish settlement representatives, Jerusalem merchants, workers, in short the "unconvinced."

There is a clique characteristic among the Israeli left, a sort of intellectual snobbery. Leaders like Yossi Sarid use a sharp tongue, vivid language and tough arguments to make a point, but the left always talks down to the Israeli right, as if "they know better," as if the Israeli right is too stupid to understand.

It's no surprise they get kicked in the teeth during elections. The chain smoking "Prime Minister Rabin" was much more of a "people person." Shimon Peres was the intellectual snob who got voted out. The new Labor leader Ehud Barak is trying to be a "people person" by shaking hands with prominent rabbis and meeting with some of the "unconvinced." It is obvious that he is "trying," but there is a sort of insincerity. As long as right-wing Israelis feel "conned" by snobby left-wing leaders, the chances are Labor will remain the "loyal opposition."

Friends in far away places

An article entitled "New Zealand's Zion," appeared in the *Jerusalem Report* of Sept. 18. Written by David Cohen of Wellington, it revived long-buried memories of people far away.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Maoris are a Polynesian tribal conglomerate that has preserved its own tradition with great tenacity and pride. They number about half a million in a nation of nearly four million, and one of their traditional teachings is that they have a close relationship to Jews. As in many other parts of the world, there is a belief that their real ancestors belong to one of the 10 lost tribes of Israel. While in many instances this is sheer imagination, in the case of the Maoris it seems that similarities of belief and practice give that tradition at least some credence.

Before going any further, let me make it clear that the Maoris do not practise Judaism as we know it. But there are enough similar rituals to create a strong bond between them and the Jewish people.

It was a privilege for my wife and me some years ago when we visited New Zealand that we came into personal contact with Maoris. At the time, I was active in the human rights field and had occasion to meet the chair of the New Zealand commission that observes and oversees human rights practices in the nation.

It so happened that a prominent funeral took place in the Maori community and we were invited to be present. I understood that to have such an invitation extended to strangers was rare indeed. What struck us then was that the visitation was in fact very much like a shivah. The resemblance was so great that we discussed its nature with our friend and we were told that amongst the Maoris, the idea of a Jewish connection has always been and continues to be very strong.

Cohen's article goes into detail about the many resemblances between the two groups and the attitudes of the Maoris, such as their strong endorsement of their friendship with Israel. They feel that they have a veritable stake in its welfare and future.

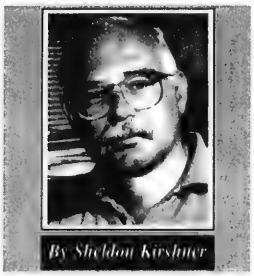
Like Jews in Israel, the Maoris have revived their ancient language, which was nearly lost, and have made it their major vehicle for communication. One of their prominent members, Steve Daniels, 34, once studied briefly to become a priest, but now describes himself as "someone who left to be in the Jewish closet, so to speak. On a deep level, as this was particularly true for me as a Maori growing up in an all-white suburb in Auckland, I felt an empathy with things Jewish... When I was a kid, I asked my mother where I came from. I honestly had no idea what it meant to be a New Zealander. For me, then, coming to Judaism was like coming home."

He did in fact convert – but even without such an act of "homecoming," the Maoris are a cultural and social ally of our people. They have a sense of isolation and purpose, and the strongest memory of my visit remains this: they feel very much as we Diaspora Jews feel. We both struggle to maintain our identity, and our sense of peoplehood is closely linked to our sense of religious destiny.

The Kirshner File

The legacy of Yitzhak Rabin

Yitzhak Rabin was gunned down two years ago this week, the only Israeli prime minister to have been assassinated.



By Sheldon Kirshner

The shock waves of that unprecedented event have yet to subside. In the meantime, readers can reflect on the murder – and Rabin's career – by delving into two intriguing books.

The first, by his widow Leah, is entitled *Rabin, Our Life, His Legacy* (G.P. Putnam's Sons). The second, by Rabin himself, is called *The Rabin Memoirs* (University of California Press). It was originally published in 1979 and has long been out of print. The new, expanded softcover edition contains a thoughtful afterword by Israeli commentator Yoram Peri, as well as fresh photographs and several of Rabin's speeches, including his last fateful one in Tel Aviv on Nov. 4, 1995.

Apart from observations on his assassination and biographical data on herself, Leah Rabin's memoir often intersects with that of her husband's. She deals, for example, with the Six Day War, his tenure as ambassador to Washington and the scandal that abruptly ended his first term as premier. Beyond these benchmarks, she covers the intifadah, during which he was defence minister, and the Oslo peace process, when he was well into his first year as prime minister again.

Even a cursory reading of *Rabin, Our Life, His Legacy* reveals their special relationship. On page 1, she writes: "It is very difficult to get up each morning – without you." On page 288, she muses: "You are missed at every moment."

Leah Rabin not only loved this emotionally remote man, but admired his intellectual gifts, his great discipline, his vast experience, his enormous capacity for knowledge and his organizational skills.

She discloses that he died only two minutes after he was shot by right-wing fanatic Yigal Amir; decries the deafening silence that greeted the mounting incitement against him and his policies; reveals that his predecessor, Yitzhak Shamir, never sent a word of condolence after his death; and condemns the "core of extremist rabbis" who inspired the hateful attitudes which influenced Amir and his ilk.

Her reminiscences of her childhood are interesting. She was born in Konigsburg, Germany. Her father, Fima Schlossberg, was a prosperous merchant who left the country a day after Hitler acceded to power. Shortly afterward, he brought his family to Palestine, and they basically lived off the property he had purchased there in the 1920s.

Rabin, six years her senior, caught her eye at an ice cream parlor in Tel Aviv in 1943. They met again, fell for each other and were married during the War of Independence. In the late 1950s, when Rabin was a rising star in the army, she was an English teacher. The work was unfulfilling and she quit after two years. She devoted herself to her family, never pursuing a career and never having any regrets about it.

Turning to the tense period preceding the Six Day War, when Rabin was chief of staff, she claims that his nervous breakdown was more accurately a case of nicotine poisoning, coupled with stress precipitated by David Ben-Gurion's harsh questioning of his military strategy.

According to her recollections, Rabin favored an advance on the Golan Heights, a move that Moshe Dayan, the defence minister, initially resisted.

After the war, Levi Eshkol, the prime minister, almost fell out of his chair when Rabin informed him that he wanted to be ambassador to the United States. Abba Eban, the foreign minister, opposed the appointment, but to no avail.

Rabin succeeded Golda Meir as prime minister in 1974. Leah Rabin credits Pinchas Sapir, the powerful finance minister, with having sealed his candidacy.

Rabin resigned following the disclosure that his wife maintained an illegal bank account in the United States. She claims it was an "oversight" on her part. Rabin, she adds, never berated her. He was a "classic gentleman."

The intifadah, she goes on to say, convinced Rabin that Israel could not govern the Palestinians and that only a political solution could defuse the problem.

Describing the 1993 talks between Israel and the PLO, she writes that he was skeptical about its chances of succeeding. And once he overcame his personal revulsion of Yasser Arafat, he grew to respect him as a strong, intelligent, though difficult, leader.

***

Almost two decades have elapsed since the publication of Rabin's memoirs, yet they are far from dated. In a cool, dispassionate style, Rabin sheds light on, among other topics, the War of Independence, the Six Day War and Israel's relations with the United States.

In his judgment, the leadership of the Yishuv was ill-prepared for the 1948 war, not having assembled enough sophisticated weapons or trained its combat forces sufficiently. Indeed, he is doubtful whether Israel would have prevailed without arms shipments from Czechoslovakia.

Looking back at the Six Day War, he recalls Ben-Gurion's criticism of his decision to call up the reserves. Ben-Gurion opposed a war and was of the opinion that Rabin had led the state "into a grave situation."

Sidelined on the eve of Six Day War

Ben-Gurion's backseat generalship, combined with exhaustion and one too many cigarette, sidelined Rabin for about a day on the eve of the Six Day War. He blames Ezer Weizman, the then chief of military operations, for having broken a confidence not to discuss his ailment.

The Israeli cabinet, we learn, was deadlocked with respect to launching hostilities in response to to Egypt's aggression. Furthermore, Rabin objected to Dayan's request for an army command.

By Rabin's account, Dayan dithered as he weighed the possibility of attacking the Golan. He also informs us that the capture of Kuneitra was a byproduct of a false Syrian radio report that the town had already fallen.

Rabin's interest in the ambassadorship to the United States stemmed from his belief that Israel's greatest political challenge was to strengthen ties with Washington. That he proceeded to do. But strangely enough, Rabin was unaware of an Israeli cabinet decision, taken on June 19, 1967, to cede the Sinai Peninsula and the Golan in exchange for a full peace treaty with Egypt and Syria. Neither, he ruefully writes, did he know that the cabinet reversed itself just two months later.

Rabin was doubtless instrumental in elevating Israel's strategic friendship with the United States. But there were bumps along the way.

When Rabin asked a senior U.S. official why the shipment of Phantom jets had been delayed, he was told they would not be delivered unless Israel consented to an American presence in and supervision of every Israeli arms manufacturing installation and every defence institution engaged in research and development.

He rejected the demand as a shameful intrusion into Israel's internal affairs. The Americans backed down, and Israel got its Phantoms.

Rabin's relations with Shimon Peres, his old rival and future successor, were fractious. He takes him to task for having been disloyal, and admits that he erred in appointing him defence minister.

In closing, Rabin delineates his political philosophy. His conservative inclinations are leavened by the pragmatic assertion that the risks of peace are preferable to the grim certainties of war.

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Jewish Life

Where is this place?

By ELEANOR KUNIGIS MOIDEL

Guest Voices

The sky is as blue as ours. The foliage and its aroma are like ours. The rivers that flow through the country are reminiscent of ours. People picking berries in July could easily be mistaken for our farmers reaping their fruits. The sounds of birds and crickets are welcome to one's ears.

People go about their daily lives. In the cities they wait for buses. They carry plastic shopping bags. They ride bicycles and drive cars. In the countryside, farmers' haywagons are still pulled by horses. Goat's milk is still delivered in metal cans with handles. Bulls, cows, goats and sheep roam the fields. It is so pastoral and peaceful.

Cemeteries without tombstones. Cemeteries with memorial stones only. Rows and rows of mass graves easily visible in the very same forests where the victims used to picnic before the massacres.

Killing pits, eight metres deep, where the doomed — men, women and children — were slaughtered, buried, later dug up to have their remains ground.

Where is this place where the majority of a specific group of its inhabitants were annihilated with vigor by the Nazis and by the very willing and capable local citizens?

The place is Lithuania. The majority of the corpses were Jews — men, women and children. Why was I there recently? I was curious about the place my siblings were born. I wanted to see for myself the city Ukmerge (Vikomir) where my parents had had a bakery. I wanted to see the building that was the shul that my two sisters and brother had attended. I wanted to see the *hoif* (courtyard) where they used to live.

My husband and I were in luck. My sister's friend Lea, who has lived in Vilnius (Vilna) since the end of the war, and who is also from Vikomir (Ukmerge) accompanied us there. She showed us the buildings. The main synagogue (*di groise shul*) is now a sports arena with a plaque in Yiddish, Hebrew and Lithuanian stating that this was once a synagogue.

The building where the bakery had been housed is now the headquarters of the Ukmerge Archives. How excited I became! At last I would find out some information about my family. Alas, there are no records of marriages, births or deaths. They no longer exist. They have all been destroyed.

The house and the neighboring houses are run-down, dilapidated, in dire need of repair and paint as is most of Lithuania.

The Pivonija Forest, just outside Ukmerge, where thousands and thousands of Jews were murdered and buried in mass graves affected me profoundly. Had my mother not left with my three siblings in 1936 to join my father in Montreal, I would not have been standing at those graves.

When we visited Seredzius (Srednik), the village where my husband's father was born, it's as if time has stood still. Except for television antennas and farmers wearing '90s track suits, we thought we had stepped back in time. Once, this village whose population is very small, had 110 Jewish families. Today there isn't a Jew left, just a Jewish cemetery whose tombstones are no longer there. A memorial stone with Yiddish and Hebrew inscriptions marks the place. The stone foundation of the old synagogue on the main cobblestone road is still there.

Lithuania, for Jews, is no longer the vibrant, active, cultural community that it once was. The absence of Jews in most of Lithuania underscores the absence of economy, academia and progress in all fields.

Unfortunately, I fell in the state Jewish museum in Vilnius on the very first day of our visit. I suffered a broken bone in my right foot and severely injured the knee in my left leg. Although the doctor who saw me told me to stay off my feet, I had no choice but to hobble through Lithuania for four days. And maybe it was *bashert* (destined) that I should have had this accident. The pain that my husband and I suffered when confronted by mass graves, cemeteries, killing pits and the palpable absence of Jews in most places was somewhat diffused by the physical pain I was in.

Archeologists spend lifetimes digging for cities beneath existing ones. They dig for artifacts and remnants of pre-existing cultures. In generations to come, archeologists will be wasting their time in Lithuania. All they will find will be hundreds of thousands of bones, and fields of ashes of men, women and children whose aborted talents and stifled voices are lost forever to the entire Community of Man — in medicine, science, technology, music, art and "isms."

There were many groups of Jews doing the same thing while we were there. Our trip to Lithuania does not help to understand the horror of the Holocaust. It does however serve as *hemshakh* (continuation) for our children. We urge everyone who is able, to plan and experience their own personal March of the Living. Zakhor! (Remember)

Eleanor Kunigis Moidel is a Yiddish instructor at the University of Toronto.

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JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

We must reinclude the disenfranchised

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

"Honest, attractive, loving Aries, seeks good looking man who likes jazz, cats, foreign movies and Italian cooking. Jewish, but not important." This ad, which appeared in the personals section of a major Toronto newspaper, suggests the unbearable lightness of Jewish identity in our time. For the Jewish educator, it should be required reading.

The Torah is actually quite explicit about why intermarriage is a problem, noting that such relationships lead to "serving other gods." To which the reader may say, "I have no intention of serving other gods. In fact, I have no interest in religion whatsoever. I simply fell in love with a non-Jewish person; neither of us cares to serve any gods at all!" How then is the fundamental denunciation of intermarriage in Judaism to be discussed with such a person?

Dennis Prager and Joseph Telushkin once cautioned Jews contemplating intermarriage about what they would be losing: "The community of Israel stands ready to share with all its members its joys and sorrows. They did it for your great-grandmother and great-grandfather and for your parents in America. They will not do it for your son and daughter, because you have removed them from the Jewish community." This is a moving plea, but it is only true to the extent that people feel part of Jewish communities in the first place and believe that they have been nurtured and strengthened by them.

"Jewish, but not important" is a staggering rebuke of not just the breakdown of Jewish life that has occurred within many families, but more strikingly, of Jewish peoplehood as it currently exists. Put simply, there are many Jews for whom living *within* the Jewish community has been an experience in isolation, while marrying the gentile with whom they fall in love creates a sense of belonging. We in the Jewish world must recognize that many in our ranks are "lonely among us" and see no reason for staying within – indeed, they often consciously or unconsciously seek to rebel against – the confines of the synagogue or the chupah.

The very dichotomy of "love versus tradition" implies a choice between, on the one hand, a romantic relationship that promises companionship and joy and, on the other hand, an idea that often stuffily calls forth history and duty.

Though it is true that the idea of "Jewish survival" may emotionally convince a certain percentage of Jews who are on the verge of intermarrying to reconsider, they are in the minority and will remain that way. Human beings can become excited by ideas and traditions, even abstract ones, but what we really find compelling are other people, who make ideas come alive for us and help us to negotiate the many difficulties of reality.

When Jewishness takes a back seat to astrological signs, Italian cuisine and a taste for jazz, we are encountering a deep kind of alienation. With so much focus in Jewish educational circles these days on Judaism as a vehicle for realizing one's individual potential or spiritual growth, we need to re-emphasize the notion of peoplehood and our task to reinclude the disenfranchised within our midst. Otherwise we risk turning Judaism into an increasingly exclusive and aging club, as our young people sail into the sensual harbor of modernity, while the remaining faithful sing in vain of tradition, of what is past and passing and to come.

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AVROM SILVER ז"ל

A member of the Reena Foundation Board, Avrom Silver was a man outstanding in his community. He will be remembered forever for his wisdom, compassion and support for all people.

May his family be spared further sorrow.

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Plenty of kosher veggie recipes on the Internet

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Last week we began our look at Jewish vegetarianism and the places where you can find information on the World Wide Web. From gefilte fish to kreplach to chicken soup, meat and fish have become central to the Jewish palate. So finding vegetarian replacements that maintain links with our tradition can be a bit of a challenge.

I was interested to find that many of the kosher vegetarian recipes on the Internet are geared toward Passover (but of course, can be enjoyed year-round). You can find some meatless alternatives at Vegetarian Fatfree Passover Recipes **[http://web.mit.edu/yaron/www/passover.html]**.

There are recipes for Broccoli Knishes, Eight Vegetable Stew and Cabbage Souffle Pudding. Also check out the Far-from-Comprehensive List of Vegetarian Pesach Recipes **[http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Hills/1259/pschrcpt.htm]**. I particularly like the recipe titled Not-Chicken Soup. You can find a large selection of Jewish vegetarian books along with some excerpts at **[http://www.micahbooks.com/jewishvegbooks.html]** and yet more Jewish recipes at **[http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Hills/1259/bhfood.htm]**.

There are many more general vegetarian recipes out there on the Internet. Yahoo's index is found at **[http://gnn.yahoo.com/Entertainment/Food_and_Eating/Recipes/Vegetarian/]**.

There are a couple of Usenet newsgroups geared toward vegetarians **[news:rec.food.veg]** and **[news:rec.food.veg.cooking]**. And if you have questions about keeping kosher and being a vegetarian, you can join the Jewish Vegan e-mail list **[http://www.jer1.co.il/city_services/lists/vegan/]**.

Sometimes eating right can lead to more than just a trimmer waist and lower cholesterol. Jewish Vegan/Vegetarian Singles can be found at **[http://www.goodnet.com/~tjvmab/tj14000.html]**.

You can still keep kosher and vegetarian even if you're on the road. The Kosher Restaurant Database **[http://shamash.org/kosher/krestquery.html]** has information about over 50 kosher vegetarian restaurants around the world and Jewish Vegetarians of North America maintains a Web site at **[http://www.orbyss.com/jvna.html]**. To find out more about Israeli vegetarian organizations and restaurants, go to **[http://www.veg.org/veg/Guide/Israel/all.html]** and **[http://www.vrg.org/press/96augisguide.html]**.

If you really want to be pampered and well fed, there's the Israeli vegetarian village of Moshav Amirim **[http://www.tour-israel.co.il/upGalil/upGalil002.html]**. The Moshav offers a bed and breakfast fifteen minutes from the old city of Tzfat.

Oh, to sit in a private garden overlooking the sea of Galilee munching on veggies.

B'tayavon and es gezunterheit.

* * *

Adam Bleichman has sent along some of his favorite Internet sites. They include Webshas, "an excellent site for students of the Talmud" **[http://www.virtual.co.il/torah/webshas/]** and the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation Web site which deals with gossip and lashon hara **[http://www.chofetzchaim.com/]**. A reader named Shandel likes to dip into the online edition of the London Jewish Chronicle **[http://www.jchron.co.uk]**. What are your favorite Jewish/Israeli sites? E-mail me at the address below.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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TORAH DEDICATED AT SUNNYBROOK'S CHAPEL

There was celebrating and dancing under the chupah during the recent presentation of a sefer Torah to the Jewish chapel at the Sunnybrook Health Science Centre. Rabbi Barry Schneider (left) and Rabbi Joseph Kelman (centre) attended the event. The Torah was donated by the family of the late Max Nudelman.

Midrashic Moments

Abraham, Sarah were equal partners in the covenant

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

This month's readings begin the ancestral journey toward cementing a convenant with God. Abraham and Sarah, originally named Abram and Sarai, are childless. We are told that Sarai is barren and thus the Divine promise of children as innumerable as the sands and the stars is particularly meaningful.

When God reiterates this promise to Abram, he turns to God and says: "What can You give me while I still remain childless?" The promise for children is once again extended. Sarai continues to be barren and she suggests to Abram that he conceive a child with her handmaid Hagar, but says she will raise the child and enter the covenant through the child.

There are modern scholars who suggest that although Abram enters the covenant through a relationship with God, Sarai is excluded and must enter through the womb of another woman. The situation is far from ideal.

Abram agrees to the arrangement and Hagar soon becomes pregnant. However, Hagar begins to demean Sarai and Sarai turns to Abram with astonishing words: "My anger is upon you! God will judge between you and me!"

Sarai invokes God as the judge between Abram and her and not between Hagar and her, which is where the controversy seems to lie.

Interestingly, no one consulted God before embarking on this parental jog to fulfil the covenant and yet god is called upon to settle the matter.

The midrash comments on many of these issues. Sarai's anger is directed at Abram and not at Hagar, and rightly so. The midrashi states that when Abram was representing his childlessness before God, he cried out only for his own emptiness and excluded his wife. Sarai is angry with Abram for saying, "What can You give me while I remain childless?" Had he said, "While *we* remain childless," she would not have had to resort to such extraneous means.

For one fleeting moment Abram forgot that he was part of a marriage and he negated his commitment to his wife. The midrash offers the analogy of two friends who are both in prison when the king is passing through. One friend beseeches the king to remove his humiliation and sorrow. The king agrees and the man is freed. His friend turns to him and says that he must now bear the humiliation of having left his friend in prison by not including him in his appeal to the king. The midrash chastises Abram for his exclusion of his wife…his friend.

God does stand as final judge in the matter when the covenant is ratified and God states quite clearly to Abram that the covenant can only be fulfilled through the union of Abram and Sarai – the child they will have together. This promise is cemented when God inserts a letter from the Divine Name into both Abram and Sarai's names, creating Abraham and Sarah. They are equal partners in the covenant and the founding of the Jewish nation.

To argue that Judaism presents a covenantal relationship only to Abraham is to ignore both the Bible and the midrash in their inclusion of Sarah.

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Greater Toronto Area

Peace activist to launch Book Fair

TORONTO — The 21st annual Jewish Book Fair, Nov. 8 to 16, will showcase author/cartoonist Ben Wicks, who will launch his book *Dawn of the Promised Land – The Birth of Israel* on Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m.

JEWISH BOOK FAIR

Wicks will talk about his book at a reception following the launch and will autograph copies.

This year's fair will feature 34 programs, all taking place at the Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St.

Opening night will feature noted Israeli author and peace activist David Grossman, best known for *The Yellow Wind*. His topic will be Imagining Peace.

Rabbi Yehuda Fine, who counsels runaways in New York City, will speak on Helping Young People Emerge From Hell (Nov. 11, 1:30 p.m.).

Other speakers are *Globe and Mail* reporter Isabel Vincent (Nov. 13, 8 p.m.) discussing the Swiss banking debacle described in her new book, *Hitler's Silent Partners*.

Other highlights include Helen Epstein, author the groundbreaking work *Children of the Holocaust*, speaking on Bringing the Past to Life: Three Generations of Remarkable Women (Nov. 9, 8 p.m.).

Prof. Elaine Newton will read from the memoirs of female Holocaust survivors (Nov. 10, 8 p.m.).

Opening night: David Grossman

Rosalie Sharp, contributing editor of *Growing Up Jewish — Canadians Tell Their Own Stories*, will introduce contributing writers Rosalie Abella, Morley Torgov, Ben Kayfetz, Julia Koschitzky, Fred Weinberg, Beatrice Fischer, Martin Goldfarb and Shirley Granovsky (Nov. 11, 8 p.m.).

Carol Matas, author of *The Garden: In Honor of Israel's 50th Anniversary*, will appear at a school program for grades 5 to 8 on Nov. 12 at 10:30 a.m. and again at 1:30 p.m.

Former Mossad agent Peter Malkin, who captured Adolf Eichmann, speaks on his book, *Eichmann in My Hands* on (Nov. 15, 8 p.m.).

In addition to the 12,000 books of Jewish interest for sale, bargain hunters will find a large selection of what organizers call "once-over-slightly" books.

For information, call 416-636-1880, ext. 368.

Educators to hold retreat

TORONTO — Once a year, educators in the Toronto Jewish educational system meet at a weekend retreat that provides opportunities for learning together and socializing in ways that enhance the work of the individual day and supplementary schools on one hand and the spirit of *am echad* (one people) on the other.

This year's retreat will take place Nov. 14 to 16, and will feature Prof. David Novak as its keynote speaker and scholar in residence.

Novak is a professor of religious studies and philosophy and the director of the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Toronto. He has taught in universities in the United States, has lectured extensively on four continents and has written nine books and many articles.

Novak's four presentations at the Conference will focus on the topic of Ethics in Jewish Education: Practising What we Teach. The sessions will include discussions on the responsibilities of the Jewish educator and the portrayal of Jews in film, as well as case studies, group activities and workshops.

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JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CANADA

Jewish National Fund of Toronto

is proud to invite the Toronto Community to the

1997 Negev Dinner Tribute

in honour of

Edward Bronfman

in recognition of
excellence in communal leadership and dedication to Israel

Sunday, December 7, 1997 at the Sheraton Centre, Toronto

Reception: 5:00 p.m. Dinner: 6:00 p.m.

Tickets to the Dinner are $107 per person with a minimum contribution of $360 (for which a tax receipt will be issued)

DINNER CHAIRMAN
DONALD CARR, Q.C.

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DONALD CARR, Q.C.

A special project will be initiated on the occasion of Toronto's 1997 Negev Dinner Tribute saluting Edward Bronfman. Proceeds from the Dinner will be used for **land reclamation and project development at Kibbutz Neot Semadar**, in the southern Arava region of the Negev Desert. The young *pioneers* of Neot Semadar require our assistance to help ensure economic stability and a bright future for them and their children in a very barren area of the wilderness known as the Arava, just north of Eilat.

In saluting Edward Bronfman, the Jewish National Fund will assist Neot Semadar in reclaiming hundreds of dunams of land for agricultural use, help develop an Artists Centre, develop roads to the Kibbutz and within the Kibbutz, and assist the construction of a fifty thousand cubic metre reservoir. A resort area to promote tourism will also be developed. This undertaking will surely be a source of great pride to all who will have participated in this very worthy project. **Together, we can all help to make the *desert green*.**

For further information contact
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF TORONTO
4600 Bathurst Street, Suite 238
North York, Ont. M2R 3V3
PHONE: (416) 638-7200 FAX: (416) 638-7345

Greater Toronto Area

Toronto yeshivah student attacked in Moscow

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A volunteer stint in the former Soviet Union turned into a nightmare for three yeshivah students, including one from Toronto, when they were mugged in the streets of Moscow by anti-Semitic thugs.

The assault in broad daylight left one of the students with a bloody nose and a broken hand requiring surgery, while another lost two front teeth. Toronto native Dov Schochet, the third student, escaped the attack with minor injuries.

Moscow police were called to the scene almost immediately after the attack, which took place last spring, but so far, little has been done to bring the assailants to justice. Schochet has travelled to Russia three times at the behest of Russian police and is frustrated that much of his time on two of the trips was wasted while the Russian justice system spun its wheels.

Although *The CJN* learned of the attack early in the summer, Schochet asked that no story be written until a trial set for September was held. That trial has been put on hold.

Red Square

The initial incident took place last April, shortly after Schochet was interviewed by *The CJN* in Minsk, where he and two other students had travelled from the Lubavitcher yeshivah in Manchester, England to assist Belarussian Jews celebrate Passover. During their one-month stint, the students travelled to Moscow for a visit and were returning to the Tanchei Temimim Yeshivah from a tour of Red Square when the attack occurred.

Schochet said the three, wearing dark blazers and fedora hats, were walking past some youths when one said something to them in Russian. One of the yeshivah students, originally from Minsk, translated the statement as "kill the Jews and save Russia."

After a brief verbal exchange, five other Russian youths approached. One, who looked like a skinhead, opened his jacket and put down two bottles of beer, before making a beeline for them. The yeshivah students walked away and thought they had escaped when they were set upon by seven Russian youths. In the melee, Schochet suffered a chipped tooth and some bruises.

As for his companions, "their faces were totally blown up twice the size, black and blue, everything," he recalled.

After the attack, former Refusenik Izza Kogan, who was serving as a shaliach to the Moscow yeshivah, arranged for a visiting Israeli doctor to see the students. Two days later, Schochet and his friend flew to Manchester where the student was immediately operated on and a metal plate inserted in his injured hand.

Yeshivah student Boris Ostrovski after being attacked.

After he recovered, they returned to Moscow to meet with police.

Visiting the area where the attack took place, Schochet's friend recognized one of the attackers. Police picked him up and the youth identified the other assailants.

During a second trip to Moscow, Schochet and the others completed depositions and identified the attackers.

Over the summer, Schochet was told that the skinhead ringleader had also been charged with shooting his army commander and that police were hoping to merge the two cases. Schochet recently returned from yet another visit to Minsk and Moscow, during which he expected to testify. He was disappointed to learn the case was not yet ready for court

Despite the incident, Schochet has not been deterred from visiting Moscow nor did it change his opinion about the safety of Jews in the city. Attacks on Jews can happen anywhere, including England, he said. A yeshivah student in Manchester was punched in the face by a young tough for no apparent reason other than anti-Semitism, he added.

Schochet is unsure when, or even if, the Moscow case will be heard. "I'd love to see them prosecuted, especially if it brings some safety to the area," he said.

Adding insult to injury was an incident he and his friends endured at the Berlin airport when returning to Manchester from Moscow. The three were taken aside by a customs officer who "barked" at them and berated them. When Schochet asked for his name to file a complaint, the officer formed his thumb and forefinger into the figure of a gun and pointed it as his head, suggesting they'd kill him if he told them his name.

Schochet and his father, Rabbi Elisha Schochet, complained to German authorities and were later told the officer had been displaying erratic behavior and had subsequently been fired.

As for Schochet, he plans to continue his religious studies in New York.

A Message from the Board of Governors of Aish HaTorah Toronto

Aish HaTorah and the State of Israel
Official Statement of Policy

1. Aish HaTorah stands for Jewish education for all Jews everywhere. We seek unity among all Jews. Our goal is to re-ignite Jewish pride by teaching Jews about their heritage and its contribution to humanity. We were founded to combat assimilation, alienation and indifference among Jews.

2. Aish HaTorah believes that the State of Israel is a divine gift. That's why Rabbi Weinberg, a native-born American, chose to found it in Jerusalem and that's why Aish HaTorah has encouraged thousands of Jews to study in Israel and many to make aliyah.

3. The flag of Israel flies from the roof of the Aish HaTorah World Center—the Dan Family Building, every day. We recognize Israel Independence Day and Jerusalem Reunification Day. We do not take these important milestones for granted.

4. Governors of Israel, be they Labor or Likud, have recognized the contribution of Aish HaTorah to the Jewish State and the Jewish people. Indeed, the initial site facing the Western Wall where the Aish HaTorah World Center stands today was awarded to us for the symbolic sum of 1 Shekel by a Likud Government, headed by Prime Minister Menachem Begin. The site of the Aish HaTorah at the Western Wall Educational Center, now under construction, was transferred to us by the Labor Government, under the leadership of the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

5. Aish HaTorah has been endorsed by every Israeli Prime Minister, beginning with the late Menachem Begin. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, like his predecessors, Shimon Peres, Yitzhak Rabin and Yitzhak Shamir, has participated in Aish HaTorah's education programs. President Ezer Weizman and the late Chaim Herzog addressed our students and our supporters on many occasions.

6. Most of our students come from abroad for a defined period of time after which they return to the Diaspora (often to be involved in Jewish education). Aish HaTorah staff and students who do settle in Israel are encouraged to fulfill their obligations to the State, including service in the Israel Defense Forces.

7. Aish HaTorah condemns violence against Jews and non-Jews in Israel. We unequivocally oppose violent demonstrations, including stone throwing, flag burning, and other vulgar acts claimed in the name of religion, or any other disrespectful behaviour against the State.

8. We welcome all Jews of all affiliations, beliefs, and traditions to come to learn. We are educators. We explain what Judaism is about. Our goal is to build bridges and encourage dialogue among all Jews.

9. Aish HaTorah's policy and practice is to refrain from endorsing, supporting or involving ourselves in any political issues in Israel. We have no affiliation nor express support for any political party in Israel or elsewhere.

10. There is no Aish HaTorah political policy on the peace process or any other political issue. Everyone is entitled to their own opinion. We don't dictate. Our educational mission is seen as essential by our supporters, who come from all segments of the political and religious spectrum.

Aish HaTorah's business is teaching Jews about Judaism. Period. That's a full enough order and we embrace the challenge.

Greater Toronto Area

Conversion bill angers non-Orthodox Jews

[Cont'd. from page 3]

a vote of 51-32, with seven abstentions. If passed in current form, the bill would formalize existing practices, in which only Orthodox rabbis perform conversions.

The law banning non-Orthodox Jews from regional religious councils has yet to be tabled in the Knesset.

Both pieces of legislation have raised the ire of Reform and Conservative Jews the world over.

In addition to two recent meetings with Sultan, Canadian Reform Jews have sent letters and e-mail to Netanyahu, urging him to back off from the bills, Anshan said.

Included in one of Arza's meetings with the ambassador were representatives of Mercaz, the Conservative movement's Zionist arm.

"We've been asked to ease off by our people in Israel in order to give the commission some time," Mercaz Canada president Norm Stern told *The CJN*. "We won't be doing anything in Canada unless we're informed otherwise."

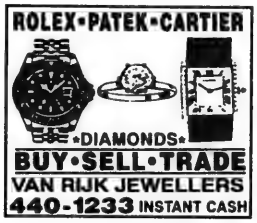
Conservative Jews and congregations in this country have also sent letters of protest to Netanyahu, Stern said. One Toronto congregation sent a 300-name petition.

Stern said one good sign coming from Israel is that the Sephardi Chief Rabbi, Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron, has sent an envoy to the Ne'eman commission. "That marks the first time [the Orthodox] have expressed a willingness to reach an accommodation," Stern noted.

Last week's meeting between Arza and Sultan included Anshan; Rabbi Dow Marmur, former president of Arzenu, the International Federation of Reform Zionists; and Rabbi Paul Golomb, executive director of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism.

Their statement to the ambassador said Reform considers the law on religious councils "an attack on the integrity and commitment of millions of Jews worldwide who have channelled their religious expression through synagogues and practices that are not Orthodox."

In a statement read to *The CJN*, Jack Kahn, the president of Mizrachi Canada, the Orthodox movement's Zionist arm, said his movement "fully back the efforts of the Ne'eman commission to find an acceptable solution to this vexing conversion problem that will bridge the rift of the world Jewish community, and will, at the same time, conform to tradition and Halachah."



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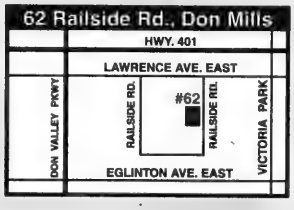

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WILLIAM ASHLEY

REFORM RABBI PRAISES CONVERSION COMPROMISE

A leader figure in Israel's Reform movement is calling a proposed solution to the ongoing religious conversion controversy "groundbreaking."

Rabbi Robert Samuels, in Toronto last week for a UJA Federation speaking tour, described the report of Israel's Ne'eman committee as an "astounding breakthrough."

The committee, headed by Israel's Finance Minister Yaakov Ne'eman, recommended that Conservative and Reform rabbis be permitted to prepare people for conversion through an organization established by the Jewish Agency. However, the conversions themselves would be carried out under Orthodox auspices. The committee would also allow non-Orthodox rabbis to participate in marriage ceremonies, with the Orthodox Chief Rabbinate providing two valid witnesses, according to halacha (*religious law*).

Initially, Orthodox, Conservative and Reform representatives reacted poorly to the suggested compromise, but all have agreed to give the Ne'eman committee three more months to come up with something even more acceptable.

Without a compromise, the Israeli government has threatened to proceed with legislation enshrining the religious status quo under which weddings and conversions in Israel are solely under Orthodox jurisdiction. The bill, which is opposed by UJA Federation, does not affect conversions anywhere else in the world.

If the Ne'eman committee's current recommendations were implemented, Rabbi Samuels said he would have no problem living with them. "I'm ready to officiate at those marriages and let someone else be the 'marrying Sam'," he told a UJA Federation meeting. "I'm ready to train Russian people who are half Jews, quarter Jews or one-eighth Jews and have someone else officiate at their conversions." In Israel, he already officiates at weddings, with an Orthodox rabbi ensuring that the witnesses, the *ketubah* (marriage document) and the ceremony strictly correspond to *halacha*.

Rabbi Robert Samuels

Rabbi Samuels praised UJA Federation for its work on behalf of Jews in need everywhere. "There is no power in the Jewish world," he said, "that can match the power of United Jewish Appeal in being a spokesperson for the Jewish people. As a Reform leader, I don't feel apart from you. I feel with you in what you do."

But Rabbi Samuels warned North American Jewry not to take the conversion issue lightly, calling it "an international emergency."

"There's a seismic shift happening in the Jewish world," he claimed. "There's a volcano under there and it may erupt unless certain things are done to change the environment."

The biggest change, he believes, is guaranteeing Israelis religious choice. "From the days of the French revolution and the American revolution, Jews have choices and you cannot coerce Jews away from those choices," he said.

Rabbi Samuels, born in Atlanta and raised in Texas, was the first North American Reform rabbi to move to Israel where, in 1962, he started a congregation in Upper Nazareth. Since 1986, he has been headmaster of Haifa's Leo Baeck school.

More money for programs promoting tolerance

The Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), funded by UJA Federations across North America, will be spending at least $20 million (U.S.) next year - an unprecedented sum of money - on projects supporting tolerance and Jewish unity.

This year, JAFI has allocated $18.5 million for such initiatives, some of which are backed by Conservative, Orthodox or Reform religious streams. Others, for which the Agency has set aside nearly $6 million, are unaffiliated.

Jewish Agency programs foster understanding among Jews.

"The Jewish Agency is the largest supporter of such projects in the world," said UJA Federation president Joseph Steiner. "They reinforce the respect, understanding and dignity which every Jew deserves, regardless of affiliation."

The Jewish Agency also extends financial support to organizations helping Israelis in difficult or desperate situations. Funding recipients in this category include:

- The Sexual Assault Victim Witness Assistance Program
- Breast Cancer Outreach and Education Association for the Advancement of Women's Health
- Pluralistic Heritage Discovery

JAFI is the primary force behind the rescue of Jews in distress and their resettlement in Israel. This year, the Jewish Agency is spending nearly $226 million on worldwide rescue efforts. Through the Jewish Agency, some 800,000 Jews have taken flight from the former Soviet Union since 1989.

It's HOT to help

Sharon Prizant is among dozens of young adults who have joined UJA Federation's hottest new program - Hands on Toronto (H.O.T.). Participants have selected many mitzva projects to undertake during the year. Sharon was part of a a group visiting Extendicare residents last week. (Photo by Stephen Epstein)

Community Matters

UJA FEDERATION PROVIDES FUNDS FOR CULTURE

UJA Federation is turning to the arts as a vehicle for increasing Jewish awareness, by awarding more than $30,000 in grants to projects concentrating on Jewish culture. UJA Federation has already provided over $300,000 to more than 50 community-based programs to strengthen Jewish identity. Eight cultural initiatives from photographic exhibits to a book of Jewish feminist writings received between $1,000 and $5,000. The Action Committee for Jewish Continuity selected the winners from a huge number of submissions.

Spotlight on Yiddishkeit

Know a song or two in Yiddish? Not afraid of being in the spotlight? Then Centre Spotlight is the venue for you. The once a month nightclub at the Morris Winchevsky School, 585 Cranbrooke Avenue, showcases a diverse range of Jewish talent including singers, musicians, dancers, and comedians.

Actress Gloria Valentine, founder of the Jewish Artists Scholarship Society, says the shows offer audiences a truly professional performance enhanced by high quality sound and lighting, a stage and even a rising curtain. "It's very important that Jewish performers be seen in the best possible light," explains Valentine.

Anyone interested in taking centre stage at an upcoming Spotlight show can contact Gloria Valentine at (416) 638-2222.

Bloor JCC Reaches Out

Jewish life is thriving at the corner of Spadina and Bloor thanks to innovative programming at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre.

Downtown Jews, from all walks of life, have been increasingly participating in a variety of Bloor JCC programs, including a Film Society, *Books and Bagels, Between Stages*, Playwriting Contest, *Centre Court Cabaret* and *Art Talks*.

Funds provided by UJA Federation will be used to promote what's going on in the Bloor JCC to Jewish "downtowners."

Purely Jewish Theatre

A Jewish play based on Jewish text. That's what four local performance artists are working on thanks to funding from UJA Federation. The theatre production, inspired by the "Song of Songs" is meant to be a "celebration of Jewish texts, history, music and spirit in a contemporary context," explains actor/producer Alon Nashman.

The play will be aimed at an adult audience with a particular focus on university students. "We want to engage young people to learn more about their Jewish heritage," adds Nashman. Both the Theatre Passe Muraille and Tarragon Theatre have expressed interest in the play.

Neshama

Producer/director David Stein says he got the inspiration for his film *Neshama* from his bubi's love of Yiddish. The documentary explores the Yiddish revival taking place around the world from a personal viewpoint, with what Stein calls "a 20th century spin."

Stein, who is working together with Jesse Rosensweet and Karen Shopsowitz on the film, will use footage of participants in the Ashkenaz Festival and the KlezCanada Camp in the Laurentians, which he visited last summer. "Yiddish is full of hidden treasures," explains Stein. "It's the key to our heritage and something for us to be very proud of."

Theatre Asylum

A popular, critically acclaimed play by Hungarian Holocaust survivor George Tabori has been a big hit, especially among Toronto's younger crowd. *My Mother's Courage*, depicting the struggle of a Jewish housewife living in Hungary during World War II, just completed a two week run.

Theatre Asylum, which produced the play, will now use funding provided by UJA Federation to mount a production of Tabori's latest work, *The Ballad of Weiner Schnitzel*.

Jewish Women's Voices

The organizers of two highly successful Jewish feminist conferences, attended by over 500 women, are now publishing the proceedings in order to reach a wider audience. "*Jewish Women's Voices: From Memory to Transformation*," to be launched at the Jewish Book Fair, will include 20 works with a female perspective on everything from the Holocaust to Jewish immigration.

"The book will not be a formal record of the proceedings," explains Margy Wolfe, one of the editors. "It will be a readable, accessible volume of unique and varied writings." The publishers plan to distribute the book throughout North America.

Exploring Jewish Identity

Poet Rafi Aron will combine his own poetry with provocative photos taken by some of the world's most talented photographers in an exploration of Jewish identity.

Aron's work, *A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood*, appearing at the 1997 Jewish Book Fair, as well as a future downtown location, will feature photographs by David Rubinger, from TIME Magazine, Serge Clemont and Ruth Kaplan. "I feel this is an informal, yet effective way to expose a wide range of people to crucial Jewish issues," explains Aron. Some of the themes echoed in Aron's exhibit are Jewish immigration, anti-semitism and the Holocaust.

Photos Personalize Holocaust

John Massier, curator of the Koffler Gallery, hopes Jason Schwartz's photographs leave a lasting impression. Schwartz's annotated photos of Holocaust survivors will be on exhibit until mid-December in the Loggia Gallery at the Koffler Centre in the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

"It personalizes this episode in Jewish history instead of presenting it in only broad terms," explains Massier. As part of the exhibit's educational component, Massier is inviting students from grade school to university to submit their own photo of a Holocaust survivor using Schwartz's revealing methodology as a model.

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Greater Toronto Area

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Photos by Ron Csillag

outLOOK 98

UJA FEDERATION

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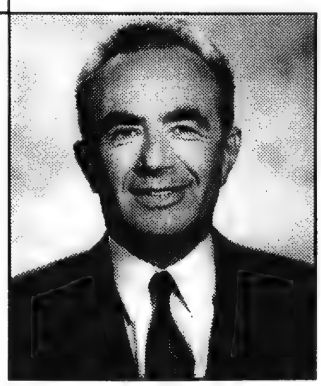

ROBERT L. SHAPIRO
Head of The O.J. Simpson Defence Team

A STEADY DIET OF HUNGER

Now that's food for thought.

Over 200,000 elderly Jews in the former Soviet Union suffer from unrelenting hunger.
The Joint Distribution Committee, assisted by United Israel Appeal, through UJA/CJA campaigns across Canada, has enough money to provide only 70,000 desperate people with subsistence packages.
It doesn't take a lot to help. Just $18 a month will finance a food survival kit.
The same $18 that buys a business lunch, 2 movie tickets or 30 litres of gas.
When your CJA/UJA campaigner contacts you, please consider the astounding number of Jews who go to bed hungry every night.

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What's New

By Miriam Hernan

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Nov. 10, is deadline for Nov. 20 issue, and Monday, Nov. 17, is deadline for Nov. 27. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 361-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, Nov. 7

RESCUE & SWITZERLAND

Heini Bornstein, Swiss-born author living in Israel, speaks on Switzerland's wartime "neutrality" and his aid and rescue activities which saved hundreds of refugees. Follows 7:30 p.m. services at Temple Kol Ami 905-709-2620. Bornstein is here on behalf of Canadian Friends of Givat Haviva

Saturday, Nov. 8

CASINO ROYALE

Beth Tikvah Sisterhood fundraiser, Casino Royale, features a dinner reception, games of chance, psychic and dream interpretations, great prizes, 7:30 p.m. Portion of proceeds go to North York General Hospital Chapel and a Women's Shelter. $25 at door or 221-3433

Sunday, Nov. 9

NEHAMA LEIBOWITZ

Beth Tikvah Synagogue and the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University honor and celebrate the teachings of famous Torah scholar and teacher **Nehama Leibowitz.** Program includes a lecture, video tribute and study session. **Marla Frankel** of Melton Centre for Jewish Education in the Diaspora at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem leads a workshop. $5. Registration 6:45 p.m. 221-3433.

AISH HATORAH

Jewish Unity: Key Steps from Jewish Divisiveness to Jewish Unity, speaker **Malcolm Hoenlein**, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. 7:45 p.m. at Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Bathurst St., Thornhill. 905-764-1818.

TRAVELLING EXHIBIT

A Seed in the Pocket of Their Blood, a travelling exhibit and book that explores the issues of Jewish identity through poetry and photography, debuts at Jewish Book Fair at Leah Posluns Theatre with a reading by poet/curator **Rafi Aaron,** 7 p.m.

VIDEO, SLIDE EXPERIENCE

Entertainment & Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood present **Moshe Morris** and **David Moscovitch** on Making Connections in the Former Soviet Union, video and slide experience of Jewish students conducting Pesach services, 8 p.m. Guests $2. Co-ordinators **Jerry and Sandra Genesove.**

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

Magen David Volunteers of Summer 1997 reunion, Zionist Council Building, 788 Marlee Ave., Haifa Room, 3rd floor. Parents, siblings, friends invited. RSVP to Israel Aliyah Centre 633-4766.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling on the Danforth, hosted by **Alec Gelcer.** Come listen, come tell. All welcome. Riverdale Jewish Community Centre, 179A Danforth Ave., 7:30 p.m. $3. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

WINDSOR CONCERT

Daniel and Ann Katzman Memorial Concert featuring Windsor Symphony and Finjan Klezmer Band, **Susan Haig** conductor, 2:30 p.m., Pentastar Playhouse, Capitol Theatre and Arts Centre, 121 University Ave. W., Windsor. 519-973-1772.

Monday, Nov. 10

KIBBUTZ ADVENTURE

Kibbutz Family Adventure, Summer 1998, information open house 7 p.m., Lipa Green Building. **Joel Goldman,** executive director of the Israel office will be present 638-8824.

Tuesday, Nov. 11

CHANUKAH STORY

Dr. Abraham Shore Academy She'arim Hebrew Day School Jewish Book Fair presentation, In the Month of Kislev, a story for Chanukah written by **Nina Jaffe**, Leah Posluns Theatre.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

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pkg. of 4
239

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

KOSHER COOKING
Kashruth Council of Toronto Kosher Cooking School focuses on Festive Main Dishes (meat), 8 p.m. Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. $15. 635-9550.

ART AUCTION
Featuring works by well-known artists including **Chagall, Miro, Calder, Matisse,** viewing 7-8 p.m., auction 8 p.m. $10. Beth Torah Synagogue, 47 Glenbrook Ave. 782-4495.

GROWING UP JEWISH
ORT Canada presents **Rosalie Sharp,** co-editor of *Growing Up Jewish*, with **Rosalie Abella, Morley Torgov, Julia Koschitzky, Fred Weinberg, Beatrice Fischer, Shirley Granovsky, Ben Kayfetz, Martin Goldfarb,** 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. $5. Jewish Book Fair, 636-1880, ext. 368.

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES
Rabbi Moshe Stern series for men and women continues with What Does Judaism Teach Concerning the Environment? 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

MEDICINE & HOLOCAUST
History of Medicine program, University of Toronto seminar series, Medicine and the Holocaust, presents Auschwitz: A Eugenic Utopia with **Prof. Robert-Jan van Pelt**, University of Waterloo, 4-6 p.m., The Great Hall, 88 College St. 978-2124.

Wednesday, Nov. 12

GENEALOGY & TEXTILES
Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting on Jewish Genealogy and Antique Textiles, **Nora Freund** lectures on Researching Your Family Tree, 8 p.m., Lodzer Holocaust Congregation, 12 Heaton St. **Sarita** 789-1145.

ALIYAH NIGHT
For students who want to live in Israel presented by Israel Aliyah Centre in conjunction with Jewish Campus Services with shlichah **Miri Gur** and guest speaker **Leah Ronen**, 7:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building, Room 421. The latest on careers, internships and more. **Elliott Stutz** 789-5766 or **Miri Gur** 633-4766. fax 633-2758.

JUDAISM BY THE BOOK
Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich's series continues with Do I Have to Live in Israel? The Land of Israel and the Jew, 7:30 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue.

LUNCH AND LEARN
Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement group current events topic, What's Happening Now...with **Doug Haddow**, at noon. $1. Bring lunch.

Thursday, Nov. 13

PUBLIC HEALTH FORUM
Baycrest Centre public health forum, The Encumbered Child: Why Is It Always Me? with **Judith Goldman**, researcher/lecturer in family care of the elderly, associate professor of Social Work at the University of Toronto, 7:30 p.m., Abe Posluns Auditorium, Jewish Home for the Aged. 785-2500, ext. 2049.

BABIES AND BUBBIES
Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood lecture series on Women's Health Issues features Between Babies and Bubbies: The Vital Interrelations Between Grandparents, New Parents and Their Babies, with maternal/infant nurse specialist **Wendy Goodman** and panelists **Wendy Eisen** and her daughter **Tammy Brown**; and **Jan Levine** and her daughter-in-law **Sara Levine**, 8 p.m.

CASINO RAMA
Adath Sholom Sisterhood goes to Casino Rama. Bus leaves synagogue parking lot, 864 Sheppard Ave. W., 8:45 a.m. $13 includes buffet lunch. Reserve. 635-0131.

And What Else Is New

SCIENCE AND JUDAISM
Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto fun-filled evening for children — an encounter with Mad Science — hands-on scientific introduction to atoms, molecules, bubbling potions. For parents, the lecture, Do Science and Judaism Agree? with **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz**, 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 15. $7 per child, adults free. Reserve. **Karen** 905-886-5730 ext. 29.

AIR FORCE MUSEUM
Gala dinner in support of Israeli Air Force Museum, keynote speakers **Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Joshua Shani**, lead pilot on the Entebbe rescue, and **Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Ya'akov Terner,** commander of the Israeli Air Force Museum, Sunday, Nov. 16, Royal Ontario Museum. Dinner chair **John Sereny**. Under COR. $125 plus donation. 489-3336.

ONEG SHABBAT CONCERT
Temple Sinai Musical Legacy Concert with renowned children's choir under direction of **Jean Ashworth Bartle** featuring new work by Canadian composer **Robert Evans,** *For the Children*, Friday, Nov, 14. Services begin 8:15 p.m.

MARKET PLACE
Mount Sinai Hospital Auxiliary Marketplace, all new merchandise at bargain prices — linens, clothing and fashions, gifts, jewelry, stationary, toys, home-baked goods, silent auction. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 12 and Nov. 19. 586-8290.

ICRF YOUNG ASSOCIATES
Young Associates of Israel Cancer Research Fund dinner Friday, Nov. 14, 7:15 p.m. **Susan Jackson**, director, Continuity and the Israel Federation Advisory Committee, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, speaks on The Microwave Society of the 90s. $20. 487-5246.

MEET THE AUTHOR
Chapters of Canada features author **Vera Schiff** reading from her book,*Theresienstadt, the Town the Nazis Gave to the Jews* , at its Bay-Bloor store Tuesday, Nov. 11, 7:30 p.m. and at the Yonge and Steeles store, Sunday, Nov. 30, 2 p.m.

FOR WIDOWS/WIDOWERS
Beth Tzedec Congregation Chesed Committee discussion program for young widows/widowers, facilitators **Dr. Ed Pakes,** psychiatrist, and **Dorothy Pullan,** clinical psychologist, Wednesday, Nov. 19, 1-2:30 p.m. **Arlene** 781-3514, ext. 34.

QUILT WORKSHOP
Quilt Workshop sponsored by Jewish Women's Federation, UJA Federation, Monday, Nov. 10, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday, Nov. 11, 7-9 p.m.; Monday, Nov. 17, 7-9 p.m.; Thursday, Nov. 20, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at 4600 Bathurst St., Room 419/420. Register with **Brenda,** 635-2883, ext. 135.

A TASTE OF JUDAISM
Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning presents A Taste of Judaism, exploring the basics of the Jewish faith. Reconnect to your Jewish roots, examine the "whys" of Jewish belief or explore the path toward a Jewish life. Beginners only. Begins the week of Nov. 16. Register 905-764-1329.

ORT BOOK SALE
Great selection of books, tapes, CDs, 1998 calendars, fantastic prices, Nov. 11-14, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., North York City Hall. 787-0297.

GUEST AUTHOR
Adath Sholom Synagogue Brotherhood and Sisterhood guest speaker **Alvin Abram**, author of *The Light After the Dark*, stories of unusual experiences of chance and circumstance, Sunday, Nov. 16, 9:30 a.m. $2 including breakfast. Reservations only. 635-0131.

A STUDY OF PRAYER
With **Rabbi Avraham Bartfeld,** Tuesdays 8:30 p.m., 77 Regina Ave. Men and women welcome.

FOR SENIORS

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Nov. 13 is a comedy video show, *The Funniest Moment of the Stars in the 20th Century* . Non-members $1. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771,

LZA Seniors Club registration for Miami trip 1998, Libby 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural discussion group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., is open for socializing Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Nov. 9, Sunday dance,7:30 p.m.; Nov. 13, hearing test clinic, 10 a.m. to noon; Nov. 19, Square One Shopping Centre; Dec. 3, *Showboat* matinee; Dec. 10, local day trip to Magnotta Wines, members $5, non-members $8; Dec. 17, Casino Rama. 395-7881.

Senior Mixed Bowling League 10-pin, every other Saturday 7:30 p.m., has a few openings. 633-6175.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club opening musical luncheon (catered), Monday, Nov. 10, 12:30 p.m., entertainers **Ivory and Silver**, club members' art exhibit. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Public Affairs Forum, The Pros and Cons of Alternative Medicine, Wednesday, Nov. 12, 1:30 p.m. Panelists **MPP Monte Kwinter, Dr. Leonard Direnfeld, Robert McMaster**, president, Citizens for Choice in Health Care. Emcee is **Lou Goldenberg**, chair, Public Affairs Forum.

Hear **Eliakim Katz,** author of *Old Age Comes at a Bad Time* , Thursday, Nov. 13, 10:30 a.m., Leah Posluns Theatre.

Volunteer at-home respite care now available for full-time caregivers, 55 years and older. **Paula Mintzberg** or **Ruth Cohen**.

Parkinson's Support Group rap session, Sharing and Caring, Tuesday, Nov. 11, 1:15 p.m. Ruth.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, sing-a-longs, dances, bingo. Nov. 11 is a movie. Anna.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band Sunday, Nov. 9, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Gala premiere opening of **Simcha Jacobovici's** film *Hollywoodism: Jew, Movies and the American Dream* Nov. 24, Princess of Wales Theatre. Patron tickets $180, regular seats $36.

Israeli folkdancing with **Yossi Strauch** Mondays, beginners 8:15-9 p.m.; intermediate level 1, 9-10 p.m. Yossi 661-6361.

Bloor JCC Seniors presents **Jackie Kott-Wolle** of Mazon Canada speaking on Hunger and Poverty in Canada/The Jewish Value of Tzedakah, Thursday, Nov. 6, 2 p.m. **Judy.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 633-1880.

Senior Adult Services November Luncheon with entertainment by singer **Leilani Kim,** Tuesday, Nov. 18, 12:30 p.m. Tickets at Information Desk. **Teme** ext. 364.

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Thursday, November 20 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
To register for workshops contact Brenda at (416) 635-2883 ext. 135.
Bring these items with you if you have them: (Be sure to put your name on your supplies.)
• Good sewing scissors to cut fabric • Rotary cutter and a small mat • Spool of sewing thread
Jewish Women's Federation is coordinating this project with their 50 affiliate organizations in order to show our community's unity and solidarity on issues concerning women.
The Community Quilt will serve to raise awareness of issues such as Woman Abuse, while celebrating the strength of Jewish women.

Dinner chair John Serenyi and the Piper Cheyenne II he pilots.

Entebbe rescue pilot to address fundraiser

TORONTO — The man who flew the lead plane in Israel's daring 1976 raid on the Entebbe airport in Uganda will be a guest speaker at a fundraiser here for the Israel Air Force Museum.

Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Joshua Shani, later an Israeli Air Force attache to Washington, will appear at the dinner along with Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Ya'akov Terner, commander of the museum. It will take place at the Royal Ontario Museum, Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m.

The Boeing 707 Shani piloted in the Entebbe rescue is among the permanent exhibits in the museum, located on the Hatzerim Air Force Base near Beersheva.

Terner was a squadron commander during the Six Day War, the War of Attrition and the Yom Kippur War.

Dinner chair is John Serenyi, former chair and CEO of Green Forest Lumber, and an avid pilot.

Serenyi immigrated to Israel from his native Hungary in 1948 and although he held a pilot's license, he drove a halftrack in the 1956 Sinai campaign.

The museum, opened in 1991, has attracted thousands from around the world. On display are more than 100 vintage fighter planes from all of Israel's wars, helicopters, rare photos and even a piece of a Scud missile.

For information on the dinner, call 416-489-3336.

Bund marks 100 years with nostalgic bash

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — About 100 members of the Bund shared memories of their life in Poland, Russia and Lithuania at a recent banquet held at the Workmen's Circle marking the Bund's 100th jubilee.

"It was nostalgia plus," said Aron Fainer, Toronto Bund chair, of the gathering that observed the Bund's founding in 1897 in Vilna, Poland, then a centre of intellectual and political life.

Prof. Jack Jacobs, speaking in Yiddish and English, recalled the key role Bund members played in the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and in other resistance to the Nazis in World War II.

He spoke of the political ferment in eastern Europe which led to a number of Yiddish socialist groups coming together to form the Bund. It was among the leaders in alerting Jews to the dangers posed by Hitler

It was also a leader in the secular movements which sought to improve the lot of Jewish workers.

"Unfortunately 90 percent of Bundists were killed by the Nazis," said Fainer.

The Toronto Bund was formed in 1948 and has held an annual celebration ever since. There are also Bunds in the United States, Australia, Israel, Central and South America, whose members frequently visit friends in Toronto.

Entertainment included recitations from stories by famed Yiddish writers David Einhorn, Avi Raisin and Vladimir Meden, and performances by two Montreal singers.

JWI honors past president for her volunteer work

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — For only the second time in 41 years, Jewish Women International of Toronto (JWI) has named one of its own as Woman of the Year, in recognition of the work she has done for the organization.

Lucille Bensky, a JWI member for almost 40 years, and a past national and Toronto Council president, will be honored at the organization's 41st Covenant Breakfast, Nov. 9, 10 a.m., at Richmond Hill Golf and Country Club.

Among her accomplishments within JWI, Bensky spearheaded and coordinated the city's Tay Sachs clinics in the early 1970s, which screened potential carriers of the genetic disease.

"In over nine months, we tested 12,000 people and as a result almost eradicated the birth of Jewish babies with Tay Sachs," she said in a recent interview.

An avid knitter, Bensky was the first chair of the Mountains of Mittens campaign, an ongoing project that has JWI members knitting mittens and scarves for needy children from North York schools. In the past year, over 2,000 pairs of mittens have been distributed.

JWI's Share Your Love campaign, also spearheaded by Bensky, had members collecting loonies in film canisters. The organization raised $20,000, all of which went to its resident treatment centre outside of Jerusalem.

Bensky joined JWI (then B'nai Brith) as a young bride, she said, to make friends. "I discovered, however, that community volunteer service was my love and I have since focused on that."

Having experienced the history of the organization "from its days as B'nai Brith, B'nai Brith Women and now JWI, I have seen it move forward and keep up with the times. It has continuously refocused and directed itself to meet members' needs.

"JWI has kept up with issues such as gun control, the *get*, breast cancer, intermarriage and domestic violence that are vital to all Canadian women. This is what has kept me as a member. It is an organization of the '90s and it has changed with every decade."

Doing community volunteer work, says Bensky, "is an extension of myself. I have to be helping other people. I get great satisfaction from

Lucille Bensky

knowing that something is better because I have contributed."

She acknowledges that being a volunteer now is harder than it ever has been. "I salute women who find the time in their schedule. They do gain so much, however. They are able to get away from their everyday concerns and get a broader scope of what is going on in the world.

"As well members can hone their leadership skills and gain self-confidence and a great deal of satisfaction. I am a completely other person than when I joined the organization. I have the satisfaction of knowing that I have contributed something – not a lot in total, but I have made a difference."

Other positions Bensky has held in the community include being a member of the boards of Jewish Camp Council, Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, Jewish Community Centre and Canada Israel Committee.

CORRECTION

Dr. Barry Chapnick will be the international president of Alpha Omega dental fraternity in 1999. The wrong name appeared in *The CJN* Oct 15.

PROJECT DIRECTOR:
Expressions Of Interest

The Committee for Yiddish of UJA Federation invites consultants to submit expressions of interest in undertaking an exciting, challenging project that will lead to the establishment of a Toronto Yiddish Education Centre. Under the direction of the Committee, the consultant will facilitate:

- The creation of an interim Board of Directors for the developmental phase of the proposed Centre. The Board's functions will include fundraising, marketing, (Yiddish) education, organizational development and other relevant fields.
- The development of a strategic plan for the proposed Centre.
- The development of a plan for the implementation of all elements of the strategic plan.

The consultant must have substantial experience in strategic planning, organizational development and fundraising. He/she must have extensive knowledge of the structure and workings of the Toronto Jewish community, and a significant network of contacts among the many cultural, social, religious and other elements that make up that community. The consultant also must have a sense of the centrality of Yiddish education to Jewish continuity. A capacity to speak Yiddish and experience in educational administration, while desirable, are not required.

Consultants who wish to consider undertaking this project and want to learn more about it are invited to submit expressions of interest indicating their qualifications. Those whose expressions of interest are deemed appropriate will be sent "requests for proposals" containing a more detailed description of the project and specifications for the preparation of their project proposals.

Expressions of interest must be received by no later than November 28, 1997. They should be addressed to:

UJA FEDERATION

The Committee for Yiddish
UJA/Federation
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MERON BENVENISTI

Tuesday, November 11, 8 p.m.

Meron Benvenisti, Former Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem is the author of several books on Jerusalem, including City of Stone: The Hidden History of Jerusalem. Mr. Benvenisti speaks as part of the Gerald Schwartz/Heather Reisman Lecture series at Holy Blossom Temple, 1897-1997: ZIONISM ON THE THRESHOLD OF ITS SECOND CENTURY, Amos Oz will conclude this series on December 2, 8 p.m. as he speaks on "Zionism Dreams and Israeli Realities."

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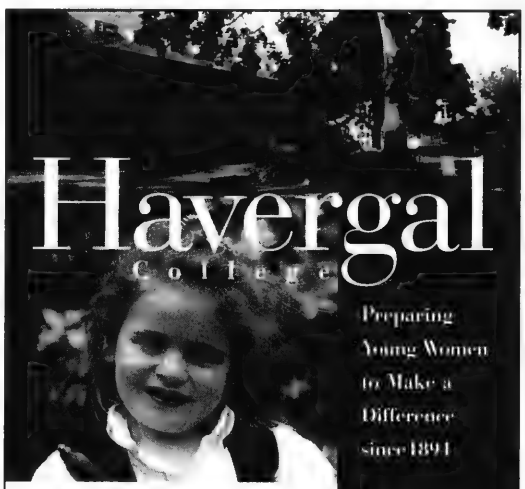
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Parchment, Ottawa writer share in Journey Prize

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Gabriella Goliger of Ottawa is one of two writers to share the $10,000 Journey Prize for her story *Maladies Of The Inner Ear*, which appeared in the 1996-97 issue of the journal *Parchment: Contemporary Canadian Jewish Writing*.

Goliger shares the award with Nova Scotia writer Anne Simpson, whose story *Dreaming Snow* appeared in *The Fiddlehead*. The two journals with the winning stories share $2,000 in recognition of their important role as incubators of Canadian literary talent. The prize was awarded on the opening night of the Harbourfront International Authors Festival.

Goliger, a freelance writer and editor, said it has given her new impetus to complete a collection of short stories "that draw on my heritage, which is German-Jewish." She expects to have the anthology ready within a year.

Gabriella Goliger

Maladies Of The Inner Ear tells the story of an elderly German-Jewish woman who suffers from tinnitus, a medical condition involving a loud and inescapable ringing in her ears. She is also tormented by memories of her youth in Germany and the brother who did not get out in time.

"The tinnitus works as a kind of metaphor for the inescapable pain and sorrow that comes back to haunt her in her old age," Goliger said.

Parchment editor Adam Fuerstenberg, a professor in the English department of Ryerson Polytechnic University in Toronto, said the $1,000 prize for the journal "is very helpful, because journals hang in there by the skin of their teeth."

Parchment serves a special function for the Jewish literary community in Canada, he said, since it exists in response to "the difficulty of publishing stories with Jewish content in the established journals."

The Journey Prize is one of the most significant monetary awards given in Canada to beginning writers. It was established by McClelland & Stewart, the Toronto-based publishers, through funds donated by the late author James Michener from the Canadian royalties of his 1988 novel *Journey*.

The prestigious award boosts the profile of *Parchment* as its editors and contributors prepare to launch the 1997-98 issue on Nov. 9, 3:30 p.m. at the Leah Posluns Theatre, as part of Toronto's annual Jewish Book Fair.

At the launch party, which is called Prose & Poetry at the Cafe Kasrilevke, authors Seymour Mayne, Murray Pomerance, Ken Sherman, Ruth Panofsky, Nathalie Stephens and Libby Scheier will read from their respective works.

A one-year subscription to Parchment is $12; two years, $20. Write to: Centre for Jewish Studies, Vanier 260, York University, 4700 Keele St., North York, Ont., M3J 1P3.

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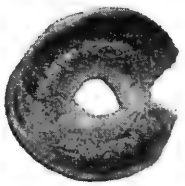
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Mazon launches poster contest

TORONTO — Mazon Canada, which bills itself as "a Jewish response to hunger," has launched its first ever teen poster contest.

The juried poster contest is open to Canadian youth aged 15 to 19. Entries must reflect on one or both of the following themes: the tragedy of hunger and poverty in Canada, or the traditional Jewish value of tzedakah.

The purpose of the contest is to offer young people the opportunity to express a personal, political or religious message through art, with regard to hunger in Canada .

Entries must be submitted by Dec. 1 to the Mazon Canada offices at 788 Marlee Ave., Suite 206. For an application form or for more information, call 416-783-7554.

Greater Toronto Area

Reena supervisor helps ensure 'positive changes'

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — If Maureen Ander had her way, most people with developmental handicaps would be living in the community.

As a supervisor at two of Reena's residential locations, as well as a day program job site and a workshop at the Minnie Wagman Centre, Ander says that one of Reena's mandates is to try and take people out of institutions such as Huronia in Orillia or Oxford in Barrie and place them in a group home within the Jewish community.

Maureen Ander

Historically, she says, when children were born with a disabilities, families were told to put them in an institution. "Only recently did people begin to realize that alternatives do exist. People with developmental handicaps do well living in a community setting where they can meet neighbors, go to synagogue and spend time at home learning life skills. Reena homes offer varying levels of supervision from semi-independent all the way to 24-hour-a-day care.

"We are not exclusively Jewish, but we do have a Jewish environment. Our homes are kosher and we run Jewish programs. Many of our residences had sukkot this year. That is what makes us different from other agencies. Jewish residents can live in a Jewish environment."

Ander, who started at Reena eight years ago as a front-line worker, says "I sense a change in how the community responds to people with developmental disabilities. When we would go on a bus seven or eight years ago, people would stare at us. Now, people know about Reena and the work we do. The group of us is not as scary."

She says that the staff in the homes work at bonding with the residents but "definitely do not replace family. We are realistic. Staff come and go. They are responsible for the needs of its residents as well as for services and programming, but we always encourage family and friends to visit and invite residents home for the holidays. We also urge families to plan for the lives of residents for when [families] are no longer around. There are a lot of aging parents."

In the summer, Ander supervised Reena's cottage program that offers a two-week cottage vacation to Reena clients, as well as to people on Reena's resource list.

"We reached out to people who are not yet receiving our services. Six or seven people per session had a typical summer experience in one of two chalets in Collingwood. This is something that most clients would not have an opportunity to do. It really worked out beautifully."

The most fulfilling part of her job, says Ander, is seeing a change in people from when they first came to Reena. "I remember what they were like when I first met them and I see a positive change. A major part of my role is seeing that that change continues."

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- Beth Tikvah Synagogue, 3080 Bayview Avenue – Synagogue Office
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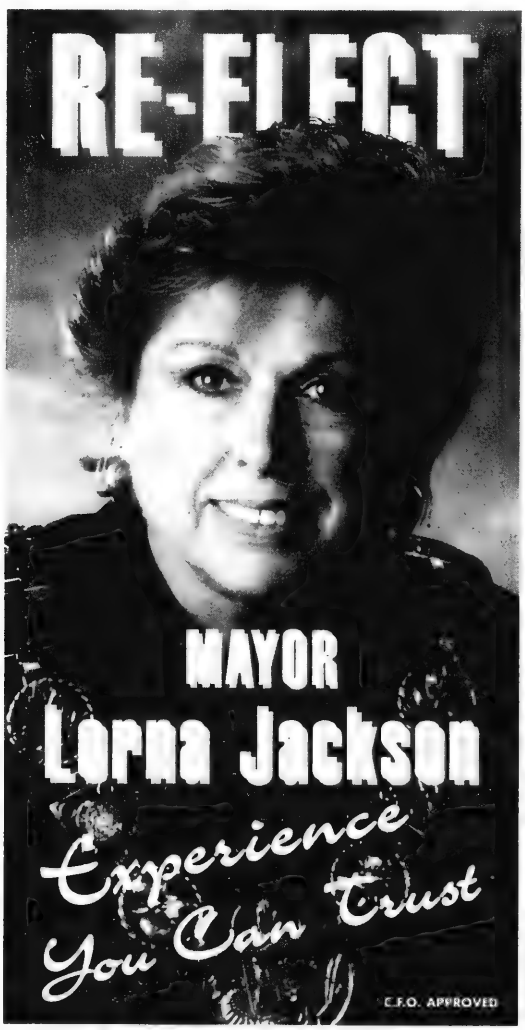

Architect hopes to launch archeological field school

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Architect Sander Gladstone set to submerge in Caesarea's harbor.

TORONTO — Toronto architect Sander Gladstone has become part of an archeological scuba team working underwater to excavate three ancient sites in the harbor of Caesarea, Israel, a Mediterranean port city dating back to 2,200 BCE.

Gladstone (no relation), who heads an architectural practice and lectures at York University, heard about the Caesaria project last summer and wasted no time volunteering his services. "I e-mailed them — 'I'm an architect, a university professor, fluent in Hebrew, and a scuba diver, and I'm creating a course that uses case studies from biblical Israel. Can I come join your underwater archaeological team?'"

He spent three weeks helping to retrieve artifacts from the water. On days when the sea was too rough, he worked on a land dig of a temple dedicated to Augustus Caesar, the Roman emperor after whom the city was named, and for whom the temple was built by King Herod circa 10 BCE.

The Romans built up the settlement at Caesaria because they needed a port, Gladstone said. The city has been continuously occupied for more than 2,000 years, and had a population of more than 100,000 inhabitants at its peak.

"The Jewish revolt started in Caesaria," he said. "Caesaria was the seat of the [Roman] government at the time. I want to change the perceptions of Canadian Jewish travellers, who will hit Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, the Galilee, Masada, and perhaps Eilat. I want them to make Caesaria a major stop as well. It has beautiful beaches, major hotels, and fascinating archeological artifacts."

Gladstone intends to establish a field school at the University of Toronto School of Architecture through which students will go to Israel in summers to work on the dig in Caesaria. He is seeking a benefactor to help establish the field school.

Born in Canada 40 years ago, Gladstone left Forest Hill Collegiate after Grade 10 and finished high school in Israel. He was there during the Yom Kippur War of 1973 and served as a volunteer in the army.

Licensed to practice both in Canada and Israel, Gladstone has several high-profile projects in both countries. In Toronto, he is presently refurbishing a former theatre, the Bayview Playhouse, retaining its art-deco architectural qualities as he transforms it into a supermarket and commercial space. In Eilat, he is helping to design a surgical centre where Europeans and others can come for cosmetic and other elective surgery, then recuperate in an idyllic setting.

Gladstone is also an artist. Recently, a retrospective showing of his paintings went on view at The Rosedale Diner, 1164 Yonge St., where they will be displayed until early December.

Anyone interested in the Caesaria project may contact him by phoning 416-482-5100 or by e-mail at [rktect@yorku.ca].

SAM STERLING
and family
extend their sincere thanks and appreciation to family and friends for their thoughtfulness, support and comfort following the recent loss of their beloved wife, mother, mother-in-law and grandmother
RUTH STERLING ז"ל

The Staff of
The Canadian Jewish News
extends sincerest condolences
to our colleague and friend
Nick Radelja and his family
on the loss of their
beloved mother and grandmother
Barbara Radelja

בה
Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh
deeply mourns the passing of our dear friend
HOWARD ORFUS ז"ל

We will treasure the memory of this
pleasant and thoughtful man
who gave so much of himself
to Torah and Jewish causes.

*To **Mrs. Bessie Orfus and the entire family**:*
May you be comforted among
the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

On Campus

Stanford professor wins Nobel Prize

By DOUG SETO
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

SAN FRANCISCO — Stanford University finance professor Myron S. Scholes, who won the Nobel Prize for economics, already has an idea of what he will do with his $500,000 in prize money.

And given his line of work, his plan is hardly surprising. "In general," he said, "I will spend some of it and save the rest by placing it in broad diversified portfolios of securities."

Scholes, 53, won the award for co-pioneering a formula that simplified the process of purchasing stock options.

Scholes' colleague, Robert C. Merton of Harvard University, will receive the other half of the $1 million prize. By winning the award, Scholes became the second Jew to win a Nobel Prize in the last two weeks.

Stanley Prusiner, a recipient of Israel's prestigious Wolf Award, received the Nobel Prize in medicine for his work on brain-wasting diseases.

Scholes, an emeritus professor at Stanford, is one of two scholars at the university to receive a Nobel Prize this year. (A Nobel in physics went to Steven Chu for his work in cooling atoms with lasers.) After winning the prize, Scholes told reporters that he was speechless, honored and ecstatic. The shock hadn't worn off the day after, when he was reached by phone.

"When I woke up this morning, I was still on cloud nine," he said. "It still hasn't sunk in yet, but maybe later – perhaps in a couple of weeks."

Management L.P. He also finds time for golf and skiing.

Scholes' approach to skiing gives insight into the drive that helped produce his prize-winning work, according to his sister-in-law, Susan Scholes of Princeton, N.J.

"When Myron learned to ski, he took a very scholarly approach and bought hundreds of video tapes and books on skiing," she said.

In Greenwich, Scholes attends services at Temple Shalom, a Conservative synagogue. In Stanford, he attends Congregation Beth Am, his former synagogue in Los Altos Hills.

Rabbi Richard Block of Beth Am, said of Scholes, "He is a most intelligent and witty man."

In the history of Beth Am, Rabbi Block said, four of its members have won Nobel Prizes.

Scholes was born in Ontario

Now a resident of Greenwich, Conn., Scholes was born in Ontario. His childhood role models, he said, were not sports figures or glitzy Hollywood stars. Instead, his heroes were his parents, who are both now deceased.

"My parents were very important to me and encouraged me in everything I did," he said. "They helped share and develop my love of economics."

Scholes, who joined the Stanford Business School faculty in 1981 and became a professor emeritus in 1996, now spends most of his time operating his successful Greenwich investment firm, Long-Term Capital

COOL WEATHER, HOT LUNCH AT RYERSON'S SUKKAH

Ryerson Polytechnic University students braved chilly weather to attend a Sukkot barbecue on campus. In front of the sukkah are, from left, Eyal Lewin, Corinne Krepel of Jewish Campus Services, Daniel Schneiderman, Revital Varolin of Kol Hastudentim, Ilan Gershon, Ryerson's Hillel program coordinator Stephanie Wener and Jeff Lieberman. [Frances Kraft photo]

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Historian's review concerns CJC

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An academic exercise by a historian could turn into a political football for the Ministry of Justice, thanks to the choice of publication partner for the historian's critique of Daniel Goldhagen's book, *Hitler's Willing Executioners.*

Canadian Jewish Congress is questioning the propriety of the publication of a review by Ruth Bettina Birn, chief historian of the Justice Department's war crimes unit, in a book that will feature the work of a rabidly anti-Zionist academic, Norman Finkelstein. The proposed book is to be published in the United States next March by Henry Holt.

The son of Holocaust survivors, Finkelstein is a longstanding ideological opponent of Israel. He has attacked the legitimacy of the Jewish state and according to the *Forward* newspaper in New York, he has characterized Goldhagen as a Zionist propagandist who distorts evidence to support the legitimacy of the State of Israel.

Following a 1992 forum at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., Finkelstein, an adjunct professor of international relations at Hunter College, wrote to the campus newspaper comparing Israeli "apologists" to "the Gestapo." At a 1996 student forum at Fairfield University in Connecticut, Finkelstein compared Israel's 1948 war of independence to "ethnic cleansing." He also compared Israel's conquest of the Palestinians to methods used by the Nazis, Australians, South Africans and Americans to dispossess native peoples.

"I find it very peculiar behavior on the part of a public servant in the war crimes unit to be associated with Finkelstein at the time the unit is being investigated for anti-Semitism," said Irving Abella, chair of Congress' war crimes committee.

"[Bettina Birn] is entitled to her views of Goldhagen…but I think she should withdraw her work and not be associated with Finkelstein."

The investigation Abella was referring followed in the wake of comments made last spring by Bill Hobson, former head of the war crimes unit. He suggested the legal advice of Justice Department lawyer Arnold Fradkin, a member of the unit, was considered suspect because he is Jewish.

John Sims, assistant deputy attorney general, acknowledges that Congress raised "an important issue." But, he said, "Finkelstein's views are not my views or Bettina Birn's views or views connected with anyone in the war crimes unit."

Bettina Birn's critique of the Goldhagen book was first published in academic circles by the Cambridge University Press. "It's a fine piece and we'd like to see it available to a broader readership," Sims said.

"I've come to see Finkelstein as controversial. His views are provocative and some of his views give offense. It would be a pity if the controversy of his views taint the excellence of Bettina Birn's work," he added.

Sims said he is still attempting to acquire more information about Finkelstein, but he acknowledged that "there are principles that apply to public servants and to those in our world, to ensure that our ability to do our jobs and the public confidence in that ability is not affected."

USDS CARDS BRIGHTEN SENIORS' DAY

Jordan Ockrant, a student at United Synagogue Day School's Richmond Hill campus, recently presented his great-grandfather, 93-year-old Morris Ockrant, a resident of Baycrest, with a card produced in the computer lab at USDS. Students in all grades designed and produced cards for Rosh Hashanah and Sukkot. They were delivered by Senior Care to senior citizens receiving kosher meals on wheels.

JEWISH BOOK FAIR 1997 יידישער בוך-יריד

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Yiddish Corner

ייִדיש ווינקל

רעדאגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

פנים אל פנים מיט צווי רעוואָלוציאָנערן

פון ב. ג. חפץ

אין יאָר 1939 בין איך נאָך געווען אַ יונגערמאַן, בלויז 22 יאָר אַלט. **שפּאַציר**ן**דיק אימאַל אויף ספּעריינג, האָב איך זיך אָפּגעשטעלט** ביים לעיבאָר־ליסטאָמ, לעבן סיינט עגדרו סטריט. אויפן וואַנט איז געווען אויסגעקלעפט אַ פלאַקאַט מיט אַ מעלדונג: **„היינט וועט אויפטרעטן עמא גאָלדמאַן".**

איך האָב לאַנג נישט געטראָכט און בין באַלד אַריין און איך האָב זיך אַוועקגעזעצט. כ'האָב זייער וויניק געוואוסט וועגן עמא גאָלדמאַן, אַ חוץ דעם, וואָס מ'האָט איר באציימנט אלס „אַ גרעסערלעכער אַמעריסט" און אַז זי האָט גרפרידיקט מאַרגע טעאַטער־ס וועגן קיינדער און געבורט־קאָנטראָל, וועגן פרייע ליבע, וואָס זי האָט אליין פראַקטיצירט, און וועגן קאַפּיטאַליזם. (אגב, בין היינטיקן טאָג, בפרט אין די פראַיניקסטע שטאַטן, האָבן געוויסע מענטשן מורא אַריסצורייַדן איר נאָמען. איך האָב געהאט עטלעכע דערפאַרונגען, וואו בשעת מ'האָט געוועדט וועגן איר, האָט מען געשושקעט אין אויער, כדי פרעמדע זאָלן ניט הערן וואָס מען רעדט).

עמא איז שוין דעמאָלט געווען ביים אָנהויב פון איר זיבעציקער יאָרן, און די יאָרן האָבן זיך אויף איר אָנגעזען. זי האָט שוין מער נישט אויסגעזען ווי די דינאַמישע רעוואָלוציאָנערקע, מער נישט געהאט דעם פנים פון אַן אקטיוויסט־ן בונטאָוניצע. זי האָט אויסגעזען אויסגעמאטערט פון אירע קאָמפּן און נצחונות. זי האָט דערמאָנט — אַזוי נעבעניק איך אירע ווערטער.

נעכטן האָט זי ייִדיש, נאָר ס'איז געווען אַ מאַנער ייִדיש מיט געוויסע דייטשישע ווערטער אריינגעבראָקט: נישט סאציאליזם נאָר „סאָציאליזמוס", „קאפּיטאליזמוס" און אזוי ווייטער. אָנשטאָט „כאטש" האָט זי געזאָגט „באַליידיק" און אנשטאָט „אפילו" — „ואַנאַר". מיר דוכט זיך, אז עס זיינען פאַראַנען צווי סיבות דערפאר: שטאָמען שטאָמט זי פון קאָוונע, ליטע, וואו מ'האָט נעדעט אַ פשוטן ייִדיש, נאָר איידער זי האָט עמיגרירט קיין אַמעריקע, האָט זי געוואוינט א צאָל יאָרן אין קעניגסבערג אין מזרח פרייסן, וואו זי האָט זיך אנגעשטעקט אַ ביסל מיט דייטש. אויך איז אין יענע יאָרן געווען די מאָדע צו רעדן אויפן דייטשמערישן שטייגער בשעת אַ לעקציע.

איין יאָר שפּעטער איז עמא גאָלדמאַן געשטאָרבן דאָ אין טאָראָנטאָ. בשעת זי האָט געלעבט האָט „אנקל סעם" זי ניט אַריינגעלאָזט אין מדינת אַמעריקע, נאָר א טויטע האָט ער דערלויבט זי צו באַערדיקן אין שיקאַגאָ, לעבן דעם רר־פלאָץ פון די „העימאַרקעט" מאַרטידער.

* * *

מיין צווייטער צונויפטרעף מיט א רעוואָלוציאָנער איז פאַרגעקומען אין מדינת קובא אין יאָר 1962. איך בין דעמאָלט געווען אן אָנגעשטעלטער ביים קאָנאַדער ייִדישן קאָנגרעס. דער קאָנגרעס האָט פאַראַרגט די קובאנער יידן מיט מצות און אנדערע פסח־דיקע מעכלים און האָט געוואָלט וויסן, ווי אזוי דאָס ווערט צעטיילט, און האָט אוך געוואָלט וויסן וועגן געוונט צושטאַנד פון די יידן. די גרויסע אַמעריקאַנער ייִדישע אָרגאַניזאַציעס האָבן נישט געטאָרט שיקן קיין שלחים, צוליב דער אָנגעשטרענגטער לאָגע צווישן די צווי מדינות. פאַר זיי איז קובא געווען פאַרשלאָסן מיט הונדערט שלעסער.

די באַנצע אטמאָספערע אין האוואַנא איז געווען א רעוואָלוציאָנערע. גרויסע פלאַקאַטן האָבן אומעטום פראָקלאַמירט: „**וועגן־נעעמאס**" (מיר וועלן זיכער געווינען!). כ'האָב געזען אַ פלאַקאַט, אז „טשע" גווארא וועט רעדן, האָב איך גלייך באשלאָסן אים צו הערן. דער אריסטרייט איז פאַרגעקומען אין „**טיאַטרא טשאַרלי טשאפלין**", אָנגעזעהן נאָכן באַרימטן ענגליש־אַמעריקאַנער קאָמיקער. כ'האָב גאָרנישט א טאַקסי און כ'האָב זיך באלד דערווואוסט, אז איך האב פונקט געטראָפן דעם לעצטן איבערגע־בליבענעם „קאַפּיטאל־סט" אין קובא: דער שאָפער האָט זיך איינגעשפּאַרט, אז עס קומט אים צען פּעסאָס, ניט דרי, ווי מיר האָבן זיך פארשטענדיקט.

עס איז געווען א גשפּאַקטער זאָל, כמעט אַלע יונגטלעכע. די אסיפה איז געווען אונטער דער השגחה פון קאָמוניסטישן יוגנט קלוב. דעם איהאָלט פון זיין דערע האָב איך נישט פארשטאַנען, ווייל נערעדט האָט ער שפאניש, נאָר כ'האָב יאָ פארשטאַנען די באַקאַנטע וועדטער „מאַרק־סיזמ", „קאָמוניזמ", „אימפעריאַליזמ". טשע גוואַרא איז געווען א ביסל מער באמת אַן אימפּאָזאַנטע פיגור מיט זיין בארד, אין זיין קאָמופּלאָזש מונדיר, זיינער עלטער צו זיין קאָלעגע און פּרייַנד פידעל קאַסטראָ. (אגב, ביי יידן האָט פידעל געהייסן פיוול).

טשע גוואַרא איז אוועק פון קובא נישט לאַנג נאָכדעם און געווכט אַן אנדער לאַנד, אַנצוהויבן דאָרט א רעוואָלוציע. מען דאַרף אין זינען האָבן, אז ער איז נישט געווען קיין קובאנער, נאָר אַן ארגענטינער געבוירענער. צום סוף איז ער גספּאַלן אַ קרבן אין באָליוויע. אפשר האָט די סי.אי.עי. געהאט א חלק אין דעם.

אט־דאָס איז געווען מיין באגעגעניש מיט צווי רעוואלוציאנערן פון אונדזער עפּאָכע.

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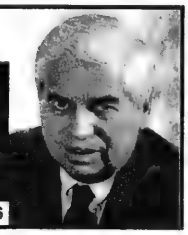
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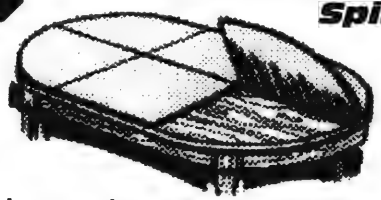
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Israel Yiddish festival set

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The worldwide resurgence of interest in Yiddish, ranging from mameloshen groups to klezmer music festivals, is taking place even in Israel, where a second International Yiddish Festival is being planned for this winter.

In another era, a week-long festival devoted to Yiddish might have made Eliezer Ben Yehuda and David Ben-Gurion spin in their graves.

Ben Yehuda wrote the first modern Hebrew dictionary in an effort to make it Israel's own lingua franca . Ben-Gurion, who spoke fluent Yiddish himself, regularly reproached people who used it.

But times they are a-changin', suggests former Montrealer Ella Gaffen, who is organizing the Dec. 28 to Jan. 4, 1998, festival and tour, which will be conducted entirely in Yiddish and be centred at the Neve Ilan Hilltop Resort near Jerusalem, where she is marketing and sales manager.

"It is a true cultural experience," said Gaffen, who is the daughter of Dora Wasserman, founder of the Yiddish Theatre of the Saidye Bronfman Centre (SBC).

"There is a great hope, a recognition within Israel that Yiddish has to be continued."

"It's about transmitting culture through language," said Gaffen's sister, Bryna Wasserman, who took over as artistic director of the Yiddish Theatre after her mother suffered a stroke almost three years ago.

"The charm of this festival is that of being in Israel at the same time, the feeling of belonging. You just can't have that same emotion or the touching experience in another country."

Indeed, Yiddish in Israel seems to be sparking an interest it never did before, ironically catching up with the rest of the world. Gaffen considers Israel to be the homeland not only of the Jewish people, but of Yiddish too.

The country has its mameloshen group, called Dor Hemshech ("next generation"), which is helping to organize the festival.

Thirty-four Israeli high schools offer Yiddish courses, as do institutions of higher learning like Hebrew, Bar-Ilan and Tel Aviv universities.

In Ashkelon, a 20-member choir sings in Yiddish. Tel Aviv has a Yiddish-language book store. Yiddish kreizen (circles) proliferate. Japanese students have studied Yiddish in Israel. And the Israeli government has officially deemed Yiddish a "recognized" language.

So the festival seems a natural outgrowth of the Yiddish boon in Israel, as well as Gaffen's own personal sensibility and the general Wasserman family commitment to Yiddishkeit.

The festival last year, which she became determined to launch after her mother became ill, drew about 100 participants from around the world, including 10 to 15 Canadians, Gaffen said.

Ambitions this year are just as high, if not higher.

The festival will feature tours, lectures by eminent scholars, readings from Israeli Yiddish writers, seminars, concerts and films,with participants expected from (besides the United States and Canada) Germany, France, Holland and Belgium.

The festival, whose sponsors include Israel's Tourism Ministry and the municipality of Jerusalem, will even feature a Yiddish "monologue" competition.

Already, Gaffen noted, the festival has sparked international interest at the e-mail addresses of Neve Ilan [neve-ilan@kibbutz.co.il] and of North American contact Shirley Gonshor of Montreal, herself a long-time Yiddish promoter and 30-year member of the Yiddish. Her e-mail address is [agonsh@po-box.mcgill.ca].

Gonshor can also be reached at 514-482-0097 and 514-489-9517.

'PLEASURES OF THE PALATE'

Committee members celebrated Na'amat Canada's recent "Pleasures of the Palate" evening at Taboo Wine Bar & Grill, set to be an annual event. Gourmet food tasting was presented by some of Toronto's finest chefs. From left are Susan Flam, Vivian Silverberg, Adrienne Cohen, chairperson Orit Nusbaum, Jodi Haber and Beverly Sobel.

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From coast to coast

Lynden couple celebrates 50 years on the farm

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

LYNDEN, Ont. — As Joe and Minna Loewith celebrate their 50th anniversary on their farm, they look back with pride on a life that has brought them satisfaction and the knowledge that they have contributed to the progress of the dairy industry of their adopted country.

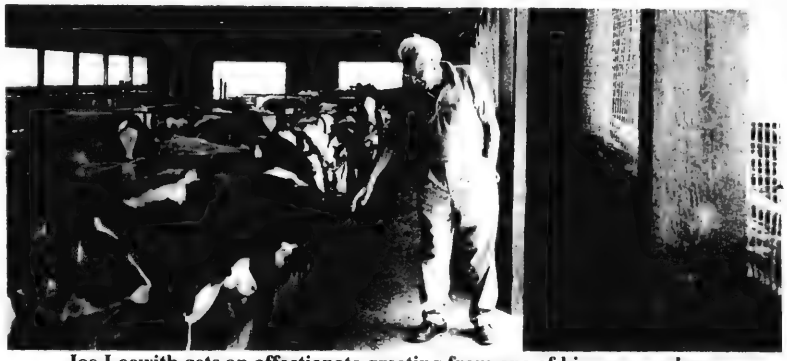
It did not look promising in September 1947, when Joe bought the "neglected, 94-acre dairy farm with a herd of 90 non-descript cattle," from his brother-in-law, the late Rabbi Elias Zwetschkenbaum. But the couple was determined to make a success of it.

Eleven years earlier, they had arrived in Canada with a group of 38 refugees from Czechoslovakia, led by Minna's uncle, Karl Abeles. Abeles and Minna's father Leo, along with their brothers, had managed an estate in Sudetenland. Their farming experience was their ticket to Canada, and Minna says she is convinced that Canadian immigration officials who visited them before granting the visas, did not know they were Jews.

Joe, with farming skills gained in Canada as a hired hand, transformed his property into a large and flourishing concern that is now a model dairy farm visited by delegations from all over the world. Minna raised their three sons and helped wherever and whenever necessary.

"It was a lot of hard work but very gratifying," she said in an interview. "The fact that we could see we were getting ahead made it all worthwhile."

Her three sons hold degrees in agriculture. Carl, a past president of Temple Anshe Sholom and incoming president of Shalom Village, and David, a past JCC president, remained on the family farm and now run it. Harry is in the cattle business.



Joe Loewith gets an affectionate greeting from one of his young calves.

Carl and David have been named Farmers of the Year for Wentworth County, and the family received the 1988 Centennial Award for "outstanding service to agriculture and the food industry," marking the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food's 100th anniversary. In 1991, David and his wife Bonnie, a family physician, became the first Jewish couple to be named Outstanding Young Farmers of Canada.

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From coast to coast

E-mail forum planned for small communities

TORONTO — From Timmins to Niagara Falls, Ontario Jews living in 28 small communities across the province will be able to improve communications in handling shared concerns via an e-mail forum organized by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region (CJC).

The e-mail forum is being set up "as a means by which persons living in the Diaspora or the heartland of Ontario" can better exchange information, says Dr. Michael Sobol of Guelph, co-chair of the regional community services committee.

"Given the difficulty in bringing together people living across Ontario, and the fact that more and more people are using electronic mail, we felt it was time to organize an e-mail user group," Sobol says.

CJC has sent out letters asking people to participate. They will receive, print, photocopy and distribute e-mail to the community. People who wish to get involved should e-mail Jennifer Turack, Ontario region's director of community services and youth activities at [turack@ibm.net]. The forum moderator will send questions and comments on e-mail to community representatives for feedback.

The new e-mail forum is just one of the many programs and services offered by CJC to small communities:

• Education Consultancy Services are provided to as many as 40 Jewish day and supplementary schools throughout the Ontario region outside Greater Toronto. CJC staff, working with teachers, principals and lay leaders, offer help through school visits, professional development day speakers, placement services, regional conferences, curriculum formulation, and development and distribution of educational materials.

On Nov. 9, all schools in the region have been invited to participate in a professional development day for supplementary school and day school teachers in Toronto.

The region aims to strengthen the Jewish identity of children, teens and young adults in the province's smaller centres, and develop a strong liaison with them. With campus Jewish groups, CJC staff delivers services and helps them formulate programs and activities.

• CJC organizes the annual Council of University Presidents (CUP) Conference that brings together presidents of Jewish university groups and members of their executives once a year in a small community during a weekend to discuss leadership development, Jewish issues on campus, religious pluralism and upcoming programming events.

• On Nov. 19, the region is co-sponsoring a Jewish Life on Campus Fair at the Thornhill community Centre, 7755 Bayview Ave., for parents and future university students, who will be able to meet admissions representatives from 14 Ontario universities as well as Jewish student representatives.

• The fifth cycle of the High School Outreach Program offering a comprehensive education and Judaism program to Ontario teenagers began this fall. Having grown up in small, predominantly non-Jewish environments, many of the participants have spoken about feelings of isolation and incidents of discrimination.

This three-year education program provides teenagers with a comfortable environment in which to express themselves Jewishly, says Turack. It runs on a three-year cycle offering a comprehensive education about Judaism. Instruction is provided by CJC staff through home visits, meetings in communities and twice yearly Shabbatonim. The program culminates in its final year with a five-week summer experience in Israel.

• The region's Family Educational Outreach Project is geared to families with children up to bar/bat mitzvah age. The program involves delivery of home study materials, staff visits to communities to run Oneg Shabbats and programs, and a yearly family Shabbat retreat.

• At B'nai Jacob Congregation in Niagara Falls, CJC is organizing a Southern Ontario family weekend entitled, Angels and Zionists – Celebrating Shabbat and Israel at 50, at the synagogue, Nov. 14 to 16.

• CJC is co-sponsoring an Israel at 50 program that is being brought to small communities by Toronto-based *shlichim* (emissaries) from Israeli youth movements and the Canada-Israel Experience Centre.

• The region also is instituting a pen pal program for children living in small communities, says Turack. Enrolment forms are available from CJC for the youngsters who detail their age, interests and what they are looking for in a pen pal.

For more information on these programs and activities, please contact Turack at 416-635-2883, ext. 152, or Rosen at ext. 139.

Jennifer Turack of CJC (left) and Leanne Rosen, co-ordinator of the Family Outreach Program, review e-mail. [Lewis Levendel photo]

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Canadian Psychologist
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SPECIAL GUEST
DR. REUVEN BAR-ON
Psychologist
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Author, Emotional Quotient Inventory (EQ-i)
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JAN WONG
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From coast to coast

Sharon Home dedicates special needs unit

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Sharon Home, Winnipeg's Jewish nursing home, recently dedicated its new Bet Chai (House of Life) Special Needs Unit, a state-of-the-art facility for those who are cognitively impaired by Alzheimer disease or other disorders.

The unit on the Sharon Home's top floor has a luxurious feel. The lounge has been furnished to look like a residential living room and has ergonomically designed seating, a lot of natural light and floor areas clearly demarcated by different colors to help residents navigate the space.

The renovations, which cost over $200,000 were completed in 15 weeks. The project was funded by the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba, four other Winnipeg-based foundations and the contributions of several families with relations who are or were residents of the Home.

In planning the project, Sharon Home staff visited a number of other special needs units in Manitoba and consulted with the Alzheimer's Society of Manitoba and the Deer Lodge Hospital psycho-geriatric team.

The special needs unit currently has 14 patients with cognitive impairment or behavioral problems.

At the same time that work was being done on the fifth floor, a parallel renovation was in progress on the first floor on the residence's new 120-seat Garden Cafe. The kosher, buffet-style cafe was dedicated in early October and will be open to the public as well as to staff members and residents at the end of the month.

The restaurant replaces an eating area where food was provided mainly from vending machines. The menu includes soups, salads, sandwiches, bagels, pastries, beverages and daily specials.

The Garden Cafe is open six days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Profits will go to subsidizing other Sharon Home programs.

Vancouver Book Fair to feature local writers

By DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — Cherie Smith, who conceived the idea of a Jewish book fair for Vancouver 13 years ago, will officially launch her own book, *Mendel's Children*, this year.

The book, which has received glowing reviews from *Saturday Night Magazine* and the *Western Jewish Bulletin*, chronicles the colorful exploits of Smith's family, who immigrated to the Canadian prairies from the shtetls of Latvia and Poland in the 1890s.

"Cherie has been the life of the book fair and really deserves the praise she has received for *Mendel's Children*," said Tamar Frankel, the coordinator of this year's book fair,

In addition to Smith's book launch on Nov. 9, Frankel and her two co-chairs, Alina Wydra and Nava Soudack, have a full slate of activities lined up for the book fair, which takes place at the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver from Nov. 8 to 11.

Highlights include an opening night open mike that will showcase the talents of Vancouver Jewish writers; a creative writing workshop led by award winning television writer and creative writing teacher Dale Adams Segal; and a lecture by filmmaker Bonnie Klein, who will speak about her book *Slow Dance*.

Activities for children and seniors are also planned. Children's performer Jeni Wright will entertain with puppets and songs, writer Joan Stuchner will read for both seniors and children, Neil Chaikel will lead a children's book illustration workshop and Internet trainer and writer Hilary Ostrov will provide Jewish teenagers with an introductory tour of the Jewish corners of the Web.

In addition, the book fair is sponsoring the second annual Young Jewish Writers Festival, which will feature readings of young authors from the Jewish community.

The book fair is sponsored by the JCC of Greater Vancouver and includes participation from the Isaac Waldman\ Jewish Public Library. Held in conjunction with International Jewish Book Week, it also offers a large selection of Jewish books and Judaica for sale, items brought to Vancouver especially for the fair.

Frankel says the book fair (a common event in her native Israel) helps to introduce a lot of Jewish literature to Vancouver that would not otherwise receive exposure.

"I've heard that people who have no other contact with the community come to the book fair," she adds.

Hamilton shul presidents to be honored

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — The Jewish community here will pay tribute to three former synagogue presidents for their years of community service, at the 1997 State of Israel Bonds — B'nai Brith, Hamilton breakfast on Nov. 9, 9:30 a.m. at Temple Anshe Sholom.

Guest speaker, Judy Feld Carr will talk about the rescue of Syrian Jews.

Harold Goldblatt, a businessman, is a past president of Beth Jacob Congregation.

Howard Katz, a lawyer, is a past president of Adas Israel Synagogue, a former president of Beth Jacob Synagogue, a former Jewish Community Centre president, former chair of the annual Max Rotman Humanitarian Youth Award, and the current president of Hamilton ORT.

Jay State, also a lawyer, is involved in B'nai Brith and is the immediate past president of Temple Anshe Sholom.

Philip Leon, a former Bonds honoree himself, is the new Hamilton Bonds general chair. The breakfast will be chaired by David Walman.

LifeStyle Advertising Feature

Jewish Singles Registry - The Last Dating Service You Will Ever Need

When it comes to dating services, the Jewish Singles Registry has always been a leader in its field. With that in mind, the J.S.R. is excited to introduce a new pricing structure that over time, **LOWERS** the cost of a membership. The **UNLIMITED MEMBERSHIP** involves a one time low registration fee that allows you stay in the J.S.R. for **FREE** and/or as long as you wish, until you find the relationship you are looking for. "Our market research has shown that our UNLIMITED MEMBERSHIP package is the best deal out there," says an excited JSR Director and Founder Rob Singer. "It combines value, flexibility, ease of use, and with new members registering practically every day, finding someone special to go out with has never been easier." Singer reports that existing members have already begun upgrading their memberships to the new UNLIMITED MEMBERSHIP. "Response has been overwhelming" Singer notes. "We can honestly say that we offer the **best value** of any other dating service in the city."

The advantages to the UNLIMITED MEMBERSHIP are enormous. Because there are no limited or minimum number of dates, members can browse the profiles at their leisure, and select those members whom they feel are most compatible. Once a selection is made the Registry staff is fast at work, (usually that very same day), contacting the selected individuals and arranging for them to come in to the J.S.R. and see who wants to meet them. The system is fast, efficient, and fun, and currently averages an engagement every four weeks.

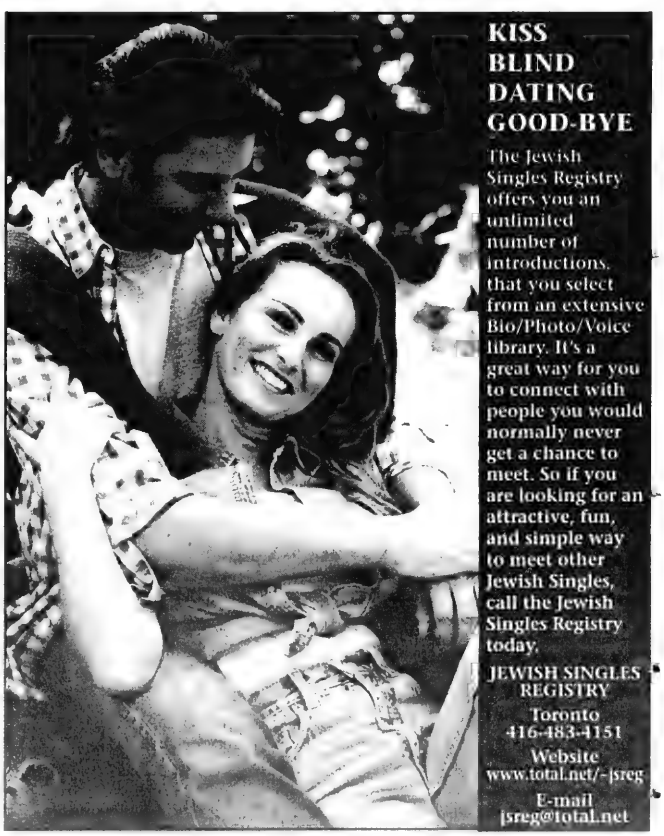
J.S.R.'s trip to Club Med - SOLD OUT

It didn't take long, but the J.S.R.'s Club Med trip is sold out. This fabulous all inclusive trip to Cancun, Mexico will take place January 11-18, 1998 and for $1398 it includes return flight, departure & transportation taxes, food and drinks (at tables), Club Med membership fee, all Club Med activities as written in their brochure, lodging (based on double occupancy), and gratuities. Those still wishing to go may be put on a waiting list, but call the J.S.R. office at 416-483-4151 as soon as possible.

Next Open House - Sun., Nov. 23

A few weeks ago the J.S.R. held an Open House as an introduction for those not familiar with the service. The afternoon was such a great success that another one is planned for Sunday, November 23, from 1-5 p.m. where visitors will be able to meet the entire JSR staff, as well as read selected profiles of actual members, see their photographs, and listen to recorded voice personal messages. The afternoon promises to be educational, informative and fun. Just think how a few hours of your time on a lazy afternoon could very easily put you on the right track to meeting exciting, eligible, and dynamic Toronto Jewish singles. **Don't miss this one!**

If you are looking to meet Jewish singles be it for friendship, a relationship, or marriage, the time is right to sign up with The Jewish Singles Registry. Just call **416-483-4151** or send an E-mail to **jsreg@total.net**. For additional information you can also check out the JSR's new internet website at **www.total.net/~jsreg**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From coast to coast

Richmond shul gets new Torah

By BAILA LAZARUS
Western Jewish Bulletin

RICHMOND, B.C. — When Eitz Chaim Synagogue celebrated the dedication of a new Torah here recently, some 100 people turned out for the event.

The Torah was donated by the Taubi family in memory of two of their young children who died in a house fire in Richmond seven years ago. Grandmother Yvette Taubi said she had wanted to donate a Torah in their memory ever since they died.

"It brings peace for their soul," she explained. "Every time they read the Torah, it elevates their soul."

Taubi said that when she travelled, she told friends around the world about her wish to buy a Torah to donate to the synagogue and she received donations from people in New York, Brazil and Switzerland.

Instead of buying a finished Torah, she commissioned one especially for the synagogue from Rabbi Eliezer Zurkin, a scribe in New York. The scribe came to Vancouver and concluded writing the Torah at the dedication. He also invited those in attendance to participate in writing the final letters.

The new scroll came just in time for Eitz Chaim, which already owns two Torahs. A synagogue needs at least three Torahs, according to Rabbi Abraham Feigelstock of Eitz Chaim.

"In many weeks, you have to take out two Torahs if it's a special occasion," he said, "for example, if it's Shabbat and Rosh Chodesh. So you read one Torah for the portion of the week and with the other one, you read the reading of Rosh Chodesh."

If there are three special events on the same day, such as a holiday, the beginning of the month and the start of the Sabbath, he said, a synagogue needs to use three Torahs simultaneously.

One Torah could be used, Rabbi Feigelstock said, but that would necessitate scrolling it back and forth.

Eitz Chaim has one Torah on loan from Schara Tzedeck Synagogue; so the new one brings its total to four. That was just what the synagogue needed, as they had two services running concurrently on the High Holy Days. As well, Yom Kippur this year began on a Friday night, coinciding with Shabbat.

The cost of a single Torah is between $25,000 and $35,000. They are usually made from the hide of a baby calf and written with special ink using a feather quill. The parchment, Rabbi Feigelstock said, has to be made specifically for the sake of the Torah and cannot be prefabricated. In this particular case, the scribe made the parchment himself.

Rabbi Feigelstock said donating a Torah to a synagogue is a great mitzvah.

"Actually, the last mitzvah in the Torah is to write a Torah," he said. "It's a very special mitzvah. That's why we invite everybody who is [at the dedication] to participate."

The new Torah will be read every week for the first year to ensure there are no mistakes. If one is found, depending on its severity, that section may be taken out and sent back to the scribe or it may be corrected locally by a trained person such as Rabbi Feigelstock, Rabbi Yossef Benarroch or Rabbi Achiya Delouya.

SULTAN HEADS WEST

Alberta Premier Ralph Klein (right) greets Israel's ambassador to Canada, David Sultan, during Sultan's recent Western swing. [Neil Loomer photo]

Canadian Friends of the Jerusalem College of Technology

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to the growth and success of Netivot
will always be remembered.

We extend our deepest condolences to
Bonny, Jeffery, Sherri and Jeremy

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From coast to coast

Govt. committed to deporting war criminals: Vickery

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Despite continued criticism over its commitment to strip suspected Nazi war criminals of their citizenship and deport them, the federal government is absolutely dedicated to pursuing the agenda, the director of the Justice Department's war crimes unit insisted here.

"Is the punishment adequate? It is not adequate, but it is the best we are capable of doing at this time," Paul Vickery said in his first public appearance before a Jewish audience at the Beth Israel Beth Aaron Synagogue.

"This is not a Mickey Mouse remedy. It's a remedy that deserves our serious support."

Vickery spoke to an audience of 400 – including about 50 Holocaust survivors – as part of a panel discussion that included Arnold Fradkin, a former deputy director of the unit, and Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) national director Jack Silverstone.

The event took place on the eve of the 10th anniversary of Bill C-71, legislation that made possible the prosecution of suspected Nazi war criminals in Canada.

Vickery said that as proof of its commitment, 12 cases of denaturalization are before the courts, with five of them slated to go to trial by next March.

This is part of a new "case management" approach that puts binding time parametres, usually no more than a year, in bringing cases to trial.

The unit is "pressing forward as quickly as possible," said Vickery, who prefaced his remarks by assuring the audience that Canada would not be a "safe haven" for war criminals.

He noted as well that the unit has been launching proceedings at a rate of four per year, compared to the rate of six per year by the U.S. Office of Special Investigations (OSI).

That's a pace that's "matching quite closely" the U.S. rate, he said, and one "quite remarkable" if you take into account the respective sizes of the two countries.

The unit is pursuing an "honest and dedicated effort," he said.

Later, Vickery found himself having to respond to several pointed questions while fielding queries from a select panel, which included CJAD talk show host Tommy Schnurmacher, and from the audience.

Panelist questioner Leah Kaufman, a Holocaust survivor, accused the Canadian government of "deception" in terms of its intentions, "then or now," of pursuing the war crimes agenda.

Vickery said he understood how she felt, given the "50 years of delay."

But, "within our ability, we are determined to make a difference.

"I can assure you that it is far from easy to assemble a case, but it is possible and we are pressing forward as quickly as we can."

Vickery, in reply to an audience question, said that the impact of American Nazi hunter Steve Rambam, who claimed to have proof of dozens of war criminals in Canada, has been subject to "media overstatement."

Nazi hunter

While Vickery said the media coverage "raised public awareness," the four suspects on six tapes he submitted to Canadian authorities were already under investigation and that the tapes contained no confessions or any evidence "anywhere near sufficient" to meet the standard required for denaturalization and deportation.

Vickery also asked the RCMP to request additional taped material from Rambam, but, "to date, Rambam has not delivered any further tapes," Vickery said.

In reply to other questions, Vickery also stated that he is not prepared to respond to accusations of historical "gross negligence" on the part of the Canadian government, but only its performance during his own tenure.

Similarly, Vickery said reports of an "anti-Jewish bias" within the unit before he came on board are being studied by a special inquiry due to issue its report shortly.

Earlier, Fradkin presented a detailed account of the Jacob Luitjens case, to date Canada only successful deportation case against a citizen or permanent resident, which he prosecuted. Luitjens was deported to the Netherlands in November 1992.

Fradkin, who had worked for the unit's first director, Bill Hobson, did not hesitate to say that historically, "by coincidence or design," Canada did not devote the "slightest amount of energy" to keep suspected war criminals off Canadian soil or to root them out once their was knowledge of their presence.

Yet, the Luitjens case, in his view a crucial test case, proved that, "if you proved Luitjens, you could prove other cases."

Silverstone said that the attitude of successive Canadian governments has been characterized by "four 'Ds': defiance, denial, dissembling and delay."

He cited a 1962 External Affairs memo that said prosecuting Nazi war criminals "would be tantamount to 'pandering to Jewish revenge.'"

"What an obscene comment!," Silverstone said.

Between 1990 and 1995, in meeting with senior Justice Department officials, "it became clear to me that those who had taken control of this dossier from Hobson, Fradkin [who by then had left the unit] and others had neither the inclination nor intestinal fortitude to pursue these and other cases aggressively."

At that point, CJC resolved not to attend any more meetings that did not include the federal justice minister.

Silverstone, who served as CJC's associate counsel before the Deschenes Commission, indicated that the situation has seemed to improve going the denaturalization and deportation route under former justice minister Allan Rock and current minister Anne McLellan, who with Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard are due to meet with a CJC officials at the end of the month.

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Bonny Silver and children
on the untimely passing of their beloved husband and father

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AFTER THE BLAST

Six month old toddler Tamar Kaufman recuperates in Bikur Cholim hospital following the terrorist bombing in the Ben Yehuda Mall. The toddler, along with her parents, were among those injured in the blast.

Early detection program helps in fight against breast cancer

BEERSHEVA — A special community outreach program implemented by the Soroka Medical Centre in Israel reports a 150 percent increase in the early detection of breast cancer over the last five years. This in turn has led to a much improved cure rate among those diagnosed.

The statistics contrast sharply with the 20 percent early detection rate of breast cancer cases five years ago. At that time, Soroka conducted only 500 mammograms per month, compared to the present, where the number of mammography tests has risen to 1,000 per month. As a result of more women getting screened, half of all breast cancers currently diagnosed at Soroka have been discovered in the earliest stage.

"These are astounding and promising statistics for all women. Our far-reaching goal is to regularly screen the entire female population of the Negev, continuing our active community outreach program to encourage, and to educate women as to the importance and significance of early detection," said Dr. Michael Koretz, director of the Soroka Breast Health Centre.

The centre is the only facility of its kind in the entire southern region of Israel, serving 60 percent of the state's geographic area. However, while this dramatic increase is most promising, Soroka faces many additional challenges with regard to the disease.

The Negev is composed of people from many different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. Certain populations who have migrated to this vast part of Israel normally have a low incidence of breast cancer, yet within one generation, their rates equal those of breast cancer in Israeli-born women. Conversely, certain other immigrant groups, such as women from the former Soviet Union, have such advanced breast cancer that they actually travel directly to the Soroka emergency room as soon as their plane lands in Israel.

"We see women who arrive here with baseball-sized tumors, but because they come from a place where there is no accessible medical care, they go untreated until they can get to our facility," Koretz said. He attributes the high incidence of breast cancer, particularly in these Russian women, to a combination of genetics, poor diet and environmental factors such as the Chernobyl disaster.

The centre has recently acquired the first and only Advanced Breast Biopsy Instrument, (ABBI) in Israel. The ABBI is a computerized stereotactic biopsy instrument that can completely diagnose and remove small breast cancers with minimal discomfort under local anesthesia. Plans are under way for a Comprehensive Breast Health Centre to open in the year 2000, where emphasis will be placed on education, prevention, screening and early diagnosis.

Garlic's really good for you

REHOVOT — Garlic has been said to work wonders, from fighting disease to keeping away vampires. Now, two studies conducted at the Weizmann Institute of Science have uncovered a molecular mechanism which may be the basis for some of garlic's therapeutic effects.

The researchers studied how garlic works at the molecular level by producing large quantities of pure allicin, garlic's main biologically active component.

One study, appearing in the October issue of the American Society for Microbiology's *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*, explains how allicin fights infection. This research supports the notion that garlic is an excellent, although smelly, natural antimicrobial drug that can disable an unusually wide variety of infectious organisms.

The second study, soon to be reported in *Biochimica Biophysica Acta*, may help clarify the role allicin plays in preventing heart disease and other disorders.

In the studies, the scientists revealed and characterized a molecular mechanism by which allicin blocks certain groups of enzymes.

Allicin, created when garlic cloves are crushed, protects the plant from soil parasites and fungi and is also responsible for garlic's pungent smell.

The studies were led by Profs. David Mirelman and Meir Wilchek of the Institute's biological chemistry department, who worked together with departmental colleagues Drs. Serge Ankri, Talia Miron and Aharon Rabinkov and with Prof. Lev Weiner and Dr. Leonid Konstantinovski of the organic chemistry department.

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Health

Bacteria's drug-resistance molecule discovered

REHOVOT — In a study that throws new light on the alarming phenomenon of increasing bacterial drug resistance, researchers at the Weizmann Institute of Science have discovered a molecule that enables bacteria to resist an unusually wide range of drugs.

The finding, to be reported in the April issue of the *Journal of Bacteriology*, suggests that it may become more and more difficult to design effective new medications for bacterial infections.

However, the newly identified molecule, named MdfA, may serve as a model for the further study and understanding of multidrug resistance, aiding efforts to overcome this phenomenon in bacterial diseases. This research may also help clarify multidrug resistance in human cancers, which results in tumor cells expelling anti-cancer drugs, thus presenting serious obstacles to chemotherapy.

"The more sophisticated the drugs we develop, the more bacteria may emerge equipped with sophisticated ways to fight these drugs," says Dr. Eitan Bibi of the institute's biochemistry department. Bibi conducted the study with doctoral student Rotem Edgar. "This is an obvious challenge for antibacterial therapies that must be planned in anticipation of growing resistance mechanisms."

Cells of virtually all living organisms are known to contain molecules that enable them to resist a variety of substances. These molecules sit inside cell membranes and act as pumps, ejecting toxic compounds or other unwanted chemicals from the cell. However, the "unwanted" substances may include medications.

Previously, most of these versatile molecular "pumps" were known to be capable of recognizing and resisting certain classes of drugs with particular chemical properties, such as those with a positive charge and a propensity to attach to lipids (molecules that make up cell membranes). These chemical properties determine how a drug will be absorbed by a cell, and influence the drug's toxic effects on a target site inside the cell.

The newly identified multidrug resistance molecule, MdfA, allows bacterial cells to expel one of the widest ranges known of unrelated antibiotics and other drugs with widely varying chemical properties. For example, it can resist both positively charged drugs and those with no charge at all, as well as drugs that attach to lipids and those that do not.

"Finding a molecule with such an extraordinarily broad spectrum of resistance in one species of bacteria means we are likely to find similar molecules in other bacteria," says Bibi.

"This highlights the dormant potential of some bacteria to survive even complex antibiotic treatments, and presents a challenge for future therapies."

Bibi and Edgar identified the MdfA molecule while researching multidrug resistance in Escherichia coli (E. coli), a species of bacteria commonly used in scientific research. (E. coli normally live in the human colon and aid digestion, but if certain strains of the bacteria enter other organs through contaminated drinking water or improper toilet hygiene, they can cause serious illnesses such as acute infant diarrhea and urinary tract infections.)

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Darby Leah arrived on Aug. 6. Mazel tov to Marnina & Mark Arshawsky and Theo. Love, Aunt Ozit, Bubbie Esther Bittner and the Arshawsky family.

Mazel tov to Elise Kayfetz on your bat mitzvah on Sept. 20 from your loving family, Mom, Dad, Bonnie, Ben and Alana.

Mazel tov to Michael Brenner of Barrie on his bar mitzvah. With love from parents Marc & Patricia, brother Allan and the gantze mishpucha.

Best wishes to Rachel Kanner, UJA Walkathon veteran, from family and friends.

Harvey & Sharon Lipman and Jack & Linda Wachtel announce the engagement of Michelle & Jason. Proud grandmothers are Frida Wachtel and Selma Kagen.

Julie Israel & Yedy Israel and Kitty & Paul Tepperman are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Alexander David & Aimee Ilysse.

Mazel tov to newlyweds Eva & Richard Davis. With love from parents Gail & Joe Forberg, Elaine & Alan Davis.

Mazel tov to Gunter & Lilo Morgenthal, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 8.

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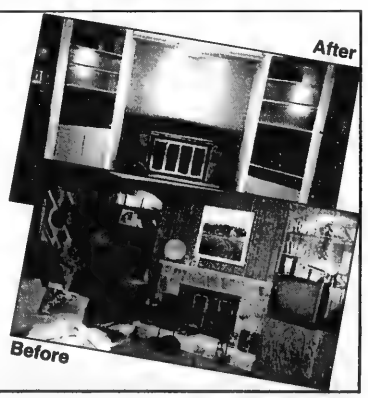

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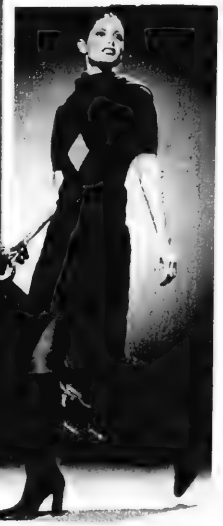

Escada

Pictured (from left) from the Escada Fall/Winter Margaretha Ley collection are: A skirt suit in ivory scotch tweed with bouclé yarn. A chocolate cashmere twinset and wrap skirt in leather. A sample from the knit collection and a bronze evening suit in silk and wool.

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Spiritual revival, social action on Reform agenda

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

DALLAS — David Belin, a lifetime member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) board of trustees, has been trying for many years to convince the Reform movement to sanction rabbinic officiation at interfaith marriages, but his colleagues are not interested.

The 4,500 Reform Jews attending the UAHC biennial, which ended Sunday, backed the movement's rabbinic arm by refusing to even consider Belin's resolution urging Reform rabbis to officiate at interfaith marriages.

On another controversial marriage issue, the Reform laity also followed the lead of the rabbinic arm in passing a resolution supporting civil marriage for gay and lesbian couples.

During the five-day conference, the dominant issues on the agenda related to spiritual revival and social action.

For the first time in years, matters related to intermarriage were not on the program, though they continue to be central in the life of Reform congregations.

The Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), the Reform movement's rabbinic organization, discourages interfaith marriages, but leaves the decision to officiate up to each rabbi.

Nearly half of all Reform rabbis officiate at interfaith unions, according to a 1996 survey conducted by Rabbi Irwin Fishbein.

For most Reform rabbis, however, it is a serious and painful issue.

Belin, a Des Moines, Iowa, attorney, has been frustrated that the Reform movement discourages such officiation.

His resolution would have pressed the CCAR to rescind its longstanding opposition to its rabbis' officiating at interfaith marriages, which its members overwhelmingly upheld at their conference earlier this year.

But Belin's view was unpopular. Hundreds of people booed when the resolution was called up for debate and Belin was roundly hissed when he rose to defend his position.

"More than 75 percent of Reform Jews favor rabbinic officiation at intermarriages," said Belin, citing research conducted by the Jewish Outreach Institute.

But a majority of delegates voted not to allow Belin's resolution to be brought to a vote.

"It's not for us to decide. It's up to the rabbis," said Harold Bobroff, a delegate from Temple Sinai in Lawrence, N.Y., whose two children both married non-Jews.

The resolution supporting civil marriage for gay and lesbian couples also encouraged Reform congregations "to honor" monogamous domestic relationships formed by gay men or lesbians.

The CCAR has not yet weighed in with a position on religious "commitment ceremonies" for gay and lesbian couples, but does support civil marriage for them.

The issue of religious pluralism in Israel surfaced repeatedly during the convention, and a resolution was adopted calling on all American Jewish organizations to urge the Israeli government "to extend equal recognition and support to all streams of Judaism."

Among other resolutions adopted was one that would require a small fraction of the UAHC endowment – 1.8 percent – to be used for community development in impoverished areas.

A resolution was unanimously approved to launch a campaign to help fund congregations in the former Soviet Union affiliated with the Reform movement.

The biennial also approved a change in the schedule of dues most Reform congregations pay to the UAHC and the movement's seminary, the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Dues obligations were reduced from 11 percent of a Reform temple's expenses to eight percent. Congregational representatives had been trying to lower that sum to seven percent.

Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman, the head of the seminary, reacted angrily to the cuts.

"Remember next time you need an educator that you are cutting your contribution, and don't talk to me about cutting the budget" of the seminary, he said. "You can't have it both ways."

Group claims Australia haven for war criminals

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

MOSCOW — The Simon Wiesenthal Centre believes that 64 suspected Latvian war criminals are living in Australia and has called on the Australian government to take action against them.

The centre's Israel director, Efraim Zuroff, gave the Australian ambassador to Israel the list of names and urged Australia to investigate the cases quickly.

Zuroff called on Australia to immediately begin proceedings against one suspect, Karlis Ozols, according to a statement released by the centre.

Zuroff charged that Ozols, now living in a suburb of Melbourne was an officer in the mobile-killing squad known as the Arajs Kommando, or Latvian Auxiliary Security Police, which collaborated with the Nazi SS during World War II.

About 75,000 Jews, or more than 90 percent of Latvia's pre-war Jewish community, were murdered by the Nazis — with help from local residents.

Zuroff called on Australia to deport war-crimes suspects for immigration violations in those cases where criminal prosecution under Australian law is "problematic" — an indirect criticism of Australia's record of inaction against alleged war criminals.

Of the more than 800 people investigated by the Australian government since 1989 for participation in Nazi war crimes, only three have faced charges.

None of the prosecutions have been successful, although Australian government officials estimate that at least 500 people who participated in crimes against humanity came to Australia after the war.

Zuroff also urged the Latvian authorities to cooperate with Australia in the investigation of alleged war criminals.

Latvian officials are meanwhile continuing their investigation of suspected Nazi war criminal Konrad Kalejs, 84, who is living in Australia.

Konrad Kalejs, 84, is alleged to have been a member of the Arajs Kommando and stands accused of having participated in the killing of 20,000 Jews in Latvia.

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants: 1. Twelve years old and under; 2. Thirteen to 18 years old; 3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter: The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem.

We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.

We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: "Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 12, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 25, 1997. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Tel Aviv mayor urges refineries move after blast kills worker

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

TEL AVIV — Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo demanded last Sunday that the oil and gas refineries at the Glilot junction be moved immediately, in order to remove the threat to residents of the Tel Aviv metropolitan area.

Milo made the demand in a message to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon following Sunday morning's oil-storage tank explosion at the Ashdod refinery, in which a refinery worker was killed and two firefighters were injured.

Sinaya Barak, 45, had climbed up the side of the 18,000-litre tank to its roof to take samples for laboratory tests, when the blast occurred.

The force of the blast blew the roof off the storage tank and threw Barak off the tank into the yard, his body engulfed in flames. The intense heat generated from the burning tank prevented rescue workers from retrieving Barak's body until several hours later.

A medic at the scene said the two firefighters sustained leg injuries, one a probable sprain and the other a suspected fracture.

Fire Service officials ruled out sabotage and ordered an inquiry into the cause of the fire. Plant manager Rami Raphael said the plant would also carry out an investigation.

Committee investigating facility safety

Interior Minister Eliahu Suissa said his ministry and the National Infrastructure Ministry had appointed a committee to investigate whether the nation's oil refineries are following safety regulations. Suissa said the committee would also investigate yesterday's explosion. The committee is to present its findings at the end of the month.

Raphael told Israel Radio that he was unable to estimate the damage caused by the fire but that a new storage tank to replace the burned one would cost millions of dollars. He stressed that the water pool built around the tank to prevent any spills from igniting had performed as expected and had helped stop the fire from spreading.

The explosion shook the plant shortly before 8 a.m. Within seconds, flames shot 50 metres into the air from the storage tank. A dense black cloud billowed over the plant, situated at the port north of Ashdod.

Oil tanker drivers refuelling their trucks at the plant thought at first the blast and the tremors that followed were an earthquake.

"We heard a loud explosion. The earth shook under our feet," driver Morris Cohen, 40, told reporters at the scene. "The force of the blast threw us off our feet."

Seconds after the explosion, the plant's automatic emergency warning system alerted the plant's firefighters. Some 30 fire trucks and over 100 firefighters from stations in the Dan and Lachish regions, Ben-Gurion Airport and other parts of the country arrived at the site.

Magen David Adom sent ambulances to the plant and over 100 police vehicles closed off the highways and roads surrounding the refinery and rerouted traffic.

IDF helicopters were placed on alert in case they were needed to help quell the blaze and police helicopters directed firefighters from the air.

Plant workers immediately evacuated the site when the explosion occurred. Pupils and teachers from a nearby school were evacuated, as well as soldiers from nearby army bases. The black clouds of smoke could be seen from the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway.

Some three hours later, firefighters had the blaze under control.

Fire Service spokesperson Mondi Yitzhaki said the efforts focused on isolating the burning tank and cooling down the surrounding tanks by spraying them with water and foam to prevent them from catching fire.

Additional truckloads of foam were brought to the plant to ensure an adequate supply.

Fire and Rescue Commissioner Uri Manos told reporters that the firefighters had succeeded in preventing the fire from spreading to the other tanks and had thus prevented an even bigger disaster.

CORRECTION

The Dieppe raid was in 1942, not 1947. Incorrect information appeared in a letter to the editor, *CJN* Oct. 15.

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Swiss release names of 14,000 dormant accounts

By MITCHELL DANOW
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Swiss banks have released the names of those who held an additional 14,000 dormant accounts opened before the end of World War II.

Because of the large number of names and as a result of complaints from account holders that their privacy had been invaded when the banks published a list in July of some 1,800 dormant accounts, none of the names of the account holders will be published in newspapers.

Of the 14,000 accounts, about 3,700 belonged to non-Swiss citizens, but the banks provided no assurances that they belonged to Holocaust survivors. These names were posted on the Internet.

Those interested in accessing this list of accounts and obtaining an information kit can do so via the Internet at [www.dormantaccounts.ch].

Anyone with questions can call 800-662-7708.

The remaining 10,000-plus accounts belonged to Swiss citizens, some of whom may have opened the accounts on behalf of Holocaust victims.

The bankers' association said this list includes only those accounts containing $70 or more.

Information regarding accounts with Swiss names may be obtained directly from the Swiss banks or their overseas representatives.

The 3,700 accounts opened by non-Swiss citizens, worth a total of $4.1 million (US), are more than twice the number of accounts published by the Swiss Bankers Association in July.

The average amount in the latest accounts is about $1,100. The Swiss banks said they would add accrued interest according to a formula to be devised by American economist Henry Kaufman.

By comparison, the July list of some 1,800 dormant accounts opened by non-Swiss citizens, published in major newspapers around the world and on the Internet, involved accounts estimated at the time to have a value of some $42 million.

The accounts opened by Swiss citizens are valued at about $8.3 million, bringing the total amount involved in all the accounts announced so far to about $54.4 million.

The Swiss banks last year began their investigation of dormant accounts from World War II after being criticized by Jewish leaders for serving as the Nazis' bankers and for refusing to turn over accounts opened by Jews fleeing the Holocaust.

As their investigation proceeds, more accounts are being turned up by the Swiss banks, as their own recent disclosures have shown.

In testimony last fall before a U.S. congressional panel, Swiss Bankers Association representatives said they could only locate 775 accounts worth about $32 million.

Jewish groups have charged that Swiss banks are holding up to $7 billion in assets deposited by Jews during the World War II era.

Tudjman visit opposed

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Two Israeli lawmakers are trying to block a planned visit by Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, saying he is an anti-Semite who has aligned himself with Holocaust deniers.

Yossi Beilin of the Labor party and Yossi Sarid of the Meretz party have submitted urgent motions in the Knesset to cancel the trip.

Tudjman informed the Foreign Ministry that he intended to visit Israel next month, Israel Radio reported Sunday. The report said Tudjman had expressed an interest in apologizing for the actions of his people during World War II and in visiting the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial.

Beilin and Sarid responded to the report by submitting the Knesset motions.

Beilin said in a statement that the Croatian president's plans to apologize for the crimes of his people did not exonerate him from calling the Holocaust a "Jewish invention."

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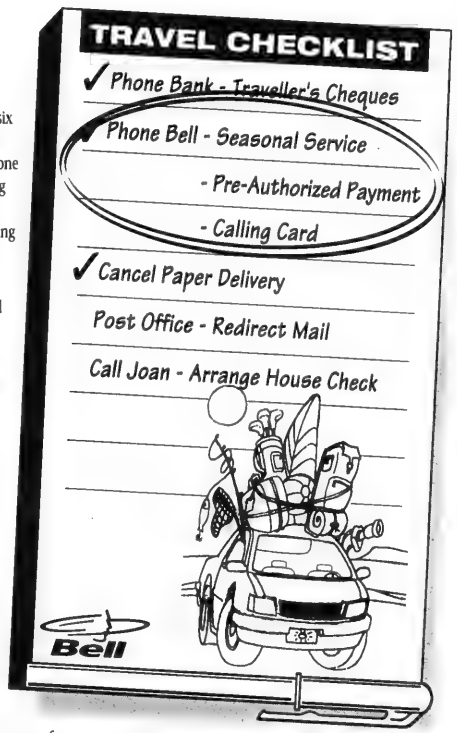
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Syria courting Iraq as Arafat woos Iran

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

In what could be a major political development, two regional rivals, Syria and Iraq, have begun to normalize relations.

And as this unfolds, the Palestine Authority (PA) has taken steps to improve ties with Iran, which enjoys an excellent relationship with Syria but which is barely on speaking terms with Iraq.

Mideast Analysis

All signs suggest that Syria is moving toward a rapprochement with Iraq, which has been consigned to isolation since its invasion of Kuwait. In the past few months, Syria has reopened two border crossings on the Iraqi frontier which had been closed since 1982; signed a modest trade agreement with Baghdad; allowed a delegation of Iraqi journalists to visit Damascus for the first time in 17 years; and sent its first donation of humanitarian aid to Iraq since the imposition of United Nations economic sanctions in 1990.

Israel, which remains in a state of war with both Syria and Iraq, is monitoring these developments warily, wondering whether a new and formidable Arab alliance is taking shape before its eyes.

In all likelihood, Syria and Iraq, whose differences run deep, are not in fact forming an alliance, but merely trying to restore normal diplomatic relations, which were suspended in the early 1980s.

Their mutual enmity goes back at least three decades. Syria and Iraq are ruled by rival wings of the Ba'ath party, whose philosophical underpinnings are Arab unity, socialism and freedom. Their autocratic leaders, Hafez Assad and Saddam Hussein, are deeply suspicious of each other.

These divisions were greatly exacerbated by Syria's support of Tehran in the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq War and by Syria's decision to join the anti-Iraqi alliance during the 1991 Gulf War.

Why then, is Syria moving to reestablish formal relations with Iraq?

Israel's budding military alliance with Turkey is pushing Syria closer to Iraq. Though Turkey has repeatedly declared that its growing entente with Israel is not aimed at any neighbor, Syria considers it a strategic threat. Indeed, Syria's vice president, Abdel Halim Khaddam, recently described it as "a vise with Syria squeezed at two ends."

With Turkey's Islamist prime minister, Necmettin Erbakan, having been forced to resign by the army last June, Syria feels even more hemmed in by Israel's military ties with Turkey. Erbakan sought to undermine Israeli influence in Ankara, and now that he is gone, Syria is even more paranoiac about Israel's relations with Turkey.

Syria's interest in courting Iraq also stems from its discontent with the Arab-Israeli peace process, as Israel's chief of staff, Gen. Amnon Shahak, has suggested. With the Syrian track in a rut, Assad could be using the prospect of an accommodation with Iraq as a means by which to pressure Israel.

Apart from these factors, Syria has clear economic and security reasons for wishing to cozy up to Iraq.

- Syria regards Iraq as a natural outlet for its exports.
- Damascus and Baghdad want to reopen an oil pipeline which passes through Syrian territory to the Mediterranean Sea.
- Syria and Iraq fear that Turkey's construction of hydroelectric projects on the Euphrates and Tigris rivers may partially block their access to its waters.

In tandem with these developments, Yasser Arafat, president of the PA, has tried to heal the rift between the PLO and Iran. Iranian-PLO relations were strained by the Oslo accords and by Arafat's accusation that Iran orchestrated the 1996 wave of suicide bombings in Israel.

Last March, at an Islamic conference in Pakistan, Arafat met with Iran's outgoing president, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. And in June, after Iran's new president, Mohammed Khatami, was elected, Arafat dispatched a personal envoy to Tehran.

Presumably, Arafat is wooing Iran — a vocal opponent of the peace process — because he requires allies to offset his tense relations with Israel.

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The Week in Israel

Oct. 27

- Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov said during a two-day visit to Israel he believed Israeli navigator Ron Arad, shot down over Lebanon in 1986, is dead. *(Later in the week, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu disputed the statement. Israeli intelligence believes Arad is alive.)*

- An inquiry into the failed naval commando raid in Lebanon last month concluded that the 12 fighters killed in the operation were struck by two explosives planted by Hezbollah. The commission ruled out malfunction of equipment or an intelligence leak.

Oct. 28

- Israel released another 22 Palestinian prisoners as part of the deal reached after the failed intelligence operation in Amman.

Oct. 29

- Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron called on the National Religious Party to form an alternative to the Jewish Agency, according to a report in *Ha'aretz*. Bakshi-Doron said the move was necessary because agency chair, Avraham Burg, supports the positions of the Reform and Conservative movements in Israel in the debate on conversion and religious councils.

- In response to President Bill Clinton's campaign to ban assault weapons in the United States, Israel announced it will not sell Uzi or Galil rifles for a period of three months in the U.S.

Oct. 30

- Reports that Foreign Minister David Levy would offer a nine-month settlement freeze in return for a postponement of the IDF's next pullback in the West Bank were dismissed by his aides as they prepared for his talks in Washington with the Palestinian Authority's Mahmoud Abbas.

Oct. 31

- Two senior Palestinian officials were arrested as they attempted to enter the Gaza Strip in vehicles recently stolen from Jerusalem.
- The Prime Minister's Office confirmed that he plans to address the Council of Jewish Federations on Nov. 16 in Indianapolis.

With files from the JTA

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Israel & the Jewish World

Israel must put the world Jewish family first

Cont'd. from pg. 1]

roughout the world, with the State f Israel — the shared home of all ews — serving an essential role in iving structure and coherence to his family-governed experience of ewish identity.

The centrality of family in defin- ng Jewish consciousness is not, I elieve, antithetical to classical otions of Jewish identity. On the ontrary, Maimonides rules in the Mishneh Torah: One who separates himself from the community, even f he does not commit a transgres- ion but only holds aloof from the congregation of Israel, does not ulfil religious precepts in common with his people; shows himself in- different when they are in distress; does not observe their fast, but goes his own way, as if he were one of he gentiles and did not belong to he Jewish people — such a person has no portion in the world to come. (Laws of Repentance, 3:20) Indif- erence to the family of Jews is tan- amount to indifference to their covenantal destiny.

Today, perhaps more than in any other period of history, Jews are openly showing a deep concern and an unprecedented ability to act ef- fectively as a community on behalf of endangered Jews wherever they may be. If one compares North American Jewry's passivity during the Holocaust with its activism for Soviet Jewry in the 1960s, one is struck by the transformation of Jews from a reticent, self-conscious com- munity into a vigorous, bold, na- tional body articulating its legiti- mate survival needs and interests in the public arena of world cultures and nations.

There is no doubt that one of the primary causes of this transforma- tion was the return of the Jewish people to its ancient homeland; the re-establishment of the State of Israel gave Jews a new sense of public dignity and recognition, a new voice in which to express their collective concerns and aspirations.

The Law of Return gave formal legal expression to the then-evident idea that Israel was — and always will be — the home of all Jews. What this law said, in effect, was that Israel is not only the home of those who cast votes in its elections or serve in its army, but that Israel is also home to the whole of the Jewish world. Everyone who par- ticipates in the destiny of the Jewish people has a right to become a citizen of the State of Israel.

If one appreciates the importance of the idea of family for contempo- rary Jewish consciousness and how deeply Israel has penetrated and sustains this sense of family by pro- viding a common historical home for the entire Jewish people, then one cannot but realize the tragic mistake of trying to pass the cur- rently debated conversion bill in the Knesset.

One cannot, on the one hand, issue a bold invitation to all Jews to view Israel as their home and, on the other hand, allow the Knesset, the main legislative body of Israel, to rule that the Jewish way of life of the majority of world Jewry is fraudulent, inauthentic, and offi- cially devoid of legitimacy as a me- diating framework of Jewish life and values.

The defensive argument that the conversion bill would apply only in Israel is as cynical as it is irrelevant to the offensive issue at the heart of the legislation. How can the phi- losophy of Conservative and Re- form Judaism be treif in Israel but kosher in the Diaspora? Is their content different?

It is ironic that the theology and practice of Conservative and Re- form Jews in Israel is probably more in keeping with traditional Judaism than in America. This irony only reveals the cynicism of those willing to give a hechsher because of their fear of interrupting the cash flow from the Diaspora or of the negative political and economic repercussions of proclaiming the il- legitimacy of Conservative and Reform synagogues and rabbis in North America and Europe.

How crass and transparently po- litical is this argument aimed at the opponents of this seemingly serious theological and religious issue! What an "honorable" message the Knesset thus issues to the world at large! It is important to place my objection to religious legislation in perspective by considering the dis- tinction between pluralism and rel- ativism.

The pluralism I am advocating aims at guaranteeing the rights of all religious groups to express their understanding and appreciation of Judaism within Israel, without the state deciding in favor of any one party to the religious discussion. I am not asking Orthodox rabbis to give up their convictions or under- standing of the meaning of Torah and Halachah. They are entitled to teach whatever they believe and to argue vigorously against Reform and Conservative rabbis and their theologies. This is a legitimate dis- agreement that should be aired and discussed throughout the Jewish world.

Open disagreements about the nature of halachic practice and re- ligious belief, however vehement, will not threaten the future of the Jewish people so long as the leg- islative authority of the State of Israel remains outside of the debate. If the Knesset were to legislate the sole legitimacy of the Orthodox un- derstanding of Torah into law, then the family-based sense of Jewish identity would be called into ques- tion. Without a vital sense of family, we will never be able to build a moral and spiritual understanding of Torah needed for our generation. Family and collectivity precede the commitment of faith. The book of Genesis and the early chapters of Exodus tell the story of a family, a people, who share a common destiny. Only in the 19th chapter of Exodus does God call upon Moses to bring this people to Sinai to enter a covenant based upon Torah and mitzvot.

Today, although we have expe- rienced a shared Egypt, a shared vulnerability, and a shared suffer- ing, we do not share a common Sinai. We are divided by competing and differing understandings of what Sinai entails, of what Torah and mitzvot should mean for modern Jewry. We do, however, share a common memory of suffer- ing and a sense of family that binds us together as one people.

The Knesset must appreciate the important role of sustaining Jewish identity throughout the world. Having lost Torah as the organizing factor of Jewish consciousness, we must nurture the remaining element of family awareness that informs Jewish identity today. How dare we weaken this fragile but indispens- able feature of Jewish continuity!

I understand the pressures on Prime Minister Benjamin Ne- tanyahu and others to make coali- tion agreements and to stay in power, if only for the sake of pro- viding "peace with security" for the Jewish people in Israel. I also believe, however, that Jews both in Israel and throughout the world require for their security the belief in the Israeli government's ability to transcend self-interested coali- tion politics for the sake of a more profound conviction and commit- ment to the continued well-being of the Jewish family.

Without such a belief, Jews will become alienated from their gov- ernment and Israel will lose the credibility and vitality necessary for making this society the spiritual home for all Jews.

The writer heads the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem.

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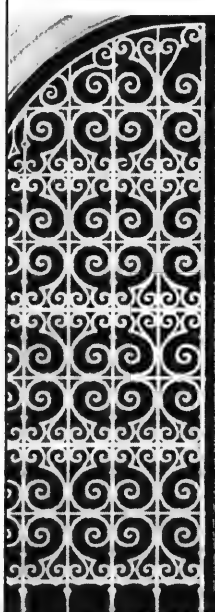

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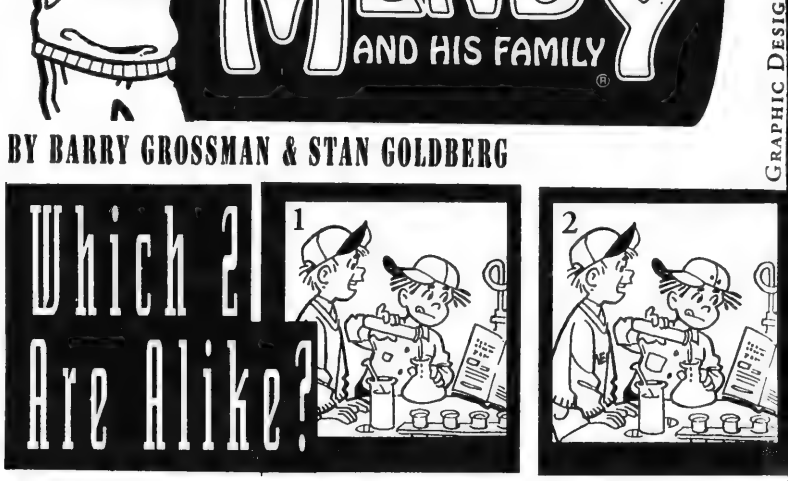

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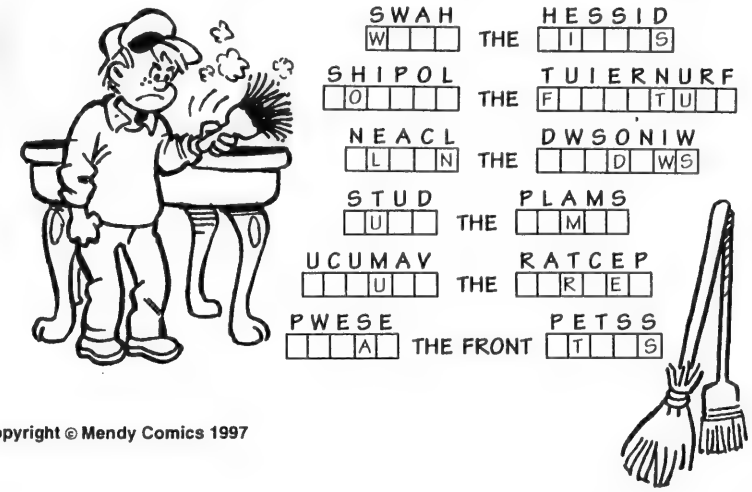

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New kids' recording

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

A new children's recording by the Toronto-based band Kiddush Club, led by vocalist/songwriter Gedalia Zweig, combines original Jewish holiday songs with tunes that relate to youngsters' everyday life.

The song *Chanuka* and the title song *Toys*, with the latter's reference to a dreidel, are particularly timely. Other holiday tunes are *Purim Story* and *10 Plagues*. All songs are written by Zweig.

Exercise, an energetic rock-type song, might help preschoolers pick up the exercise habit, and the bouncy title song is also likely to get them moving.

Among the nine selections is *Baby in White*, a sweet ballad about parents' gratitude for their new child.

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"I still believe that people are good at heart"

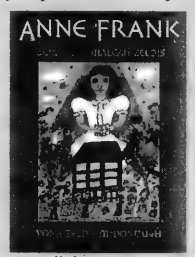
By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Imagine being thirteen years old. You love school, and get lead parts in school plays. You like to spend time at the beach with your parents and your sister, and read about movie stars. Most of all, you like to write.

Then you are forced to move with your family and a lot of other people to a tiny set of rooms in a secret annex, because that is the only way to avoid being captured and for all anyone knows, killed.

That is what happened to Anne Frank. Like many children in Europe during World War II, she and her family tried to hide from the Nazis, whose main goal while they were trying to conquer the world, was to wipe out all the Jews.

But Anne Frank had one weapon that was stronger than all the Nazi guns — she could write. Her diary is one of the best known and loved books ever published on the Holocaust, and her wistful statement that "Despite everything, I still believe that people are really good at heart," still moves everyone who reads it.



Yona Zeldis McDonough was fascinated by Anne's story, and wrote a book for children called simply, *Anne Frank* (Henry Holt & Co., 1997), illustrated by Malcah Zeldis. It is a beautiful account of what life was like for Anne, most of it taken from her diary.

You learn how she coped with the cramped quarters, with her parents (even in hiding, she had the normal teenage disagreements with them!) and her special friendship with Peter, another teenager in hiding with her.

Even when things were worst, she wrote stories, and dreamed of being a writer. And she dreamed of growing up, going to parties and falling in love.

Her dreams never came to pass. Someone told the Nazis where they were and everyone in the annex was sent to a concentration camp. They all died except Anne's father Otto, who published her diary after the war.

This month includes Holocaust Remembrance Week, when there are many special programs about those terrible years. The book is a way for children to begin to learn what it was like during that time.

It also shows how in spite of the worst kind of troubles, goodness and talent can still shine through.

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Humpback whales entertain visitors to Sandyneck Harbor

13-metre mammals turn on their sides, dive and even do somersaults

By JOSIE NEWMAN PROVOST
Special to The CJN

Our boat had pulled out of Sandyneck Harbor near Ryannie, Mass., at 12:30 p.m.

It was now 2:30 p.m and we'd had a fine cruise past Sandyneck Lighthouse and north into Cape Cod Bay. We learned that the light had been removed in 1952 because several boats had run onto shore rather than being guided into the harbor. We motored past pleasure craft and fishing sloops, whose sailors waved at us as we headed further out to sea.

Brian, our naturalist guide aboard the Hyannis Whale Watcher cruise, pointed out several seabirds, such as laughing gulls, herring gulls and sooty shearwaters, as the 200 passengers waited to reach the big attraction – the whales.

Finally we reached them – not just one or two, but a flotilla of whales. We saw the big ones, humpbacks and fins; but there are also plenty of minke and right whales in this area of the Atlantic Ocean.

Our premiere "show" was put on by two humpbacks, who teased us by appearing first on the right-hand side of the boat and then on the left. Wales surface five to 10 percent of the time for air. They swam, turned on their sides and dove into the depths, showing off their black and white tails and leaving a "footprint" or large circle in the water. Humpbacks also do somersaults.

These huge whales weigh approximately 30,000 kilos, are close to 13 metres long and eat half a tonne of small fish a day. They often catch their prey by swimming under a school of fish and blowing huge bubbles around them to confuse and capture them.

As we slowly journeyed further into the waters of Cape Cod Bay, we saw another group of humpbacks, a trio, who circled the boat and "posed" for pictures. Humpbacks travel very slowly, seven to 27 kilometres per hour, which is one reason why people see them so often. It's also why they were almost extinct in the 1960s until the International Whaling Commission began protecting them. They travel in groups of two to nine in breeding season, but as many as 150 will swim together while feeding.

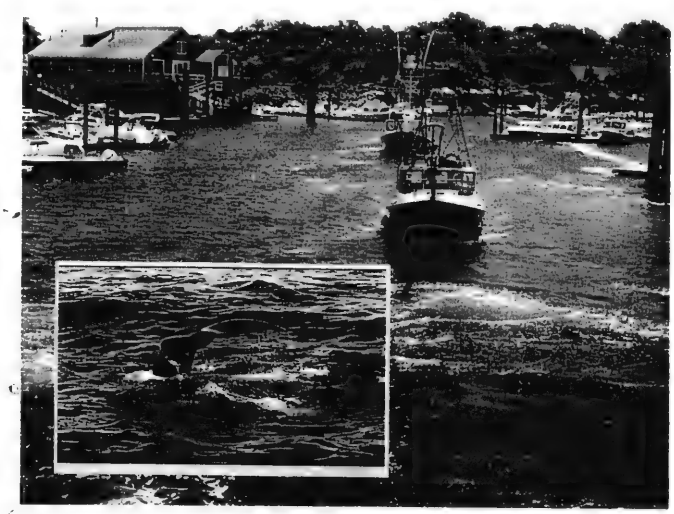
In an hour and a half, we saw 10 whales – two were fin whales and the rest humpbacks. The boat listed from one side to the other as our 200 whale watchers raced back and forth across the boat to catch a glimpse of the huge marine mammals.

Humpbacks are a highly advanced mammal, as is evidenced by their ability to sing the most complicated songs of any species in the animal kingdom. Their songs last from six to 35 minutes, and even have different dialects in different geographical regions. Our group wasn't fortunate enough to hear one of these songs.

Fin wales weigh up to 70,000 kg and can be as long as 20 metres. There are approximately 50,000 finbacks in the world today and slightly fewer humpbacks. Unlike their humpback cousins, they travel very quickly, up to 37 km per hour, which is one reason we didn't see as many fins. At one time, they, too, were almost extinct, until the International Whaling Commission stepped in during the 1970s.

Although whales are migratory, "Cape Cod" whales inhabit a 100-square-mile area around Cape Cod. It includes Stalwagon Bank (an underwater glacial deposit that serves as a feeding area for whales in spring, summer and fall), Cape Cod Bay, and Massachusetts Bay.

There are many whale-watching cruise companies in the Boston and Cape Cod area. Hyannis, located on the north shore of Cape Cod near Barnstable, makes three whale-watching trips per day between April and October. For prices and more information, call 508-362-6088 or 1-800-287-0374, or write P.O. Box 254, Barnstable Harbor, Barnstable, Cape Cod, Mass. 02630, U.S.A.



Boat leaves Sandyneck Harbor for a whale-watching trip. [Josie Newman photo]

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Director thrilled to present 37 of Shkspr's works

By CINDY WAXER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — There are those who would argue that only someone as mad as King Lear would direct a play that requires a trio of actors to perform all 37 of Shakespeare's works in just 97 minutes.

But this is not so according to award-winning actor/director/choreographer and playwright Joel Greenberg.

Instead, he considered the chance to direct *The Compleat Works Of Wllm Shkspr (Abridged)* to be outrageous fortune.

"It would be neat to have the opportunity to actually work on Shakespeare, but with this show, at least I've had the opportunity of doing all 37 plays. So I'm luckier than most people," Greenberg says.

Presented by the Wllm Shkspr (Abridged) Partners at the Bathurst Street Theatre for an extended run, the play is an all-Canadian production of a popular comedy first performed in 1987 by creators Jeff Borgeson, Adam Long and Daniel Singer.

The Toronto version of *The Compleat Works Of Wllm Shkspr (Abridged)* features actors Jonathan Goad, David Young and Frank Zotter, who perform more than 100 Shakespearean roles during the production. It's an exhausting theatrical feat that might explain why the play's talented actors were fitted with athletic kneepads and brightly colored sneakers, rather than jodhpurs and white frilly blouses.

"We spent a lot of time in rehearsal, really carefully working out the speed at which the different scenes had to go so that there was a dynamic and it wasn't just fast ...and that requires tremendous precision on the actors' parts," says Greenberg.

Yet despite its evenly distributed frenetic energy, this is more than simply a play for students whose previous studies of Shakespeare made them fidgety.

Instead, the play caters to children and adults alike by enlivening Shakespeare's dense texts with slapstick antics such as pratfalls and spit takes, as well as cleverly placed pop cultural references. While the play *Titus Andronicus* is presented as a cooking show with gory B-movie props, the story of Othello is told in a hilarious rap song punctuated by the flashing of strobe lights.

Hamlet performed backwards

And whereas *Richard II* takes shape as a thrilling sports event with play-by-plays provided by an obnoxious announcer, the chronology of the play *Hamlet* is performed backwards in a speedy one-minute finale.

"I'm very comfortable with the eclectic, throwing stuff together, improvising... and I love working with actors who enjoy that kind of playing around," says Greenberg.

However, it would be a tragedy of Shakespearean proportions for audiences to assume that the play's comedic treatment of such literary masterpieces is without an abundance of reverence.

"The success the show has had almost everywhere it's played really attests to the fact that you can only do this kind of comedy if, at the heart of it, it's done out of the love for the material. Otherwise it's reduced to a *Saturday Night Live* five-minute sketch," says Greenberg.

Similarly, it was Greenberg's love of theatre that convinced him to take on the important role of director after the play's original director had to withdraw as a result of an illness in his acting company.

"I came in about 10 days before the play went into rehearsal," says Greenberg.

Fortunately, the award-winning director had over 25 years of professional experience to draw upon. A Montreal native, Greenberg's career encompasses more than 75 productions across the country, multiple Dora Mavor Moore nominations, two Dora Awards and a Chalmers Playwrighting Award.

In February 1998, he will be returning to Montreal to direct *Taking Sides*, a play about a German conductor who chooses to stay in his native country during World War II and as a result, is accused of being a Nazi sympathizer.

Although the play promises to be as challenging as *The Compleat Works Of Wllm Shkspr (Abridged)*, Greenberg says, "In *Taking Sides*, they will not wear Converse sneakers and they will not run in and out of doors."

The play runs until Jan. 31 at the theatre, 736 Bathurst St. Tickets are $20 to $39.50. For more information, call 872-1111.

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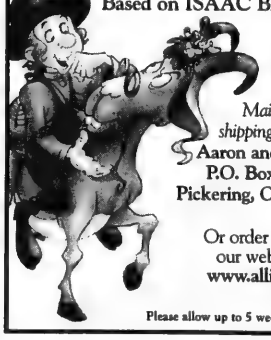
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Play director overcomes deafness

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Bill Tepper, director of Holy Blossom Stagecraft Company's *The Tenth Man*, is deaf, but his actors say he overcomes his hearing impairment so well he brings out the best in them.

Tepper, a high school teacher in Peel for the past nine years, has been giving courses in drama and English to students. *The Tenth Man*, the fourth play he has directed for the company, is to be presented at the Temple Nov. 20, 22 and 23.

"The play, by Paddy Chayefsky, explores different aspects of Jewish life and brings the audience closer to the varying nature of its spirituality," said Tepper. "It prompts a re-examination of Jewish rituals and faith. In no way does the play dismiss them."

The director, who along with his wife and son, is an active member of Holy Blossom Temple, has also done *Golda, A Body of Water, Crossing Delancey* and *Shmulnik's Waltz* for the Stagecraft Company.

"In *The Tenth Man* we have converted several customary male roles to female ones in order to serve our group's needs and to give the production a contemporary perspective," he said.

Advance tickets for *The Tenth Man* are $10 ($12 at the door) while seniors and students pay half-price at the Thursday and Sunday shows. All performances begin at 7.30 p.m. For reservations call 789-3291, ext. 511.

Bill Tepper directs *The Tenth Man* at Holy Blossom.

Tel Aviv follows Wall Street

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — As goes Wall Street, so goes Tel Aviv.

This was the operative phrase for market action on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange for two successive days last week.

Share prices on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange dropped sharply last Tuesday in a shakeup touched off by the previous day's stock plunge on Wall Street.

The Tel Aviv exchange's two main indexes closed the day down by just under nine percent.

Earlier in the day, trading was automatically suspended after the blue-chip Maof Index fell by more than eight percent. Business resumed 45 minutes later.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman urged the public not to panic, assuring them that the Israeli economy is strong.

Some stock analysts said the slide was a temporary reaction to the record drop on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped by more than 550 points last Monday, its steepest one-day point decline.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

BEN WICKS, DAVID GROSSMAN AT BOOK FAIR

The 21st annual Jewish Book Fair showcases author-cartoonist **Ben Wicks**, who launches his book *Dawn of the Promised Land: The Birth of Israel* (Nov. 12, 6:30 p.m.), Leah Posluns Theatre, North York.

Israeli author **David Grossman**, best known for his book *The Yellow Wind*, opens the book fair with a talk, *Imagining Peace* (Nov. 8, 8 p.m. $7).

Other speakers include **Isabel Vincent** (Nov. 13, 8 p.m., $5) on her book *Hitler's Silent Partners*, and **Prof. Elaine Newton** (Nov. 10, 8 p.m., $5) reading from memoirs by women survivors of the Holocaust.

Former Israeli Mossad chief **Peter Z. Malkin** discusses his book *Eichmann In My Hands* (Nov. 15, 8 p.m. $7).

Youth programs include **Carol Matas**, popular writer for young adults, and weekend puppet shows.

Zachary Baker, head librarian of New York's YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, presents Vilna Revisited: The Quest to Recover YIVO's Pre-World War II Archives, an illustrated lecture in Yiddish and English, (Nov. 9, 1:30 p.m. $3, Friends of Yiddish free).

Prose & Poetry at the Cafe Kasrilevke is a launch party for *Parchment*, the Canadian journal of contemporary Jewish literature. It features readings from authors **Seymour Mayne**, **Murray Pomerance**, **Ken Sherman**, **Ruth Panofsky**, **Nathalie Stephens** and **Libby Scheier** ($3, Nov. 9, 3:30 p.m.), Leah Posluns Theatre. For information on and tickets for these and other events, phone 416-636-1880, ext. 368.

* * *

Israeli Opera: Canadian conductor **Dwight Bennett** was recently appointed chief house conductor and head of music staff with the new Israeli Opera.

Bennett adds this new appointment to an already busy conducting season as principal guest conductor of the Ukrainian State Symphony Orchestra in Kiev, and artistic director with Opera Mississauga in Canada.

* * *

Moscow Virtuosi: Russian violinist and conductor **Vladimir Spivakov**, pianist **Alexander Korsantiya** and bassist **Alexei Motchalov** play a concert of **Chausson**, **Zwilich** and **Shostakovich** Nov. 7, 8 p.m. at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, George Weston Recital Hall, North York.

In the same hall the following evening, also at 8 p.m., Spivakov and pianist **Julia Zilberquit** perform a program of **Tchaikovsky**, **Shostakovich**, **Part** and **Haydn**. $33 to $53. 416-324-9333 or 416-872-2222.

* * *

For Children: Jacob Two-Two takes on the private school system and sets out to expose corruption in the halls of power in **Mordecai Richler's** deliciously funny action-filled musical *Jacob Two-Two's First Spy Case*, beginning Nov. 8 at Young Peoples Theatre (YPT). The play is recommended for children ages six and up, and features **Dylan Rosenthal** in the leading role of Jacob, with **Matthew Burns** as the alternate. Tickets $25. Open run; YPT, 165 Front St. E., Toronto. 416-862-2222.

* * *

Arts Notes: Stage Centre Productions presents *Ghosts*, by **Henrik Ibsen**, Nov. 13 to 29, at Fairview Library Theatre, North York. 416-299-5557...

The Yorkminstrels, North York's premier musical theatre company, is seeking singers, dancers and actors (non-Equity) for its upcoming production of the **Gershwin** musical *Crazy For You*. 905-271-1532...

The exhibition New York – North York: Canadian Artists in the Big Apple opens Nov. 6, Art Gallery of North York, 5040 Yonge St....

The New Israel Fund of Canada is presenting its first Women's Voices Program, called From the Tractor to the Home Track: The Changing Lives, Roles and Status of Israeli Women in One Hundred Years of War and Peace, with renowned feminist journalist and author **Aviva Cantor.** Co-hosted by **Dr. Nora Gold** and **Michele Landsberg**. Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m. at University College, Room 161 on the central campus of the University of Toronto. $10 ($5 students). RSVP by Nov.10 to Talya 416-781-4322...

The Canada Council recently announced the nominees for this year's Governor General's Literary Awards. They include **Matt Cohen**, author of *Last Seen* (Knopf) in the category of English-language fiction, and **Jason Sherman**, author of *Reading Hebron* (Playwrights Canada Press) in the category of English-language drama. The awards ceremony occurs Nov. 18 in Ottawa...

Award-winning artist **Pamela Goldfarb** hosts her third annual Open Studio, Nov. 14 to 16, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 71 Marycroft Rd., Unit 5, Woodbridge (two lights west of Weston Road, south of Hwy. 7). Opening reception, Nov. 13, 7 to 9 p.m.

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Business Profile

KBC Tools head makes customers feel at home

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — KBC Tools president Paula Bass has a master's degree in business administration from the University of Illinois and five years' experience running an arts organization in the United States, but her management philosophy at KBC can also be attributed to more mundane sources.

"I think everything you learn, you learn in your mother's home," said Bass, 34, in her Mississauga office, which is head office for Canada. "You should be greeted, and offered something to drink and eat. When you come here, I want you to feel that same welcome."

Hence the coffee – albeit not fresh-brewed – and candies or cookies when you enter KBC. Things don't have to be fancy, but they should be clean and neat, she believes.

Too many businesses in her industry have gruff employees and an uninviting back-door entrance, she noted in a recent interview. "That's not what I want my clients to [experience]," she said.

Bass has spent the past seven years working for the company her father Karel started in 1965. Now 81 and based in Detroit where Bass was raised, her father, a native of Czechoslovakia who lived in Israel and served in its army before settling in the United States, is KBC's chairman of the board.

Bass joined the company as general manager of the Mississauga branch and vice-president of marketing for the entire company, which has nine locations in Canada and the United States. In 1993, she became company president.

Canadian locations include Oldcastle, Ont. and Delta, B.C. KBC's newest outlet opened last year in Richmond Hill, Ont., and a machinery division, also located in Mississauga, is scheduled to open early in 1998. Although the head office for the company is in Sterling Heights, Mich., Bass spends most of her time here, often trying out new ideas that are then used at other locations.

The Mississauga location – now 20,000 square feet, of which 4,000 are devoted to retail space – opened only in 1989, and Bass' staff has grown from 12 (about one-third of whom were women) to over 30 people in the past seven years. Since 1990, business has increased tenfold, she said.

KBC stocks over $6 million in inventory – about 70,000 items – ranging from a 29-cent piece of sandpaper to the company's largest item, a $275,000 grinder. About one-quarter of the business is wholesale.

KBC's clientele includes local small- to medium-sized machine shops, the aerospace industry, large companies, individual hobbyists and customers in Japan, Switzerland and Mexico.

Their inventory, which includes some Israeli-made items, has increased steadily. In the past year alone, their master catalogue went from 665 to 797 pages. With two salespeople on the road, the master catalogue – printed in the "tens and tens of thousands" – is a source of much of KBC's business. (There are also special machinery catalogues.)

"We're in the business of selling products at really good prices and getting them to people quickly," said Bass.

"There are other places my clients can go," she admitted, "but not necessarily at the same price and with the same delivery."

To speed things up on one occasion, an employee broke up a set of stamps rather than make a customer wait for a single item to come in. "It was a good solution, but it messed up our inventory," recalled Bass. The result was a change to KBC's computer system to track inventory items individually.

KBC Tools president Paula Bass. [Frances Kraft photo]

An estimated 95 percent of tool businesses are family-run, said Bass, but there was no expectation that she would go that route. Before entering the MBA program, Bass completed a bachelor of fine arts degree at the University of Michigan, studying printmaking and painting. Several of her works grace the walls of KBC.

Shortly after she joined the company, Bass tended to react with ill-concealed annoyance when people asked if she was Karel Bass' daughter. "Because the question sounded like a typical one to ask a young woman in a traditionally male-dominated industry, I felt as if my abilities were being questioned," she wrote following the first Industrial Distribution Association convention she attended.

"Imagine my surprise and pleasure when I met hundreds of men and women at the convention who, like me, were second, third, fourth and even fifth generations working in a family business. Instead of [a] put-down, the question was a compliment, reflecting the pride that family businesses share."

She spends about one-third of her time on the road, visiting trade shows and other KBC locations.

Bass hasn't found it a disadvantage to be a woman in a male-dominated industry, although she admitted some clients prefer to deal with men.

She accepts that. "If a man calls and doesn't want to speak to me because I'm a woman, let him speak to someone else. I don't care where you buy, as long as you buy from KBC."

To educate herself, she took a machine shop class. "The school I went to ended up becoming a client of ours," she said.

Changes instituted by Bass included streamlining of operations to avoid redundancies, and fostering helpfulness and a greater work ethic among staff. "They didn't have that I'll-take-care-of-that attitude. There was no team feeling."

To counter that, Bass worked alongside them (and still does on occasion) and used incentives and recognition for jobs well done. A company newsletter was instituted. "I try to make people feel like they matter," she said.

On winter days when weather conditions make driving hazardous, Bass books rooms for employees at a local hotel. Those driving home are expected to call and let her know they've arrived safely. "And they do," she said.

The door to Bass' office is usually open. "Anybody can come in and say anything to me, and they do." There is also a suggestion box, and a number of changes have resulted from employee ideas.

Bass believes the recession "saved" KBC by allowing them time to "work out some of the kinks." By the time her staff reached 15 people, the atmosphere had changed so much they "did three times as much as the original twelve," she said.

Incorporating fun into the workplace is also important to Bass. Schmutzie, her schnauzer, is a fixture at KBC.

Company picnics and occasionally creative decor aside (the Mississauga showroom has been decorated as a 1950s-style diner and also in a golf tournament theme with the coffeepot as the 18th hole), the most "fun" business aspect of KBC is its small Tool-a-Rama boutique within the retail outlet.

Tool-a-Rama stocks tool-related giftware including chocolate tools, T-shirts and nightshirts printed with tools, clocks and picture frames made of recycled engine parts, tool-shaped jewelry and toy tools.

"I find when I wear a [tool] pin, it's a good conversation starter," said Bass.

Bass has always enjoyed the marketing aspect of business. Her creative flair often plays a role, although she has not done all the design work herself.

"Business can be really boring," she admitted. "You do the same thing day in, day out. I always want to improve something or change something. They say if it's not broken, don't fix it, but I literally walk from room to room saying, 'How can I improve this?'"

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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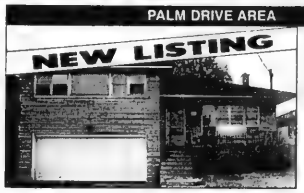

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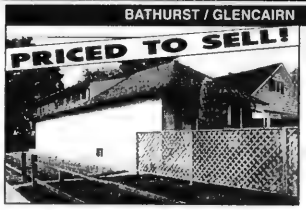

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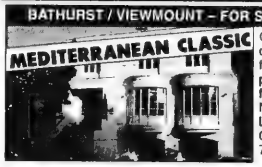

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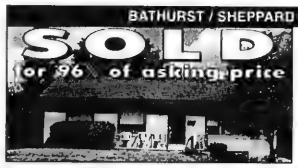

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SEGAL, Israel - on Oct. 17, 1997, late of 6101 Bathurst St., #512.
WIDDER, Celia - on Oct. 17, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
MOLDAVER, Irving - on Oct. 18, 1997, late of 885 Clonsilla Ave.
GERGLEY, Martha - on Oct. 20, 1997, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.
JENAH, Robert - on Oct. 21, 1997, late of 10 Torresdale Ave., #1110.

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KAPLAN, Frida - on Oct. 19, 1997.
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JAMIESON, Sally - on Oct. 20, 1997, late of 2185 Major Mackenzie Dr.
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GINGOLD, Khaim - on Oct. 21, 1997.
JIDOVETSKI, Nicolai - on Oct. 21, 1997.
LOVINGER, Mozes - on Oct. 21, 1997.
SWITZER, Gerald - on Oct. 22, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

FEATHERMAN, Albert (Abraham) on October 28, 1997, resided at 668 Roselawn Ave., Apt. 815.

HAIER, Freda - on Oct. 23, 1997.
LIEBERMAN, Minnie - on Oct. 23, 1997.
KOFMAN, Samuel - on Oct. 24, 1997, late of 6030 Bathurst St.
LEFLER, Yetta - on Oct. 24, 1997, late of 37 Glenrush Blvd.
ADWOKAT, Mordechai - on Oct. 25, 1997, late of 1804 John St.
LAVINE, Marian Helen - on Oct. 25, 1997.
LUCATCH, Molly - on Oct. 25, 1997.
ROBUCK, Anne - on Oct. 25, 1997.
SILVER, Avrom - on Oct. 26, 1997, late of 134 Dalemount Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

ROSENHEK, Moses Aaron - Suddenly, on Saturday, October 4, 1997, in Quebec City. Moe, beloved husband of Regina Vinegar. Dear father and father-in-law of Shaul and Esther, and Felix and Joanne. Dear brother and brother-in-law of Dr. Clarence and Doris Rosenhek, and the late brother Jack, and Natalie Rosenhek. Loving grandfather of Adam, Holly, Ashley, Joshua, Benjamin, Daniel, Zachary, Gabriel, and Akiva. He will also be missed by his nieces, nephews and many friends. Memorial donations may be made to the Beth Israel Cemetery Memorial Fund.

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-EXCH./SHARE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
312 BRIDAL
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

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Book recounts the time boxing was a 'Jewish sport'

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — How it got to be called "the sweet science" is never explained in *When Boxing Was A Jewish Sport* (Praeger Publishers).

Boxing, by its nature, is anything but sweet, though it could be argued there is a "scientific" element in the process of pummeling an opponent into unconsciousness.

In fact, author Allen Bodner recounts, Jewish pugilists were known as "boxers," who studied the intricacies of the game and were able to avoid being hit, versus "fighters," who stood toe to toe with an opponent and traded punches until somebody went down.

Leaf defenceman Mathieu Schneider will be featured in next week's CJN.

As the title of the book suggests, there was a time when Jews were prominent participants in the sport of boxing. From the turn of the century until about 1950, Jews could be found on undercards and as main eventers throughout the United States, particularly on the eastern seaboard. Contrary to stereotypes of the Jew as bookish intellectuals, in that time span, a subculture of Jewish fighters, trainers, managers and promoters arose who dominated the sport. That included huge numbers of fight fans who filled numerous arenas and even gymnasiums to follow the exploits of their favorite pug-nosed pugilists.

The book's one-and-a-half page appendix gives proof to the contention that Jews could mix it up with the best of them, as it outlines 29 Jewish world champions in nine weight categories. Ten times, Jewish champions fought Jewish contenders for world titles.

Notable by its omission from the list of champions is the name of Max Baer, world heavyweight title holder in 1935.

Though he wore a Star of David on his trunks – as did many other boxers – Baer was not Jewish, Bodner contends. Most of the fighters interviewed by Bodner took the position that Baer wasn't Jewish while the author's father, a boxing aficionado, claims to have seen physical proof while visiting Baer's dressing room that the fighter had no distinctive Jewish attributes.

Even without Baer, the annals of boxing history are replete with Jewish title holders. The greatest and most beloved of all was Benny Leonard, light heavyweight champion from 1917 to 1925. "A model of personal decorum and a visible and committed Jew," Leonard "remains the one most admired by both fans and other fighters," Bodner writes.

Knocked out only four times in more than 200 fights, Leonard lost only one decision (when fouled) between 1913 and 1932.

Leonard, though not the first Jewish champion, was so revered that he served as a role model for numerous young Jewish men seeking to make a few bucks in the hard scrabble life of pre-war America. Other Jewish title holders included: Abe Attell, featherweight champion from 1901-12; Ted "Kid" Lewis; Harry Lewis; Barney Ross; Lew Tendler; Charlie White; Jackie "Kid" Berg; Joe Choyinski; and Louis "Kid" Kaplan.

Bodner points out that many Jewish fighters came from traditional families, spoke a smattering of Yiddish, went to synagogue and married within the faith. All were proud Jews but few got into the game to negate anti-Semitic stereotypes of Jews as weaklings.

Boxing in the first half of 20th century was a tremendously popular sport and it offered second generation Jews (as well as the sons of Irish and Italian immigrants) the opportunity to make good money regardless of mainstream social prejudice.

"Jews in boxing," Bodner writes, "encountered virtually no anti-Semitism either in the ring or outside it. So many of the fighters, trainers, promoters and managers were Jewish that it would have been difficult for anti-Semitism to obtain a foothold."

Benny Leonard was perhaps the greatest Jewish boxer ever.

By 1928, in fact, Jews "were the dominant nationality in professional prizefighting…During the years 1910-40, there were 26 Jewish world champions." According to Bodner, "throughout the 1920s and '30s, approximately 16 percent of the champions were Jewish, but nearly one-third of the fighters were also Jewish."

Full of colorful anecdotes that illustrate a long past era in Jewish sporting history, *When Boxing Was a Jewish Sport* is not all saccharin platitudes. Bodner devotes a chapter to the mob influence on the game (which started in earnest after the repeal of prohibition) and on head injuries that often result from years of taking punches.

While boxing ranks lower in fatalities (.13 per thousand) than other sports like scuba diving or horse racing (12.8 per thousand), brain damage is a serious problem. According to one study, cited by Bodner, 17 percent of those who boxed for six to nine years displayed brain damage while another study suggests the figure may be as high as 55 percent.

Of the numerous Jewish boxers interviewed by Bodner, many got out of the fight game at a relatively young age and appear to be free of lasting damage. Only one denied head injuries were an occupational hazard, while almost all the others acknowledged the sport's dangers. One, Charles Gellman, believes the sport should be banned.

Despite the risks, another former fighter, Joey Varoff, described his love of the sport this way: "There's a thrill…There's something about being in there alone with somebody. I can't explain it to you. I loved it. I loved the sense of challenge …Also, it shows you how much guts you really have. You come off the floor, you get knocked down, you get up…I didn't know if I had courage, but I found myself that I had courage. I never quit in a fight. It's something within you."

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The Inside Back

My mission should I choose to accept it...

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

My assignment – should I decide to accept it – was to pen a regular column that would explore the grittier, less hoity-toity side of life in Jewish Toronto. Or to find interesting, offbeat people whose stories may not be a natural fit for the news pages. Or perhaps to describe new, exciting programs or projects.

Gauntlet picked up; challenge accepted. After a decade here, I should know interesting stuff when I see it.

But this inaugural column will buck those parameters, at least this time.

Judith (not her real name) is interesting all right, but for all the wrong reasons. She's a petite and chipper 44-year-old Hamilton resident, mother of three teenaged girls, and for the first time in her life, angry at something she used to hold almost sacrosanct: Israel.

Although she doesn't cut the figure of a trailblazer, Judith is headed in that direction. She just wants to know one simple thing: How is it that her ex-husband has been able to get away with ignoring court-ordered child support just because he now lives in Israel?

It may sound like a straightforward legal conundrum. But then again, is there such a thing?

Her case has baffled the experts. Women at the forefront of issues pertaining to gittin (Jewish divorce decrees) and agunot (Jewish women unable to remarry religiously because their husbands have denied them a *get*) were stumped when told of Judith's plight by *The CJN*.

Her story is simple enough.

Judith and her Israeli-born husband were married in Hamilton in 1976 and filed for divorce 11 years later. Her husband, a physician, held citizenships of both Israel and Canada. Their first daughter was born in Israel. The two others are Canadian born.

Judith received her *get* in 1988. After the civil divorce was granted in 1989, an Ontario court ordered her husband to pay $600 a month in child support. Judith did not ask for alimony.

He paid faithfully for the next few years, and then fell behind, owing $2,400. Then, in 1993, he suddenly upped and returned to Israel. There's been not a penny since. As of this month, he owes about $36,000 plus interest.

"And there doesn't seem to be anything I can do about it," Judith sighs, nursing a coffee. A teacher, she's on disability because of the stress of being a single mother. Luckily, she has a loving family to help with expenses. With daughters aged 13, 15 and 19, those expenses are high and climbing, especially now that the eldest is in university.

Her ex is a licensed doctor in Israel and about to come into an inheritance. But his wages and assets cannot be garnisheed on the strength of an Ontario court order.

Family lawyers contacted by *The CJN* agreed the case sounds like one for the Israeli courts. Last summer, Judith wrote an Israeli lawyer, who replied he was unable to take the case because he felt he could not do an effective enough job.

In the meantime, she's been informed by her local support office that there is no reciprocal agreement on child support between Canada and Israel. "There is one between Canada and Bangladesh," she says bitterly. Each year, she says, the countries of the world meet in The Hague to sign or renew agreements on a wide variety of measures. While Israel has signed agreements on child abduction, it has yet to sign covenants on the enforcement of child support payments.

"You know, I used to love and support Israel no matter what," Judith says. "Now, I feel very disillusioned about Israel – on this point, anyway."

The provincial attorney general's Family Responsibility Office confirms Canada has no reciprocity treaty with Israel. The office keeps track of 163,000 family support cases, totalling over $1 billion in arrears over the past decade, but does not track the whereabouts of the nearly 8,000 deadbeat dads who have skipped the province.

Israel's embassy in Ottawa says it doesn't get involved in cases like this.

Now, Judith is looking for a reasonably-priced Israeli lawyer (one wanted $6,000 up front) who would work for a percentage of her award. She also wants to talk to other women in the same boat.

Meantime, her ex, in a perverse kind of irony, continues to exploit Israel for what it was intended to be: a haven.

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

HERB CAPLAN

1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

WE SELL KitchenAid FOR LESS

APPLE MERINGUE DESSERT

2 lbs. Granny Smith apples or any tart apple	2 cloves
1 cup white sugar	1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1 tblsp. honey	pinch nutmeg
1/2 cup water	1/2 cup raisins
1 tsp. vanilla	2 tblsp. Grand Marnier or Cognac

Peel, core and thickly slice apples. Set aside. Cook water and sugar until syrupy. Add the spices, apples and raisins. Cook covered until tender, but apples still hold their shape. Add the liqueur and the honey. Place in a baking dish.

Make Italian Meringue:	1/4 cup water
1 cup sugar	4 egg whites

Stir sugar and water over heat until sugar is completely dissolved. Let cook until it becomes a thick syrup. Whip whites until they form soft peaks. Slowly pour the hot syrup into the whites, beating all along until cool. Spread meringue on top of apples. Bake in preheated 350°F oven until golden (watch carefully). Chill.

About Life

Dear Ella,

Why is it that my dear friend Lori will not go out on a date unless she knows in advance the guy is a professional and wants to get married, have two kids, educate them in Hebrew school and live in Thornhill.

Okay, maybe I am exaggerating a bit, but here is a girl who is 32 years old, sweet, pretty, bright and doesn't seem to understand all this can be discussed after you know whether the two of you have an attraction or bond to continue dating. She is missing so many opportunities to meet some very eligible, interesting bachelors because they can't or won't be qualified in advance. Needless to say, not only does she scare them off, she is getting quite a reputation.

I know she reads your column; maybe she'll see herself in this letter.

Dating Dilemma

Dear Dating Dilemma,

I understand this is difficult to watch. As a caring friend, your mind seems so clear that Lori is missing the boat; however, you have to understand that to most people, blind dates are not a picnic at the best of times.

Your friend sounds panicked. It sounds like she wants to have a family and doesn't feel she has time to waste on useless dates, which in her mind will go nowhere.

At 32, she is no doubt thinking of her biological clock as well; however I too feel it is wrong to put the cart before the horse.

A cup of coffee with an interesting person will take two hours, tops, out of her life and you never know when it may click. A relationship needs time to grow, time for two people to get to know each other, to decide if they are compatible and if they have the same values.

Your friend has to relax a bit and have enough confidence to know that the people she cares about and trusts would not introduce her to someone inappropriate. They care about her and want the best for her as well.

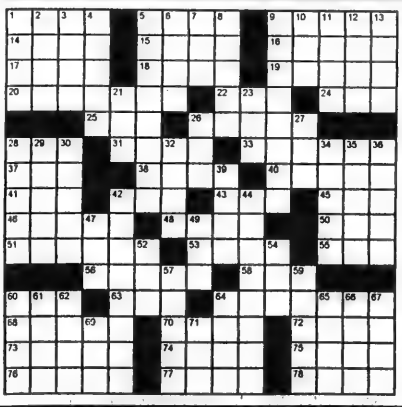
A person can easily be scared off on a first date if they are asked, "So how many kids do you want." It is not human nature to commit to something that important so quickly.

Lori shouldn't feel she is wasting her time. She should enjoy the coffee, dinners, dancing, music, walks and anything else that courting has to offer.

She is missing one of the most fun parts of the whole picture.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Noah's rainbow
5. 1,003
9. Philistine god
14. Moses' last mount
15. "The Angry Hills" author
16. Israeli wood
17. Byzantine and Hellenistic
18. Jonah's travel mode
19. "___ again" Kahane book
20. First book
22. Abba's wife
24. Amen
25. Pouch
26. Hebrew letter
28. Haifa
31. Man Ray art style
33. Prays (Yid)
37. Tel-Aviv to Bet She'an (dir)
38. Tefilin arm?
40. Abraham's son
41. Abby's sister
42. Third Judah king
43. Less then fress (Yid)
45. Tay-Sachs carrier
46. Levite domain
48. Brenner or Brubeck
50. Sopher need
51. Yad Vashem remembrance
53. Bigots forte
55. Evil __
56. Gulf of __
58. Prayer for dew
60. Engedi
63. Shofar source?
64. Cleveland Indians' MVP
68. Rebecca's brother
70. Competent
72. Meshugge bird
73. Roberta Peters genre
74. Reform Rabbis' Org.
75. Uzis
76. Murray lesson
77. Myra, pianist
78. Victim of Zimri

Down

1. "__ Shabbat"
2. A bissel
3. Orator
4. Shnozzes
5. Hammerstein specialty
6. Gershwin and Morris
7. Patriarchs
8. Ellis and British
9. "Get Smart" guy
10. Shikker's choice?
11. Tithe
12. Matzoh maker's need
13. Nebbish (Eng)
21. Shiva mood
23. Meshugge (Eng)
26. Hebrew letter
27. Eden dweller
28. Nazarite growth
29. "__ Hall" Allen film
30. Budinsky (Yid)
32. Salty sea
34. Singer Cantor
35. Fran Drescher role
36. Eden denizen
39. Shoe maker
42. Polish Jew
44. Golan Heights dwellers
47. El Al stat
49. Got ya!!
52. Prophesied
54. Hamantasch?
57. Beauty of Eilat
59. Sukkah?
60. Low speed
61. Abraham to Ishmael
62. Adam's son
64. Oy Vey!
65. Neshume (Eng)
66. Writer Ferber
67. Snack (Yid)
69. Chagall genre
71. Prior to Christians

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 58.)

Marquis Shoes

Canadian-made boots for Canadian-made winters!

Our buyers have done their homework! They have purchased for you great-styled boots from two of Canada's leading boot manufacturers. Rugged casual boots from **Sorel** for city or country use, and dressier styles from **La Vallée**.

All of our boots are guaranteed waterproof and salt stain proof. They are warm, comfortable and stylish as well!

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Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute of Mount Sinai Hospital
Toronto Canada
A University of Toronto Affiliated Research Institute

Research

for a healthy journey through life

AT THE MOMENT OF CONCEPTION IT BEGINS: THE incredibly intricate process of constructing a unique human being, one molecule at a time. From infancy to maturity to old age, our bodies are built and our growth and development regulated by the complex molecular processes that govern all life on this planet.

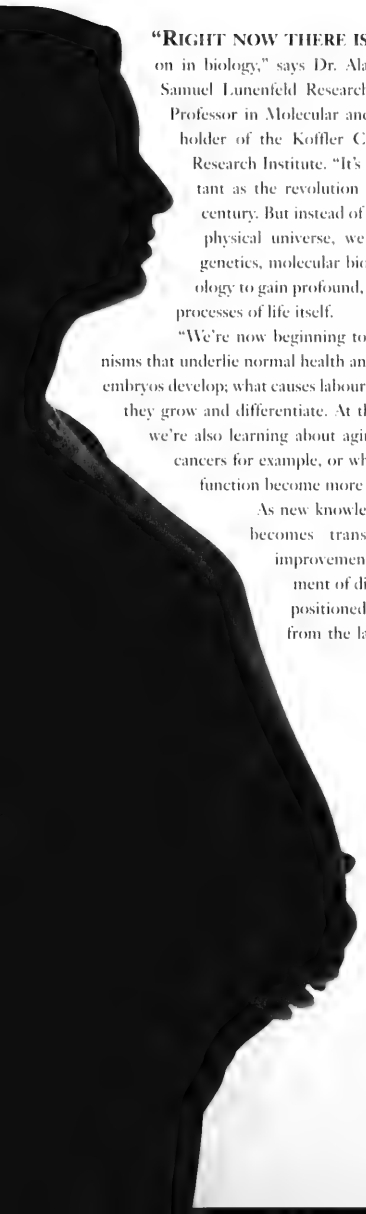
Scientists are beginning to understand how these molecular processes guide our growth, development and aging.

In the beginning | Early steps | Teenage years | Adult years | Towards old age

They are also learning what happens when these processes go wrong. As a result, in the past few years, researchers at centres such as the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute, Mount Sinai Hospital's world-renowned research facility, have made huge strides in understanding the root causes of medical problems as diverse as premature labour, cancer, and osteoporosis.

Supplement to *The Globe and Mail*, October 29,1997
and *The Canadian Jewish News*, November 6, 1997

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL



"RIGHT NOW THERE IS A REVOLUTION GOING on in biology," says Dr. Alan Bernstein, Director of the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute, Anne Tanenbaum Professor in Molecular and Developmental Biology and holder of the Koffler Chair for the Director of the Research Institute. "It's a revolution at least as important as the revolution in atomic physics earlier this century. But instead of learning about the rules of the physical universe, we are using the disciplines of genetics, molecular biology, biochemistry and physiology to gain profound, revolutionary insights into the processes of life itself.

"We're now beginning to understand the basic mechanisms that underlie normal health and growth. We're learning how embryos develop; what causes labour and how cells communicate as they grow and differentiate. At the other end of the spectrum, we're also learning about aging, why we tend to get more cancers for example, or why disorders in bone and brain function become more common."

As new knowledge is acquired, the challenge becomes translating these insights into improvements in the prevention and treatment of disease. "The Institute is ideally positioned to bring research findings from the laboratory to the patient," says Dr. Bernstein. "For one thing, many of our scientists are also practicing physicians. They can readily grasp the practical applications of research. As well, we have strong links to the broader medical community. Our scientists routinely share their findings with doctors here and at other hospitals."

We are now beginning to understand the basic mechanisms that underlie normal health and growth.

The Institute's ties to Toronto's academic community are also strong. All Institute scientists hold faculty positions at the University of Toronto, and the 86 graduate students training at the Institute are all registered in Masters or PhD programs at the university.

Its ongoing program of research and development is part of Mount Sinai Hospital's commitment to providing The Best Medicine to its community. By providing the best scientific investigators with the best equipment and translating their findings into the practice of medicine, the war on disease is slowly but surely advanced. Medicine and research have always moved forward in tandem. Today's spectacular scientific advances hold the promise of great breakthroughs in medical practice in the foreseeable future — breakthroughs that will help ensure a healthy voyage from the earliest stages of life through to old age.

Today's spectacular scientific advances hold the promise of great breakthroughs in ***medical practice in the foreseeable future.***

How an embryo knows back from front

Co-Head of the Institute's Program in Development and Fetal Health Dr. Janet Rossant and her team are working to learn more about the genes that regulate pattern formation in the mouse embryo. They have identified several of the genes which "tell" the developing embryo which is its front end, which is its back end and where its body axis should be. "We have identified a particularly important source of such signals. Now we're trying to find out how these signals set up pattern formation," explains Dr. Rossant.

Why should research scientists care about how patterns develop in mouse embryos? "We know from studies of humans that mutations in some developmental genes are associated, not only with birth defects, but even with a genetic predisposition to various diseases such as cancer," explains Dr. Rossant. "By understanding normal development, we're starting to have a better understanding of what can go wrong, how human disease is caused."

Dr. Rossant and Dr. Jay Cross, another Institute scientist, are also studying the genes which control the formation of the trophoblast, the cell type that makes up most of the placenta. The first cells to develop in the embryo, trophoblasts are absolutely essential for further growth.

"In the past few years, we have begun to identify the genes required to make trophoblast cells," says Dr. Rossant. "These same genes are present in humans. We're very interested to know whether mutations or alterations in expression of these genes are involved in trophoblastic disease in people."

By understanding normal development, we're starting to have a better understanding of what can go wrong.

Fetal health related to adult health

RECENT RESEARCH SUGGESTS PROPER FETAL development may promote good health in later life. "The thinking is that during fetal life all of your organ systems and physiologic systems are programmed," explains Dr. Stephen Lye, Co-Head of the Institute's Program in Development and Fetal Health. "During this time, genetic programs are set up to regulate blood pressure, blood sugar levels, neural system functions and so on. If there's perturbation of the fetal environment, then whatever is being programmed at the time may not be programmed correctly. For example, if the fetus fails to get sufficient nutrients or oxygen due to a poorly functioning placenta at a time when your blood pressure systems are being programmed, then the thinking is that this can lead to hypertension in later life."

If this is so, it gives even greater urgency to the work of Dr. Lye and his fellow researchers, whose research is aimed at promoting fetal health during pregnancy.

One common problem during pregnancy is pre-eclampsia, a condition associated with elevated blood pressure in the pregnant mother. "The only real treatment is to remove the placenta," explains Dr. Lye. "But if you deliver the placenta, you have to deliver the baby, so although pre-eclampsia is primarily a medical problem with the mother, it also leads to prematurity."

Invasion of the trophoblasts (or fetal attraction)

WHAT CAUSES PRE-ECLAMPSIA? THE ANSWER APPEARS to be related to the genetics of pregnancy. Under normal circumstances, around 9 to 13 weeks into a pregnancy, trophoblast cells invade the uterus and help remodel the blood vessels there. The result is increased blood flow to the uterus. This is desirable during pregnancy because it channels more nutrients and oxygen to the placenta and fetus.

"In pre-eclampsia, for some reason, the invasion of trophoblast cells doesn't occur properly," says Dr. Lye. "As a result, the arteries never get remodelled and so blood flow doesn't increase to the extent that it should. This, we believe, sets up a lot of problems which ultimately lead to pre-eclampsia."

What regulates the invasion of the trophoblast cells? The answer appears to be biochemical growth factors called TGFβ3. "In work conducted by my associate, Dr. Isabella Caniggia, we've found that in normal pregnancies TGF Beta levels were relatively high in the first several weeks, but then fell dramatically around eight weeks, just at the time trophoblasts are supposed to invade the uterus," said Dr. Lye. "This decline in TGF Beta levels may be the body's equivalent of taking the brake off, allowing the trophoblast cells to invade."

In pre-eclamptic pregnancies, however, the story is very different. Dr. Caniggia recently found that levels of TGF Beta remain high throughout pre-eclamptic pregnancies. "This suggests that in pre-eclamptic pregnancies, TGF Beta is never 'turned off.' As a result, the invasion of the trophoblasts never occurs," explains Dr. Lye.

This research opens intriguing possibilities for early diagnosis and treatment of pre-eclampsia. If blood levels of TGF Beta can be measured at key phases of pregnancy, the disposition to pre-eclampsia can be predicted. Better yet, this research may ultimately point the way to treatment of this condition which is so potentially damaging to mothers and their infants.

The Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Centre

On October 27, 1997, a significant milestone for the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute was realized with the opening of The Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Centre for Molecular Medicine and Human Genome Research.

This Centre is dedicated to discovering the molecular basis of normal and disease processes with the goal of understanding, curing and preventing disease.

The Centre will enable scientists to build on their internationally recognized strengths and contribute to the worldwide effort to advance biomedical research.

The creation of this Centre was made possible through a partnership with the Canada/Ontario Infrastructure Works Program with support from the City of Toronto and Metropolitan Toronto and the generosity of Joseph and Wolf Lebovic.

This research opens intriguing possibilities for early diagnosis and treatment of pre-eclampsia.

How worms may help do away with wheelchairs

WITH MOST DANGEROUS CHILDHOOD DISEASES now under control, the period from birth to maturity tends to be a healthy time for most children. One of the greatest health dangers during the teenage years is injury resulting from motor-vehicle accidents. Particularly tragic are accidents which damage the spinal cord, partially or totally paralyzing the victim. One day it may be possible to help victims recover from these accidents thanks to research on a humble worm known as *C. elegans*.

Dr. Joseph Culotti, a Senior Scientist in the Institute, is investigating how the spinal cord of *C. elegans* is formed. "What we've discovered is a molecular mechanism for guiding the growth of neurons in this worm," says Dr. Culotti. "We've identified a guidance cue molecule that gives directional information to the growing neurons, in essence telling them in which direction to grow."

The guidance cue molecule acts almost like a one-way road sign for developing neurons, guiding some in one direction, and some in another. "It 'says' to some neurons 'grow away from me,' and to other neurons 'grow towards me,' explains Dr. Culotti.

Dr. Culotti's team has also found receptors on the growing neurons which receive information from guidance cue molecules, allowing the worm's neurons to respond appropriately. Startlingly, Dr. Culotti, working in collaboration with scientists in the United States, has found that similar molecules guide growing neurons along the same axis in the developing human spinal cord. "We're now confident that what we find in the worm will be relevant to the human spinal cord," says Dr. Culotti. "We're trying to discover additional guidance molecules in the worm."

Ultimately, the research done by Dr. Culotti and his team could lay the foundation for treatment or even regrowth of damaged spinal cords in humans.

The balancing act of the bones

While osteoarthritis affects cartilage and bones in the joints, other disorders of old age affect the bones themselves. Spine, hip and wrist fractures are a serious problem in the elderly, and can lead to death or, more often, to a loss of mobility. Trying to understand why bones become weaker as people age is the focus of Senior Scientist Dr. Marc Grynpas and his research team.

"We are looking at the mechanism by which people start losing bone. We're studying the exact nature of bone loss, and how the changing micro architecture of the bone and bone quality can lead to fractures," explains Dr. Grynpas. "Our goal is not only to understand the mechanism, but to find strategies to prevent fractures."

In the living body, bone is constantly being formed and resorbed (broken down and recycled) in an elaborate balancing act. The aging process often disrupts this fine balance, tipping the scales so that small amounts of bone are lost year by year. If this process is accelerated, as in osteoporosis, bones eventually become thin and fragile. The result is fractures.

"The emphasis in therapeutics has been on preventing resorption," explains Dr. Grynpas. "One way to do this is by using drugs such as bisphosphonates. These drugs prevent bone resorption and, therefore, slow down bone turnover. We're now researching a third generation of bisphosphonates."

Several studies are now underway. One looks at the effect of bisphosphonates on bone and cartilage. The results are surprising: third generation bisphosphonates seem to protect cartilage as well as bone from arthritis-related damage when given early in the disease process.

Dr. Grynpas and his colleagues are also studying other factors which affect the health and strength of bone. They are looking at the effect of fluoride on bone formation, the way in which bone mineralization increases with age, the accumulation of microdamage in bone with aging, and the effect of specific genes on mineralization.

"At a fundamental level, we're working to understand the molecular mechanisms by which fragility comes into bone," explains Dr. Grynpas. From that understanding may come better ways to keep bones healthy and strong during the later years of life.

Choosing a career: An important step in life's journey

Science is a living endeavour. To flourish, it must constantly attract bright young people. But today's teenagers know that choosing a career is a major step. To make the right choice, they need answers to some basic questions. What do scientists actually do? How do you become a scientist? Is the work interesting?

To answer such questions, the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute has developed a Youth Outreach Program designed to give Toronto high school students a better idea of what scientists actually do. One of the program's key components is the annual Science Day for High School Students.

Students meet "real" scientists

"Science Day was developed for teenagers preparing to enter university science programs," explains Dr. Sharon Abel, an Institute Senior Scientist and Director of the Institute's Youth Outreach Program. "It's intended to introduce students to the research that goes on in our Institute, and to let them meet with graduate and post-doctoral students to talk about the experience of becoming a scientist."

Over the last few years, the format of Science Day has evolved in response to student needs. Since 1995, 30 Metropolitan Toronto-area high schools have been participating in the program. Each school sends its six top science students for an intensive half-day session which includes lectures and visits to Institute labs. "With this format, we can target the best students in a large number of schools," explains Dr. Abel. This year, students chose between workshops on molecular biology and cancer, bone biology and biomechanics, neurobiology, health and disease, developmental biology and genetics, and fetal health.

Sending the teachers back to school

One of the best ways to reach high school students is through their teachers. For this reason, the Institute has developed the *Teach the Teachers* program to give high school teachers a chance to learn about the latest developments in biomedical research from practicing scientists. Organized by Dr. William Mak, Instructor in Biotechnology at Seneca College, the program brings selected Toronto-area high school teachers into the Institute for a week of lectures, discussions and hands-on laboratory work. This year, the Institute plans to expand its outreach program still further.

SciHigh will offer a "personal view" of science

A new initiative called ***SciHigh*** will send teams consisting of one male and one female Institute graduate student out to Toronto-area high schools to talk science to teens in grades nine and ten.

"We plan to focus on these grades because we want to turn high school students on to science," explains Dr. Abel. "Our team members will talk about what attracted them to science and why they find it interesting. It will be a very personal interaction, not a lecture."

By introducing teenagers to young scientists who can tell them about the excitement of a career in science, the Institute is helping young Canadians take a vital step on their journey through life - the decision about which career is best for them.

When cancer runs in the family

SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY IS ALREADY BRINGING tangible benefits to patients. For example, research has improved the diagnosis and screening of patients with hereditary forms of cancer.

Breast cancer, which affects one of every 10 women in North America, sometimes runs in families. Inherited breast, ovarian and colon cancers are now being intensively studied by Institute scientists in partnership with Mount Sinai's Pathology Department and the Ontario Cancer Genetic Network (OCGN), a provincially funded organization that investigates hereditary cancers in the province.

"We're trying to answer questions ranging from: 'what's the definition of a high-risk family?' to 'what are the effects of certain mutations on individual outcomes?'" explains Dr. Irene Andrulis, a Senior Scientist in the Institute and OCGN Director. "We're particularly interested in detecting mutations in genes which predispose people to breast, ovarian or colon cancer." The OCGN and doctors at Mount Sinai are also heavily involved in counselling patients and their relatives from families at high risk for inherited cancers.

By studying high-risk cancers, scientists hope to learn about the much larger number of cases where heredity does not play an obvious role. "We're not just interested in high risk cases," says Dr. Andrulis. "We're looking at the frequency of these mutations in low-to-moderate risk cases, and we're trying to learn what role environmental factors play in the disease.

"Some of the genes involved in breast cancer don't put the carrier at 100 per cent risk. For example, some individuals of Ashkenazi (European) Jewish descent carry certain mutations in the BRCA 1 and 2 genes. Their risk of breast cancer is about 56 per cent and the risk of ovarian cancer is about 16 per cent. Yes — there are a lot of people who will get breast or ovarian cancer. On the other hand, there are also a lot who won't, even though they carry the very same mutations. So the next question is: 'why not?' Are there other genes that are protective? These are the type of things we want to find out."

Cancer patients with a strong family history of ovarian or breast cancer are referred to one of the OCGN's clinics across the province. There, a medical history is taken and analyzed. Patients from confirmed high-risk families are offered counselling and genetic testing. If they accept, and if test results identify a genetic risk for hereditary cancer, patients' family members also become eligible for counselling and testing.

The Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre at Mount Sinai is a member of the OCGN. "Among other things, we assess familial risk here," explains Centre Director Dr. Pam Goodwin, also a Senior Scientist in the Institute. "We determine whether patients have a strong family history of breast or ovarian cancer. If they do, we offer genetic testing and help with interpreting test results. And if testing reveals the presence of mutations associated with breast cancer, we talk to them about management of their risk."

Dr. Goodwin is also heavily involved with research into the genetics of breast cancer. "We're especially interested in the effect of mutations on breast cancer outcomes and in the impact of different treatments," she explains. This research has immediate as well as long-term value. "As we learn more about the biology of breast cancer, we can help patients make clearer, better-informed choices about options such as prophylactic surgery."

The Institute is also studying hereditary forms of colon cancer. "About one per cent of colon cancer cases are caused by an inherited form of the disease known as FAP (Familial Adenomatous Polyposis)," explains Dr. Steven Gallinger, Scientist in the Institute and Co-Director of The Steve Atanas Stavro Familial Gastrointestinal Cancer Registry.

Dr. Gallinger, with Dr. Andrulis, co-directs Mount Sinai's Centre for Cancer Genetics, a unique multidisciplinary program that brings together clinicians, genetic counsellors, ethicists, pathologists and researchers interested in the problem of inherited forms of cancer.

Individuals with FAP have characteristic mutations in a gene called APC. They are certain to develop colon cancer at some point in their adult life. About 300 FAP families in Canada are registered with The Steve Atanas Stavro Familial Gastrointestinal Cancer Registry at Mount Sinai.

"We can now look for a mutation in this gene in families with a history of FAP," explains Dr. Gallinger. "If we find it, we can test other people in the family to see if they also have the mutation. If they do, they're almost certainly going to get the disease unless action is taken. However, if the colon is removed, their cancer risk is almost eliminated."

We believe that genetic factors contribute to almost every cancer.

Cheaper, more effective testing

"JUST AS IMPORTANT, IF YOU ARE FROM one of these families, but you haven't inherited the mutation, then we can inform you that your risk of developing colon cancer is the same as the general population. You don't have to have colonoscopies every couple of years at such a young age. Anxiety and discomfort are reduced — and so is the cost of inappropriately screening these people by the clinical method."

Dr. Gallinger and collaborators across the province are also setting up The Ontario Registry for Studies of Familial Colon Cancer, a large scale registry for patients with HNPCC (Hereditary Non-Polyposis Colon Cancer), a hereditary form of colon cancer which accounts for about five per cent of cases. The registry will collect family history data and samples from HNPCC patients over a three-year period. The resulting library of data and tissue samples from patients will be a very valuable scientific resource — one that will help researchers in their search for the as-yet-unknown genes which play a role in both inherited and non-hereditary forms of colon cancer.

"We believe that genetic factors contribute to almost every cancer," says Dr. Gallinger. "We've now identified single gene diseases where if you have a specific abnormality in a critical gene, you have a very high likelihood of developing the disease, and it's a pretty obvious correlation. The challenge for the next decade is to understand polygenic diseases in which a patient may have five or six or perhaps 20 minor abnormalities in genes rather than one major mutation of the type that causes FAP or HNPCC."

Malfunctions in our genes undoubtedly contribute to many of the serious diseases and deteriorative disorders associated with old age. One of the most painful of these is osteoarthritis, which attacks and gradually destroys the cartilage of joints. Osteoarthritis increases substantially in people over 55, and can have a very negative effect on quality of life.

Senior Institute Scientist Dr. Tony Cruz and his colleagues are working to understand osteoarthritis. "We're focusing on the molecules involved in the breakdown of articular cartilage," says Dr. Cruz. "The loss of cartilage results from an imbalance between degradation and synthesis. One of the reasons for this shift toward degradation is an increase in the production of enzymes called metalloproteases which break down cartilage. We've been trying to identify the genes which regulate the production of these enzymes and the specific DNA sequences that regulate their expression."

Sending messages by molecule

UNDERSTANDING EVENTS AT THE MOLECULAR level is bringing scientists ever closer to a fundamental understanding of how living creatures develop and function. Ground-breaking research by Senior Scientist Dr. Tony Pawson, Head of the Institute's Program in Molecular Biology and Cancer and holder of the Apotex Chair in Molecular Oncology, has yielded important insights into how cells communicate, using "molecular messages" to convey information to each other. Intercellular communication allows the cells in our bodies to grow, proliferate, specialize and respond to dangerous events like infection or wounding in an organized, harmonious fashion.

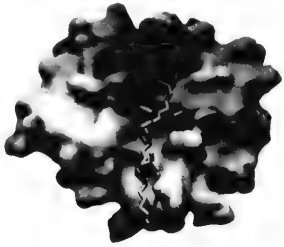
"What makes us different from an amoeba is the ability of our cells to 'talk' to one another," says Dr. Pawson. "It's a fundamental feature of complex organisms such as ourselves. Also it turns out that many — or even most — diseases represent a breakdown in the process of communication. For example, in cancer, the affected cell 'thinks' it's being told to grow when it's not. The communication process has broken down. In a sense, the cancer cell is 'hearing voices.'" Other major diseases such as diabetes, atherosclerosis and Alzheimer's may also be caused by problems in cell communication.

How do cells "talk" to each other? When a cell sends a signal to another cell, it does so with a molecule — a hormone or a factor like insulin. Signalling molecules bind to a receptor on the target cell and pass along the "message." The receptor then relays the message, inducing a change in cell function.

"We're especially interested in what happens in the target cell once the receptor is activated," explains Dr. Pawson. "We've learned that each cell contains what we call 'modules.' These are protein components which are common to many different proteins. Signals are transmitted within a cell via a series of interactions between these protein modules. It's a sort of molecular communications code."

Scientists are now beginning to comprehend the basics of this code — and the implications are enormous. Cell signalling is so fundamental that a better understanding of it may pave the way for dramatic breakthroughs in medical practice. "The ground is moving under our feet," jokes Dr. Pawson.

As so often happens in science, Dr. Pawson and his colleagues came to their initial insights on cell signalling via research on something quite different. "In fact, we were investigating an obscure cancer virus in chickens," recalls Dr. Pawson. "Real fundamental breakthroughs in understanding often come that way — which just underlines the vital importance of supporting basic, untargetted research."



Standing on the threshold

RESEARCH DONE AT THE SAMUEL LUNENFELD RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND OTHER CENTRES around the world is bringing us to an exciting threshold. "We first have to understand the mechanisms that underlie disease," says Dr. Bernstein. "And now, for the very first time, we are beginning to understand those mechanisms. It's happened so quickly that most people don't quite realize it."

"The challenge now is to exploit this new knowledge," says Dr. Bernstein. "In cancer for instance, can we develop therapies which will only kill those cells with mutations? Can we exploit our new understanding of the molecular code by which cells talk to each other to devise new ways of treating disease? It seems likely that this fundamental understanding of health and disease will lead to entirely novel approaches to therapy."

What is needed is a long-term commitment. Research costs money and takes time. Is Canadian society prepared to make a long-term commitment?

"Research should not be viewed as an expense, but as an investment," says Dr. Bernstein. "As a nation we spend billions of dollars on health care. We reinvest only a very, very small amount of our health care dollar in research. That would be okay if we could cure most diseases. The fact is, we can't."

Medical research is not only an investment, it is a tried-and-true way to create sustainable employment. "Stimulating health research is a fabulous way to ensure new jobs for young people in an exciting, knowledge-based industry," says Dr. Bernstein.

The Institute itself provides a good example of the economic benefits of research. Not only does it employ people (including over 160 young scientists), but it also helps create jobs by partnering with large pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to translate its research findings into new medical tools. Some Institute scientists have also started spin-off companies to turn pure research into new therapies. For example, Dr. Jim Dennis, Senior Scientist at the Institute, together with colleagues from the University of Toronto, has launched a company to develop new treatments for cancer and other diseases.

"By investing money to make people healthy, we invest in everyone's future," says Dr. Bernstein. "Scientific research leads to exciting new insights into how our bodies work. These discoveries, in turn, lead to new technologies, new understanding of disease, new companies and new jobs. We ensure that health care will be better in the years ahead. We ensure our children will benefit from having the best medicine science can devise. It's one of those rare situations where everyone truly wins." ●

Summary Of External Research Funding	March 31 1997
Medical Research Council of Canada	4,311,753
National Cancer Institute of Canada	2,941,283
National Sciences & Engineering Research Council	292,665
Health and Welfare Canada	125,674
Ontario Ministry of Health	162,043
The Canadian Arthritis Society	88,950
Connaught Fund	14,677
Leukemia Research Society	37,420
Multiple Sclerosis Society	107,555
National Institute of Health (U.S.)	1,125,553
Hospital for Sick Children Foundation	96,173
Kidney Foundation of Canada	37,300
Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation	325,133
Physician's Services Incorporated	222,164
Human Frontier Science Program	80,777
National Sanitarium Foundation	756,832
Other Charitable Foundations	681,064
Private and Corporate Donations	284,131
University of Toronto	242,899
Funding for Clinical Trials	165,074
Research Contracts	3,788,738
Federal Government Contracts	96,250
Funding from Clinical Departments	920,552
Other Sources	274,774
Overhead from Contracts	767,744
Licensing Income	96,430
Total	**18,044,127**

Research at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute is only possible through the securement of highly competitive peer-review funding and the ongoing generosity of the private and corporate communities. Every year the Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation grants approximately $5.6 million to the Institute to support the core costs of research programs. This grant is made possible through the generosity of many individuals in our community. The following leadership gifts support our research excellence.

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The Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Centre
The Koffler Chair for the Director (Chair is held by Dr. Alan Bernstein)
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The Samuel Lunenfeld Charitable Foundation
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The Julius Resch Endowment Fund
The Anna H. Schulich Endowment for Cancer Research
The Scotiabank Scientist for Breast Cancer Research (Held by Dr. Irene Andrulis)
The Lilian and Jack Stupp Cancer Research Program in honour of Saul Dawson
The Anne Tanenbaum Chair in Molecular and Developmental Biology (Chair is held by Dr. Alan Bernstein)
Harold Tanenbaum Endowment Fund
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- ⌟ Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute Community Report 1995/1996
- ⌟ Mount Sinai Hospital Annual Report 1996/1997
- ⌟ Dr. Lou Siminovitch Young Scientist Initiative Brochure
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Do you have any comments about this report? _____

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Rabbi Gunther Plaut marks birthday and book launch. *Page 6*

Premier Mike Harris helps honor Holocaust heroes. *Page 14*

Sephardim were also victims of Nazis. *Page 24*

Health

Israel's physicians search for new treatment methods. *Page 37*

Arts

Toronto-born actress Mia Kirshner, 22, the antithesis of a Hollywood star. *Page 38*

Sports

Maple Leaf defenceman Mathieu Schneider chosen to play on U.S. Olympic hockey team. *Page 46*

Index

GTA 4
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
Just Between Us 19
What's New 22
On Campus 27
National 28
International 33
Health 37
Travel, Arts & Business 38
Classified 42
Sports 46
Crossword 47
Ask Jesse 47

Shabbat: Vayera
Candlelighting: 4:36
Cheshvan 14, 5758
Havdallah: 5:41

Is PA hiding arms for Iraq?

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — The Palestinian Authority's (PA) embassy in Baghdad is being used as a repository for secret documents that relate to Iraq's buildup of unconventional weapons, Iraqi opposition sources said last week.

They said the site's diplomatic immunity evidently keeps the documents beyond the reach of UN arms inspectors.

The documents relate to the purchase of raw materials required for Iraq's manufacture and deployment of weapons of mass destruction, a senior figure in the underground movement to overthrow President Saddam Hussein said.

He attributed his knowledge of the documents' contents to "sources inside Iraqi intelligence."

Continued on page 36

Axworthy in Israel

OTTAWA — Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy has begun his week-long trip to the Middle East. He was scheduled to visit Israel on Nov. 11.

Axworthy is also slated to visit Cairo, Amman, Beirut, Damascus, Ankara, and the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He will lead a 15-member Canadian business delegation to the fourth Middle East/North Africa Economic Conference in Doha, Qatar.

While in Israel, Axworthy was expected to pursue clarification on the steps taken by Israel to ensure that Canadian passports will not be misused again.

Details in next week's *CJN*.

GAS MASKS ON DISPLAY

A man carries boxes of newly issued gas masks for himself and his family in an exchange centre in Jerusalem run by the Israeli army. On the wall behind him is a display of different types of masks. Tensions between Iraq and the UN caused Israelis to take their gas masks out of storage. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

A look at Toronto's Jews from Russia

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Approximately 30,000 Russian Jews live in the Greater Toronto Area. In a two-part series, the first of which we publish today, Bill Gladstone looks at that dynamic and growing community on north Bathurst Street.

TORONTO — Last Yom Kippur, an estimated 5,000 people attended religious services hosted by the Jewish Russian Community Centre of Toronto at a North York high school.

Since far more showed up than the building could actually contain, many stood outside, as in previous years, unaware of what was happening inside, but ostensibly feeling a connection to the holiday and to their Jewish roots.

"They couldn't hear the services, but it was still OK for them," says Rabbi Yoseph Zaltzman, the community's spiritual leader. "They came just to socialize and be part of it."

Although they remain largely an unintegrated mass with limited connections to organized Jewish life, the Russians are the single largest group of Jews in the Greater Toronto Area. Estimates of their number range from 25,000 to 35,000. More arrive each month.

So many Russian-Jewish immigrants now live along the Bathurst Street corridor, particularly between Sheppard and Steeles avenues, that cyrillic street signs are common. Furthermore, Russian seems to be the predominant language in scores of apartment buildings and it's hard to find a bakery, restaurant or pharmacy where you're not served by a Russian-Jewish émigré. There are Russian-style restaurants, nightclubs, grocery stores, Russian-speaking doctors, dentists, lawyers, driving schools, even several Russian newspapers.

North Bathurst Street, of course, is no Brighton Beach, New York's immensely colorful ethnic neighborhood that boasts almost

Continued on page 31

INSIDE

Proposing a code of conduct for Israeli PA negotiations.
Please see page 9.

-1836 today
h News
week.

Albright set to tackle difficult Mideast issues — please see page 33

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Greater Toronto Area

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Rabbi slams suggestion to reduce aid to Israel

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Israel has been "dragged" into the controversy over conversions because of the Law of Return's definition of who is a Jew, says Rabbi Reuven Bulka of the Orthodox Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa.

Rabbi Bulka, chair of the Canadian Jewish Congress' unity committee, deplored any attempt to reduce aid to Israel, describing it as the guardian of all Jews.

Speaking to a large crowd at the Conservative Adath Israel Congregation, he gave a lengthy review of divisive crises in Jewish history, while at the same time, questioning certain moves by Reform proponents in the conversion dispute.

In Israel itself a three-month reprieve is in effect on the legislation before the Knesset, which would legalize only Orthodox conversions performed there.

"I don't have a lot of good to say about patrilineal descent," he said. "I understand it, but the Canadian Reform rabbis are not rushing to embrace it. It's a mistake for the Reform. Once you open the door the Reform movement will see a big drop in conversions because the need will be over.

"Most Reform rabbis do not think it is wise to force Israel to accept patrilineal descent."

He said he did not agree that the legislation on conversions would "delegitimize" Conservative and Reform rabbis in Israel.

In the discussion period, Rabbi Bulka said it would be "terrific" if Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbis in Toronto could get together. "The worst thing would be to give up the attempt."

He was replying to a statement by Rabbi Steven Saltzman of Adath Israel that Orthodox rabbis are refusing to meet with their Conservative and Reform colleagues on any subjects, including aid to Israel.

A piece of noble legislation

One of the problems in Toronto, Rabbi Bulka said, is that some congregations are so large they are a community of their own. Rabbis of all denominations get together in Ottawa, he said.

Rabbi Saltzman said: "I don't know if we [Conservatives and Reform] are so innocent and the Orthodox so guilty. How tolerant are we of Orthodox? I wonder about letting gays and lesbians pray at the Western Wall."

Rabbi Bulka described the Law of Return as "a piece of noble legislation," and said Soviet Jews could not have been rescued without Israel.

But, in the important and urgent rush to save Jews from the Soviet Union, Israel and the Diaspora have created a "Jewish problem," Rabbi Bulka said.

The Ne'eman commission in Israel recommending that all conversions be approved by the Jewish Agency is a good first step, he said.

"For us to expect the government of Israel to consider opposition in North America is like whistling in the wind."

It is only "political reality" to realize that Israel's government will capitulate to its religious partners on the conversion bill in order to stay in power, he said.

"Let's try to solve this problem in North America."

In the question period, Rabbi Bulka denied that he was offering an apology for the actions of the Orthodox.

One discussant said the speaker had failed to point out that those opposing the conversion bill are not stopping their aid to Israel, but asking it be directed to non-religious projects.

There is tolerance "to a degree" in Israel to non-Orthodox religions, Rabbi Saltzman said. "I was a rabbi in Israel for five years and I was able to function though I couldn't perform weddings."

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

Members of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada recently held their annual parade and service. They marched from Earl Bales Park to Beth Radom Congregation for a remembrance service. [Ron Csillag photo]

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From the editor's desk

Letter writing campaign fails to persuade

Across my desk last week I received nine letters concerning the City of David Christian missionary church, which opened two months ago in the Steeles and Bathurst area north of Toronto.

As readers may recall, the opening of the church evoked a sharp and angry response from the Jewish community. Both the opening and that response were the subjects of considerable press coverage in the Jewish and general media.

Although the controversy surrounding the church has subsided, the "file" is still open.

In its editorial of Sept. 18, *The CJN* regretted the opening of the church and deplored the use in its sign of the term synagogue alongside Hebrew writing.

The letters we have received have been, obviously, in response to our editorial. Some of the letters are addressed personally to me; some are copies of correspondence sent to the landlord, or to the property manager, or to other media outlets.

It is clear however, from the common phrases that appear in all of the letters that they are part of a centralized, orchestrated write-in campaign.

Rather than reproduce the letters in our letters-to-the-editor section, I have chosen to respond in this space to the letter-writers' main arguments.

• Almost all of the letters begin with an affirmation – the term affirmation appeared a great deal in the letters – of Christianity's Jewish roots.

"First, let me affirm that our roots are Jewish. Historically everyone must agree that Christ was a Jew, the twelve Apostles were Jews and all but one of the New Testament authors were Jewish," wrote Dr. Nelson J. Annan, senior pastor of Bayview Glen Church.

"Our faith in Jesus and our commitment to the Scriptures have imparted to us a deep and sincere love for Jewish people, and a sympathy for their causes and concerns," wrote Linda Russell.

As plainly stated, these affirmations are intended to establish the writers' understanding of and empathy for Jewish theology and the Jewish people. They hope thereby to prove their benign and bona fide intentions towards the Jews. One notes, however, that converting a Jew away from his or her faith is among these benign and bona fide intentions.

There is no concession, nor even slight discomfort with the notion that Jews should be allowed to remain Jews. In fact, the opposite is true for our letter writers. It is a high obligation for them and their colleagues to lead Jews, whose shared common past with theirs they affirm, to embrace Christianity.

• Pastor Annan, is "appalled at the threat to freedom of religion and freedom of speech that has [sic] been raised by those opposed to the Messianic Synagogue.

"Surely our most basic freedoms would allow a gathering to call themselves whatever they wish," he wrote.

In my view, Pastor Annan is absolutely wrong; otherwise, there would be no need for rules regulating accuracy and honesty in any consumer field, labelling and packaging, for example.

In light of the true purpose of the church, it is imperative that the "consumer" public be fully aware of exactly what and who they are.

That is the minimum requirement of elementary honesty.

• "Surely, in a free country, they are free to locate wherever they wish," wrote Pastor Annan.

Regrettably they are. Even though their purpose is patently transparent. We lamented their purpose in *The CJN* editorial. But we took no issue with the exercise by the church of its right to locate in the north Toronto plaza. We did take issue with the manner in which they opened up.

• Bob and Sue Buckley of Toronto "object to the obvious discriminatory tactics which the leaders of the Jewish community are exerting upon Aetna Life."

The Jews are accused of discriminating against the City of David for deigning to want to protect ourselves, our children, our newly-arrived immigrants, against being victimized by proselytizers.

Echoing original defamation

• A recurring theme that coursed through all of the letters was: "I am saddened that Aetna Canada is bowing under pressure from the perpetrators *of this persecution* at the expense of the City of David. (My emphasis)

The Jews are accused of persecuting the members and especially the pastor of the City of David. The very language – "persecution" – is an echo of the original defamations some 2,000 years ago, levelled against the Jewish people by doctrinaire Christians, and for which the Jewish people have paid in blood down through the years.

None of these arguments, all of which appeared in variation in the correspondence, is persuasive or moving in the slightest. Nor should we individually or as a community feel defensive over our vigorous efforts to expose and curtail the conversion efforts of the messianic church that calls itself City of David.

Defending Judaism is no less legitimate an activity, *intrinsically*, than promoting Christianity. The letter-writers do not seem to understand this, despite their professed affirmation of common Jewish roots. They have no loyalty, let alone true sympathy, for Judaism. Their loyalty is to their own faith. But they take umbrage when we Jews express loyalty to our faith, especially when it means choosing to remain Jewish.

In light of these renewed efforts by proselytizers to "capture" more Jews, I repeat the essential points of the editorial of Sept. 18:

"A synagogue is where Jewish prayers are heard, where Jewish doctrine is practised, where Jewish theology is taught and where the Jewish faith is worshipped. City of David is not a synagogue. The use of the term is fraudulent, as is the use of Hebrew on their sign. Both usages are insidious, calculated only to create the association with Judaism and therefore the assumption in the mind of the unknowing public that the place is Jewish. And that association of course is a magnet drawing toward it the confused, the curious and always the lonely.

"The issue for us is not the attempt to proselytize Jews away from the faith of our forebears, although we find the attempt to do so an indignity and contemptible.

"The issue for us is the manner by which this group exercises its right. They venture into the very core of Toronto's Jewish world and by guile and deceit, lure their prey into their anti-Jewish snare."

The writers who invoked the Charter of Rights and Freedoms are conveniently inconsistent and curiously inconsistent when they seek the charter's protection but deny it for others. If the City of David has a right to convert Jews, then the Jews have a right not to be converted.

It is not a subtle argument.

MBD

Correction

In the story, "BJC prepares tp welcome CHAT to its site" (*CJN*, Nov. 6), incorrect information was given. The new Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) building at the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) is a joint project of CHAT, the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto and the BJC.

THE SIX BIGGEST MISTAKES PEOPLE MAKE WHEN MANAGING THEIR INVESTMENTS

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Here are some of the biggest mistakes people make when managing their investments.

1. People rarely know what it is they actually want to accomplish with their money.

Good things rarely happen until investors set specific financial goals and then direct their actions towards the realization of those objectives. Most people simply don't have a financial plan; perhaps it is because they are impatient or they believe they can only get rich from lotteries. What most people don't understand is that money, well invested, can accumulate into significant wealth.

2. Too many people procrastinate endlessly about making financial decisions.

Most investors wait for the "time to be just right" before starting an investment program. Usually, they are baffled by the sheer variety of options and choices and lack the knowledge to act decisively. This procrastination can end up being the greatest barrier to reaching financial goals. The reality is, the time may never be "just right" when investing money. Keep in mind, time is against you. You cannot turn back the clock and regain the compounded growth that has been lost. Worse yet, every day puts you closer to the day when you will need your retirement savings to maintain your lifestyle.

... to be continued

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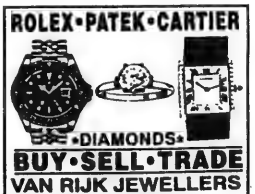

Greater Toronto Area

Early resumption of Syria talks seen as remote

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The prospect of an early resumption of bilateral peace talks between Israel and Syria remains remote, says an Israeli specialist in Syrian affairs.

"I'm not optimistic that a formula can be found to bridge the positions of both sides," Moshe Maoz cautioned in an interview last week.

Theoretically, Israel and Syria are interested in resuming negotiations, which were suspended by the Israeli government in February 1996 after Syria failed to condemn a wave of Hamas and Islamic Jihad suicide bombings in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Ashdod.

Nevertheless, Syria's and Israel's respective positions remain far apart, observed Maoz, a Hebrew University professor of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, as well as director of the Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace.

An impasse exists because Syrian President Hafez al-Assad wants talks to begin at the point they left off, while Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu insists that oral understandings reached by Israel and Syria are nonbinding.

"The chances that Syria will back down are slim, if not nil," warned Maoz, who has written a political biography about Assad and two books concerning Israel's adversarial relationship with Syria.

In his view, Assad will not sign a peace treaty with Israel unless he can reclaim the Golan Heights, captured by the Israeli army during the 1967 Six Day War.

In statements since his election more than a year ago, Netanyahu has declared that while he is prepared to enter into talks with Syria "without preconditions," the Golan, for strategic reasons, must remain in Israeli hands.

Israel has begun to modify Golan policy

"Netanyahu wants to deal with Syria on his own terms: to give the minimum and get the maximum," said Maoz, a member of a committee which advised the late Yitzhak Rabin on Arab-Israel affairs.

Assad, on the other hand, won't "sit quietly" unless the Golan reverts to Syrian sovereignty.

According to Maoz, Israel has begun to modify its policy with respect to a withdrawal from the Golan.

Within the past few weeks, he pointed out, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Foreign Minister David Levy have issued significant declarations. Mordechai has said that Israel should be prepared for territorial compromise in the interests of reaching an accord with Syria. Levy has acknowledged that a stable regional settlement without Syrian participation is unattainable.

Maoz said that Netanyahu's hardline approach may well be a bargaining ploy. But he expressed doubt whether Netanyahu could ever offer Syria tangible territorial concessions without forming a national unity government with the Labor party, headed by Ehud Barak.

Assad, he said, might have missed a golden opportunity to regain the Golan. He was basically suspicious of Rabin's reported offer to relinquish the Golan in exchange for a full-blown peace treaty. Besides, negotiations were still under way and a historic breakthrough was not imminent.

Maoz, here at the invitation of the Israeli Consulate, rejected the thesis that Assad is insincere regarding his desire for peace with Israel. "I don't buy this argument."

Assad, he said, is ready for a pragmatic accommodation encompassing mutual diplomatic relations, non-belligerency and a degree of normalization, but only if he regains the Golan and is assured of better relations with the United States.

If a political settlement eludes him, Assad may well opt for a war of attrition against Israeli forces on the Golan, similar to the one he launched in the aftermath of the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

He could also exert pressure on Israel by increasing his support for Hezbollah, which is locked in an increasingly costly mini war with Israel in southern Lebanon.

As a result, Israeli casualties there, which have reached record levels this year, would almost certainly rise.

Citing another scenario, Maoz speculated that Syria, in a blitzkrieg, might try to grab a slice of land on the Golan before Israel could properly respond. "Many analysts think this is in the cards, but I'm not so sure." Syria, he noted, has never gone to war without an Arab ally.

In the absence of armed conflict, he added, Assad will hew to the diplomatic track. "Assad has definite strengths as a negotiator. He is skilful, tough, cool and a devious tactician with an exquisite sense of timing. He learns from his mistakes and doesn't give up on his principles."

In Rabin, he said, Assad more or less met his match. But Rabin's protege and successor, Barak, is equally capable of negotiating with the wily Assad.

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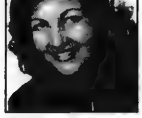
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Rabbi Plaut celebrates birthday with book launch

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — "I would come to listen to you read the telephone book." This tribute from an anonymous congregant was typical of the accolades heaped on Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut at Holy Blossom Temple as he accepted an award named in his honor.

At the same time, he celebrated his 85th birthday and launched his new book, *More Unfinished Business*, a sequel to his earlier book, *Unfinished Business*.

The title sparked a comment from Rabbi Dow Marmur, his successor, that in 10 years Rabbi Plaut will publish another volume in the series Even More Unfinished Business and a rejoinder from Rabbi Plaut that as long as life goes on there is always unfinished business.

"This book is a must read for those who are aging and want to remain active," said George Meadows, University of Toronto Press president and publisher.

A large crowd of friends and temple members watched as Rabbi Plaut cut the cake at the birthday party, his wife of 59 years, Elizabeth, at his side.

"This is a book of judgments, mostly about myself, some successes and a number of failures, nothing more, nothing less," he said.

"It may surprise you to read what I thought about my faith in God."

What surprised him, he said, was how different it is to pray in a pew in the congregation compared to praying from the podium when he was senior rabbi of the temple.

His magnum opus is a commentary on the five books of the Torah published worldwide, and a later commentary on the Haftorah. This led to light-hearted comments by Associate Rabbi John Moscowitz that no one who played tennis against him dared to defeat "the man who wrote the Torah and the Haftorah."

His career as a fighter for social justice, as a key leader of the Reform movement and as a staunch ally of Israel was outlined by Shira Herzog, a close friend.

Even when he disagreed with the policy of the Israel government on the fighting in Lebanon, he denounced the detractors of Israel, she said.

"Wisdom comes with age, and Rabbi Plaut grows even wiser as he ages."

Another chuckle came when Rabbi Marmur noted that Herzog had done the unmentionable – referred to the evening's guest as Gunther, twice.

The W. Gunther Plaut Humanitarian Award is to be presented every two years, for scholarship, leadership and commitment to human rights.

As its first winner, Rabbi Plaut was given a special bronze medallion designed by Sorel Etrog.

Excerpts from *More Unfinished Business* were read by Rabbi Plaut's daughter, Judith, his son, Rabbi Jonathan Plaut, and his daughter-in-law, Carole.

Rabbi Marmur thanked Henrietta Chesnie, the synagogue's first woman president, and Marilyn Farber for helping to arrange the evening.

United Church to aid Ukrainian Jewish couple

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A United Church minister is helping to raise funds for an elderly Jewish Ukrainian couple who can't get OHIP to pay their medical costs.

Rev. Caroline Miller, minister of Northlea United Church, has arranged use of the church where a benefit concert is to be held Nov. 25, in aid of Polia Ilvovski, 83, and her husband, Georgi, 91, whose plight was described in *The CJN*, Oct. 22.

"These people need help," she said of the Ilvovskis.

Several readers of *The CJN* have responded as well, and $230 has been turned over to the Ilvovskis.

The benefit concert will have performances by well-known singers and musicians, including Mila Filatova, a concert pianist, who is a daughter of Polia and Georgi Ilvovski, and is caring for them.

The Ilvovskis are in Canada on a minister's permit as they are considered medically inadmissible as landed immigrants. As such, they have not been eligible for OHIP, but Filatova has launched an appeal.

Northlea United Church is at 125 Brentcliffe Rd. (Laird Drive-Eglinton Avenue) and the concert begins at 7:30 p.m. All proceeds go to the Ilvovski family fund. Admission is $20 for seniors and Northlea members, and $25 for others.

For information and tickets, call Deborah Jeans or Andree Bernard 416-250-8864.

Pragmatism seen as key to Rabin's motivation

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Yitzhak Rabin was motivated by pragmatic visions of an Israel in the future, says the founder and political director of Americans for Peace Now.

Rabin stared into the future and made three observations, Mark Rosenblum told a recent meeting at Temple Sinai sponsored by Canadian Friends of Peace Now.

The first, and the worst case scenario from a military point of view, said Rosenblum, was that if Israel held onto Gaza and the West Bank, the majority of people would be Palestinian and would not want to live voluntarily in the Jewish state. "Israel would end up as a binational state racked with civil war. [He thought] that making peace with Arafat and the PLO would prevent this."

Rabin also saw in the future the emergence of a politically violent Hamas movement in Gaza that would be a mortal threat to Israel, said Rosenblum. "He wanted to try and make peace before Israel had to fight Islamic fundamentalism."

Rosenblum said Rabin also saw the plausibility of finding Arab hostile states that would be prepared to fight a war with Israel – a militant Islamic radical alliance on the eastern front.

"Because he saw these three things, he shook the hand of a man he loathed. He made this leap despite the difficulty he had in stomaching it. As a military man, he chose the better deal."

The collapse of the peace process, said Rosenblum, began with the assassin's bullet. "Not that re-election was guaranteed, but the core of Rabin's vision was correct. [With the assassination], Israel lost the most obvious person that could sell peace – a person that could sell a deal to the security hawks."

He said there is a 12 percent vacancy rate in all Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza and a new housing project does not have to be built until 2002.

"The real problem with the settlers are the desert diehards who are living to make sure that the Palestinians have no rights there. There are a modest number of militant Jews."

On a positive note, Rosenblum said that in the Arab world, "there are Palestinians who want democracy in their own society and are dovish in wanting to make peace with Israel. Our job is to help Israel grow democratic doves."

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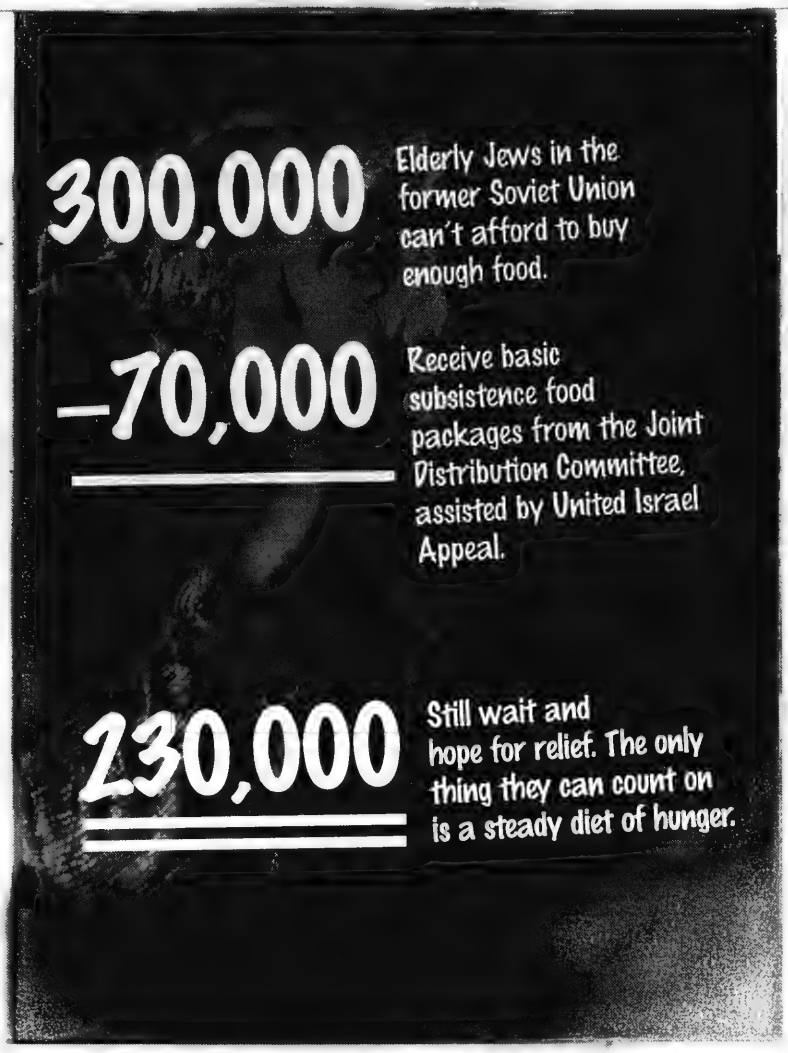
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When your UJA/CJA campaigner contacts you, please consider the astounding number of Jews who go to bed hungry every night.

No that's food for thought.

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Dry Bones
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS MEETING...
...AND THEY MAY CONDEMN ISRAELI POLICY!
SO?
THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ALWAYS CONDEMNS ISRAELI POLICY
TRUE.
BUT THIS IS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE JEWISH FEDERATIONS!

For the sake of klal Yisrael

On the occasion of the second yahrzeit of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin, one would have hoped to hear and to see evidence in Israel of a country looking inward, its people trying to hold together at the centre, facing each other in renewed understanding, refound trust and restated common purposes.

Would that it were so.

Two years after the unimaginable act, the country and the people are divided more than ever, it seems, into "camps." In political matters there are the left and the right; in religious matters there are the Orthodox, the non-Orthodox and the secular, to name but the obvious divisions. And in the "discourse" between the camps – if shouting and invective can be described as discourse – accusation and recrimination are the rule; mutuality and respect are the exception.

In the political arena, the adversariality is carried to a dangerous extreme. During a commemorative ceremony last week in honor of her brother, Rachel Rabin told an Israeli radio reporter that she felt "something terrible" was happening in Israel. She was referring to the revival of an odious conspiracy theory surrounding the assassination of the late prime minister promulgated by far-right ideologues, which implicated the late prime minister's own colleagues in his murder. On the other side of the spectrum, Uzi Landau, chair of the Knesset foreign affairs and defence committee, said the lesson of Rabin's assassination should have been "to see how we can make a truce in relations between the two parts of the nation." Instead, according to Landau, the left was embarking on "a new campaign of incitement and an ugly and undemocratic de-legitimization of the prime minister."

So deeply entrenched is the animosity toward Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the part of some Labor Party members, that as of this writing, it is not known whether he will participate in a special memorial session *in the Knesset* dedicated to the late prime minister. (Our emphasis)

People are still picking at wounds that have not yet healed. Not surprisingly, the pain sears and the entire body politic is harmed.

The religious terrain is also strewn with land mines of intolerance between the Orthodox, the non-Orthodox and the secular. Of course, in the debate on the conversion bill lies the present danger and the fallout from the explosions is reaching the Diaspora.

A compromise to the conversion "crisis" was apparently recommended two weeks ago by the seven-member commission appointed by the prime minister and chaired by Ya'acov Ne'eman. Unfortunately, the proposal was rejected by the chief rabbinate. We hope that an acceptable resolution will be found during the current three-month cooling off period. Lately, there have been small but encouraging signs to that effect.

The Mizrachi movement has publicly supported the Ne'eman commission proposal, as have some of the established rabbinate in Israel, such as the chief rabbi of Haifa.

In the interim though, the level of rhetoric between the non-Orthodox and the Orthodox, and between the non-Orthodox and the government of Israel has not yet abated, especially in the United States where the core membership of the Conservative and the Reform movements is based.

For the sake of *klal Yisrael*, the inclusive peoplehood of Israel, we plead with all the "camps" to abandon rhetoric. We must all stop speaking about hatred and division and instead, speak of tolerance and unity.

Language of hate leads to acts of hatred. We have already seen the nightmare that lies at the end of that road and we must never, ever travel there again.

WISDOM OF THE AGES

"One does not keep children from school even to build the Temple."
Talmud, Shabbat

This Week in Canadian Jewish History

Nov. 13 1890, award-winning poet Isidore Goldstick of London, Ont., was born in Latvia.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Ad insulted this Orthodox Jew

I found the advertisement for the New Israel Fund (*CJN*, Oct. 15) extremely insulting. As an Orthodox Jew, I take great issue with the very essence of their presentation. The Torah teaches that kindness and ahavat Yisrael are the secrets to our preservation. The New Israel fund advocates a "dynamic new partnership with Israel and the Diaspora," but their advertisement promotes the opposite reaction. The attempt to equate Jewish and Christian attitudes toward religion is appalling. Furthermore, the entire advertisement is a chillul HaShem (desecration of G-d's name) because it promotes sinat chinam (baseless hatred) against fellow Jews. The unwarranted and malicious attacks on the Orthodox community only serve to weaken their arguments and fundraising efforts.

Instead of vilifying and criticizing, we should find new ways to restore the collective soul of the Jewish people. We must, in the words of the prophet Jeremiah, "turn our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh," and thereby rekindle the life forces which make us Jewish.

The majority of Orthodox Jews in the Diaspora and in Israel support some forms of religious pluralism. True Torah observant Jews treat everyone with kindness, tolerance and respect. All Jews, regardless of their levels of observance of the Torah, would welcome "a new dynamic partnership" aimed at promoting Jewish continuity. The answers are found in our Torah and not in western standards of equality and justice which fall short of those Torah principles.

I know very little about the New Israel Fund, but based on their advertisement, they are not worthy of our support. *The CJN* should promote Jewish organizations which seek to unify the Jewish people in Canada, not further divide us. We must look for ways to promote ahavat Yisrael, not sinat chinam. The struggle for pluralism and religious freedom will never be achieved if we vilify our brothers and sisters in the Diaspora or in Israel. Baseless hatred destroyed the Jewish state in 70 CE. We must not allow it to destroy Israel today on the eve of its 50th anniversary.

Dan Ashkenazy
Montreal

Soap made of Shoah victims

I was greatly disturbed by an article (*CJN*, Oct. 9), in which Sol Littman and Prof. Jacques Kornberg are quoted as saying that there is no proof that human remains were used by the Nazis to make soap.

I have seen such soap with my own eyes. When I was a child in Poland in the 1950s, I clearly remember that my father brought home 15 to 20 pieces, which had been given to him for burial by a non-Jew. My father was a synagogue official (baal koreh) in Legnica, Lower Silesia. He was known in the family and in the community for the truth of his word. He was very sombre the day he brought the soap home and didn't want to talk much about it. He would not let me touch it, but he told me what it was. He explained that he was taking it for burial.

I can see the image of the soaps in my memory just as I have recalled them many times over the years. In my heart I know it was true. I resent reading that there is no evidence. The evidence is perhaps buried in the Jewish cemetery in Legnica, Poland.

A. Weisberg
Toronto

Move in Montreal will not save rent

Re: Your article (*CJN*, Oct. 30) on the dispute over the move of Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q) in Montreal.

It would appear from a perusal of the FEDERATION CJA budget proposal for CJC-Q that CJC-Q would save $58,000 in rent it now pays towards the operating costs of Samuel Bronfman House. This is because FEDERATION CJA is offering to house CJC-Q free of any rent. If this move takes place as suggested, not one cent of the $58,000 will result in any savings to the Montreal or the national community. These expenses relate to continuing expenses such as building maintenance and contract items, heating, insurance and taxes. The expense of carrying the "free rent" now will come from the Montreal Jewish community.

Insofar as program dollars are concerned, the bulk of the reduction resulted from the 1991 Lithwick Report. This resulted in CJC across Canada giving up several of its services, which were turned back to the local federations. The budgets of all CJC regions were reduced to reflect this transfer of service responsibility. These services included Yiddish and Holocaust.

Yes, the CJC-Q program budget was cut back and they, like all other regions, learned how to do their work with less money. While I was the national treasurer during whose term of office most of these cutbacks took place, I do not know of a single project request for additional funding that was denied.

If there is any emphasis to be placed on this issue, I believe that the decision has to result from process. It is unrealistic for FEDERATION CJA or CJC-Q to expect the national CJC to complete a study of the ramifications of such a move, receive reassurances from both FEDERATION CJA and CJF (the national funding body) within the six-week period requested.

Stanley Abbey
Montreal

Oldest synagogue in the United States

In the article about the Charleston, S.C. synagogue (*CJN*, Oct. 15), you said the oldest synagogue in the United States is in New York City. Other sources refer to the Touro Synagogue in Newport, R.I., as the oldest. It was built in 1763.

Sid Cohen
Windsor

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Proposing a code of conduct for peace negotiations

By DAVID H. GOLDBERG

In his Sept. 29 speech at the opening of the 52nd session of the United Nations General Assembly, Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy proposed five principles of interaction between Israelis and Arabs that collectively constitute a "code of conduct" for peacemaking.

The purpose of this code of conduct, Levy explained, is to "facilitate uninterrupted negotiations and crisis management, and to create an atmosphere of dialogue. This code must meet the sensitivities and needs of both sides. We believe that the adoption of [this code of conduct] will allow us to overcome the present crisis and help in preventing future ones as the negotiations proceed. These rules of the game will also contribute to renewed trust between the leaders and greater confidence and understanding between the people."

The core principle of this code of conduct (in Levy's words) are: the rejection of violence as a means for achieving political goals; preservation of the framework of direct negotiations and agreement to refrain from attempts to transfer the disputes and the negotiations onto the international stage; institutionalizing permanent channels of communication, including in times of crisis; cessation of incitement, of the call to violence and jihad, and their replacement by the language of reconciliation and mutual respect; the advancement and encouragement of normalization and support for regional activities.

It is important to note that each of these principles is already addressed in the series of agreements that together make up the Oslo accords.

For instance, in his exchange of letters with Yitzhak Rabin on Sept. 9, 1993, Chairman Yasser Arafat declared. "The PLO commits itself to the Middle East peace process, and to a peaceful resolution of the conflict between the two sides, and declares that all outstanding issues relating to permanent status will be resolved through negotiations." Following from this commitment, the Palestinian leadership and Israel agreed, in the Olso Two Agreement of Sept. 28, 1995 (Article XXI), to establish a permanent mechanism of dispute resolution through direct bilateral communications. Nevertheless, from Israel's perspective, the Palestinian Authority (PA) has sought to circumvent this mechanism when disputes have arisen in negotiations, choosing instead, to appeal its case directly to foreign governments, media and the "court of international opinion."

With regard to the fourth principle of conduct noted above, i.e., the "cessation of incitement," the Gaza-Jericho Agreement of May 1994 (Article XXI) states: Israel and the PA "shall seek to foster mutual understanding and tolerance and shall accordingly abstain from incitement, including hateful propaganda against each other, and without derogating from the principle of freedom of expression, shall take legal measures to prevent such incitement by any organizations, groups or individuals within their jurisdiction." This commitment was reiterated in the Olso Agreement (Article XXII).

However, again from Israel's perspective, the conduct of high ranking Palestinian officials has not always been consistent with the commitment undertaken by both sides to cease using language likely to incite hatred and violence against the other. Arafat has frequently advocated jihad as a legitimate method for achieving political goals vis-a-vis Israel, and he has repeatedly avoided ruling out the Palestinian resort to terrorism and other forms of violence to express frustration over the negotiations. The infamous Palestine National Covenant has yet to be abrogated, despite repeated commitments by Arafat and the Palestinian Authority to fulfil this obligation. Palestinian officials and journalists have over time foisted a litany of wild accusations against Israelis — including allegedly infecting Palestinian children with the virus linked to AIDS — with nary a word of criticism (let alone apology) from Arafat. Finally in this regard, there has been no discernible effort on the part of the PA to incorporate an "educating for peace" program into the curriculum of schools in Gaza and the West Bank, or to impress upon average Palestinians the importance of institutionalized people-to-people contacts with their Israeli counterparts.

Admittedly, the Palestinians do have their share of grievances about the conduct of the negotiations with Israel since Oslo, especially regarding missed deadlines for implementing IDF redeployments and other elements of the Interim Agreement, settlement activity, and Israeli actions in Jerusalem. Without declaring from these serious issues, all of which must be addressed if there is to be final settlement between Israelis and Palestinians, it is necessary to place each of these grievances in proper perspective.

First, it is important to note that, for the most part, delays in meeting deadlines for IDF redeployment have been caused by security resulting from terrorist attacks. For instance, widespread popular anguish over the wave of Hamas and Islamic Jihad suicide bombings in the spring of 1996 forced the government of Shimon Peres to delay the talks over Hebron. Similarly, the Tel Aviv cafe bombing and the two multiple suicide bombings in Jerusalem earlier this year, along with widespread concern about the sincerity of the PA's determination to live up to its paramount commitment to fight terrorism, led the Netanyahu government to temporarily suspend negotiations toward implementing further redeployments (as well as the construction of a Palestinian airport and harbor in Gaza and a land-bridge connecting Gaza and the West Bank).

As for settlements: In the Sept. 13, 1993 Declaration of Principles (Article V:2-3), Israel and the Palestinians agreed to defer talks about Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza until the permanent-status phase of the negotiations. Pursuant to the Oslo Two Agreement (Article XI:3.C), all Jewish settlements were incorporated into "Area C," areas of the West Bank and Gaza still under exclusive Israeli control from which Israel agreed to undertake phased, partial redeployment "except for the issues [e.g., settlement] that will be negotiated in the permanent status negotiations." Put simply, there is nothing in the Oslo agreement that restricts Jewish settlement activity. Though the Rabin government did freeze funding for new settlements, this was never applied in practice to the construction of settlements in areas surrounding Jerusalem, nor did the Rabin and Peres governments restrict the expansion of existing settlements to accommodate natural growth.

The policy of "thickening" existing settlements has been continued by the current Israeli government. As Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu remarked: "Yitzhak Rabin himself said under no circumstances did Oslo 'preclude' the further expansion of existing settlements. And he was true to his word. Under his government, the existing settlements underwent an unprecedented expansion. I don't think you can expect me to do less." To this point Netanyahu has deferred decision on the construction of new settlements, despite intense pressure from his political supporters and members of his coalition government.

With regard to Jerusalem, it must be emphasized that there is nothing in the Oslo accords that restricts the right of Israel to build in any part of the city. To be sure, the decisions to extend the Hasmonean tunnel in the Old City, and begin construction at Har Choma without first consulting with the PA, have been widely criticized as violations by Israel of the *spirit* of the Oslo agreements. However, even Israeli critics of the current government, many of whom question the timing and political wisdom of these moves, nevertheless insist that such actions are not inconsistent with the *letter* of the Oslo agreements. Furthermore, it has been pointed out that the PA did have recourse to have its grievances over controversial Israeli actions in Jerusalem placed before the bilateral dispute-resolution mechanism established in the Oslo Agreement. Instead, the PA chose to circumvent this process and take its complaints over Har Choma directly to the United Nations General Assembly, which, sitting in extraordinary 'special emergency session,' passed resolutions that were, in the minds of critics and supporters of the Netanyahu government alike, both disproportionately critical of Israel and counterproductive.

The "handshake" on the White House lawn introduced the Oslo accords to a hopeful world. Four years later, two years after the assassination of one of the champions of the accords, Yitzhak Rabin, that hope has been all but spent. To revive a sense of hope in the possibility of peace, a code of conduct has been proposed for the parties. [RNS/Reuters]

The PA's apparent manipulation of the General Assembly and international opinion over the Har Choma dispute, as much as anything else, gave rise to discussion in Israeli circles about the need to codify the "rules" guiding the conduct of Arab-Israeli negotiations.

The fact that it is now necessary to consider instituting a formal code of conduct reflects the frustration the majority on both sides — Israelis and Arabs alike — feel over the way in which the quality of diplomatic intercourse has deteriorated since the promising start at Oslo only four years ago.

From the Palestinian perspective, an indication of Israeli compliance with this protocol will be an end to delays in concrete steps toward implementing the Interim Agreement. From Israel's perspective, early tests of the Palestinian Authority's interest in "buying into" the code of conduct include its readiness to take meaningful steps to resume security cooperation and coordination with Israel in combating terrorism, and end the renewed campaign to isolate and discredit Israel at the United Nations and other international forms.

The author is director of research and education for the Foundation for Middle East Studies.

Opinions

Show me how you live

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Some years ago, I volunteered as a docent at the Museum of Anthropology on the campus of the University of British Columbia. The museum is renown for its collection of Aboriginal art and artifacts. Its giant totem poles dominate the main room and scores of school children visit its galleries daily. It has also taken the lead in making both established and aspiring native artists an integral part of its operation.

I was guiding a group of school children through its collection of masks when one student approached me. "Are all the Indians dead?" he inquired. I was pleased to tell him that indeed no, the Indians were alive and still creating art of great power and beauty, as well as reasserting their own culture and traditions and ownership of their land.

I often think about that question. Let's reframe it. You take your children from North American Jewish communities every year to Poland and Israel. It is a natural question then to ask, "Are all the other Jews in the world dead?"

In Canada, our community is composed of Jewish immigrants from many countries and every continent. That is surely true in other communities.

Sad but true, then, that while we know intellectually that there are thriving Jewish communities here and elsewhere, we tend to teach our children that only in Israel can Jews flourish. Worse, we teach them implicitly or explicitly that only in Israel can one find authenticity of Jewish life.

I offer an extreme example of this tendency from my own life. My conversion was done by a Conservative rabbi. The status of my children is currently a matter of dispute in Israel (to put it mildly). They are not recognized as Jews by the Chabad movement. My father-in-law of blessed memory loved his grandchildren. Yet year after year he sent donations to the Lubavitch movement because he felt that they exemplified all the Jewish virtues of observance that he felt he lacked.

We tried to explain to him that the good he did as a caring father and grandfather and the good deeds for which he is remembered by his family were all he needed to be a good, indeed a wonderful Jew. We wanted to convince him that he had lived a Jewish life for 90 years. But he could not accept this, even though he knew his donations went to an organization whose actions denied the Jewishness of his own grandchildren.

Just as I do not believe that Jewish life outside Israel is inauthentic, I understand that a visit to Poland would teach anyone that the Jews are all dead. I fear, however, that by acting as if our own observance of Jewish tradition is somehow flawed as long as we insist on living outside Israel, we also teach that what we do here does not matter, that we are a dying breed, and only the Jews of Israel are alive.

No. We outside of Israel have our scholars; they have theirs. Remember the two Talmuds?

Therefore, I offer a radical suggestion for our youth movements with their flourishing travel business, to consider.

Next summer instead of visiting Poland and Israel, why not begin a vigorous attempt to initiate exchanges of Jewish youth from Canada with the following communities: Argentina (upwards of 250,000 Jews); Mexico; England; France. Well, you get the idea. Most are large communities made up of a variety of Jews – just like us. Why make them sound as if they belonged in a museum? Or even worse, why make them invisible by not talking about them at all, except in the past tense?

You could even make the exchange with France a good chance to practise French!

This is a serious proposal. We must begin to view our Jewish lives as authentic. This may horrify those who are comfortable with Israel as a surrogate for their own Jewish living, but so be it. There are living Jews in these countries, our brothers and sisters. Their communities have their difficulties, as do ours, but they work hard at living Jewishly. Ask them to teach us how they live, what their dreams and visions of Judaism are.

Our children will not, in one fell swoop, abandon the respect and connection we hope will endure between our communities and Israel. But despite predictions of the demise of Diaspora Jews, news of their death has been greatly exaggerated.

I was happy, at the end of my tour as a docent, to see classes meeting young First Nations people working at the museum, explaining their lives to children who would never again ask if all the Indians were dead (despite the best efforts of the United States Army and the Canadian bureaucracy).

They are alive and thriving. So are Jews all over the western world. Let our children learn how they live and let us teach them about our lives. It can only be good for the Jews.

Sherman in the top rank

By Shel Krakofsky in London

At a time when the most popular poetry consists of cheap postcards of shorthand thinking, political rant, street talk and the bizarre cant of performance poets, it is refreshing and exciting to read *Clusters*, the newest poetry collection (his eighth) by Kenneth Sherman from Mosaic Press.

In the poem, *In Memoriam: Adele Wiseman*, Sherman talks about "preparing myself/ for a life on the line." A teacher of literature and creative writing at York University and Sheridan College, he is the author of *Void and Voice: Essays on Historical and Literary Currents*, also published this year by Mosaic.

Sherman's is a wise, controlled and believable voice, modulated by emotions that are genuine, not forced. His language is taut, clear, confident and precise, which leads to his characteristic accessibility, wonder and often – surprise. All of this without any superficial veneer.

It has been said that when a poem stops, the reader ought to go through the windshield. This is not Sherman's practical intention but is sometimes his literary and healthy equivalent.

The title poem of Clusters is an elegant 24-part work that delves into the fiction and reality of a lengthy marriage sustained and lost, lost and sustained. "And now," he concludes, "we have all this finishing to begin."

With the two books published this year, Sherman confirms his place in the top rank of creative writers. He is a gifted, significant and important Canadian poet. What follows are two of his poems, both dealing with Shabbat as an outsider, one in a Jewish milieu, the other not. The first is from an earlier Jewish Book Prize collection, *Jackson's Point*, the second from *Clusters*.

Friday-Night Services

Walking home down main street,
I catch my reflection
in the window of the hall
where the local toughs

drink and dance.
I am startled to see
that I have forgotten
to remove my skullcap.

Gaberdine

Sabbath-breaker, I pass them in my car
as they walk beneath a sweet suburban sun.
Aside from storefront English
one might think that this is Lublin,
circa 1936, before the grave events
burned in us those questions
that seem to make their dress irrelevant:
the aristocrat's fur hat
proclaiming man-in-God is noble,
the earlocks reaching out
like a stem's searching tendril,
knee-high, page-white stockings
and the shining gaberdine –
deep beyond the darkest ink.

There is that student in the tale,
the one desiring grace,
who sought his Master not for Torah
but to watch him tie his shoelace!
Gesture. Nuance. Revelation
in the movement of a hand.
Layers in the simplest narrative.

That world has vanished,
and these, the remnant,
anachronistic yet ecstatic,
carry the word upon their lips
while we who have been given
the illusion of direction
stay lost in the flow of traffic.

* * *

Sherman is the former poetry editor of *Parchment*, Canada's annual journal of contemporary Jewish writing. Manuscript submissions should be sent to the editor, Adam Fuerstenberg, at the address below. *Parchment* may be ordered by writing to The Centre for Jewish Studies, Vanier 260, York University, 4700 Keele St., North York, Ont., M3J 1P3. It is available for $12 per year or $20 for two years.

Nobody pays attention

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Most people know that some news gets prime billing and other events are practically hidden from public knowledge. One example of this has bothered me for some time. I am referring to the news from Algeria, where large numbers of people are killed month after month. But radio and television, which are the prime news purveyors in North America (many people have given up reading newspapers altogether), make only an occasional mention of violence in Algeria and sometimes even mention a number, but it is done so quickly and so superficially that the message is obvious: "This really doesn't matter."

On the other hand, when it comes to Israel, even the smallest disturbance receives extensive treatment, and in addition there will be editorial comments to make it clear that in the opinion of the network or particular station, this is something everyone ought to know. I am of two minds about this: on the one hand, I am glad that Israel is considered important, but on the other, there is the nagging suspicion that such news is very often negative and that the positive aspects of Israel's existence continue to be under-reported.

But Algeria? A lot of people don't even quite know where the country is located, and besides, what impact does it have on Canada? Surprisingly, it does. And here's why.

I found the following information in one of the news services that I use on the Internet: "The United Nations High Commission for Refugees today warned against the hasty deportation of rejected Algerian asylum seekers in the midst of an upsurge of violence in Algeria."

As of late September, some 6,000 applicants for asylum had surfaced in Europe, the United States and Canada. Only a very small percentage were approved for acceptance and those who are returned to Algeria face almost certain death or, at the minimum, serious reprisals.

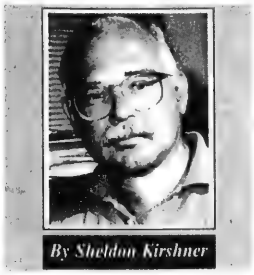
The whole refugee protection system has one principle that must be scrupulously observed: each case must be investigated on its own merits. What looks prima facie to be an open and shut case often turns out on closer examination to be all but that. After all, returning a person may expose him or her to severe retribution at home, and the whole protection system is meant to prevent such occurrence.

I mention all this only to indicate that we too are affected, although in a way that is totally unknown to most people. What we need, to begin with, is a more extensive treatment by the media of the situation in Algeria. The problem certainly is extensive enough to warrant our attention.

In an uncomfortable way, this presumed lack of public interest has the foul odor of prejudice. What takes place in Europe is presumed to be of interest; what takes place in Asia and Africa (except for Israel and the Palestinians) is not. Draw your own conclusions why this is so.

The Kirshner File

Swiss dormant funds elude a family



By Sheldon Kirshner

In 1939, before his forced departure to Riga, Latvia, Abraham Hammersfeld, a Viennese Jewish textile merchant, revealed a closely-guarded secret to his favorite granddaughter, Renee Appel. Hammersfeld, who would perish during the Holocaust, disclosed he had a bank account in Switzerland.

Fifty-eight years on, Hammersfeld's children and grandchildren are still looking for his dormant account. It is one of thousands of unclaimed accounts which have transfixed the attention of the world in the past few years.

Much to her undying frustration, Appel, a resident of Toronto, no longer remembers the name of the bank, the account number or the address of the trustee who may well have handled her grandfather's affairs in Switzerland.

Lacking this vital data, Hammersfeld's descendants have been stymied in their search for his wealth. Indeed, exactly a year ago, his grandson, Hans, who also lives in Toronto, was officially informed by the Swiss Bankers Association's ombudsman that his supposed account had not been found by its member banks. Neither did he find his name on a list of dormant account holders published by the Swiss Bankers Association in July and in October.

Given the circumstances of the case, chances are that the money may never be recovered. "They're up against tremendous odds," observed Isabel Vincent, author of *Hitler's Silent Partners: Swiss Banks, Nazi Gold and the Pursuit for Justice* (Random House), the first Canadian book on the subject. "But I hope they find the assets. It would be the nicest ending to the story."

A year in the making, *Hitler's Silent Partners* puts a human face on what Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, has described as the last chapter of the Holocaust.

But the book, one of the best of its kind, transcends the hard luck tale of a Jewish family caught up in the swirl of the German conquest of Europe. Rigorously researched and lucidly told, *Hitler's Silent Partners* assays the recurrent phenomenon of anti-Semitism; the Nazi takeover of Austria and its impact on the Jewish community; the profitable business ties between Switzerland and Germany during the war; the ambivalent role of the neutrals; the half-hearted attempts by the allies after 1945 to call the Swiss to account; and Switzerland's painful passage from denial to cooperation.

Vincent, 32, a general assignment reporter on the staff of *The Globe and Mail*, first became aware of Switzerland's commercial relationship with Nazi Germany in 1992 in Buenos Aires, when she was the newspaper's Latin America correspondent.

Covering the opening of Argentina's long-suppressed archives concerning Nazis who had escaped to Argentina after the war with the collusion of its leader, Juan Peron, Vincent came across reports of financial transfers from Swiss to German banks in Argentina.

Her appetite for the explosive topic whetted, Vincent, a Portuguese Canadian, finally tackled it with the help of a Southam Research Fellowship and the encouragement of media mogul Conrad Black. "It was a great journalistic challenge," said Vincent, who is drawn to complex stories and whose first systematic exposure to Holocaust studies was as a high school student in Toronto.

In compiling *Hitler's Silent Partners* — by turns a compassionate account of a family tragedy and a balanced report of a nation stained by scandal — Vincent travelled widely, read innumerable books, pored over countless documents and conducted some 60 interviews.

She is cautiously pleased with the book (which also has been published in German and French) and relieved that Hammersfeld's heirs , whom she met through Toronto lawyer Sergio Karas, "love" it. Vincent, too, is glad that Swiss journalists regard it as eminently fair and neither sensationalist nor an exercise in "Swiss bashing."

Considering its topicality, there are no startling bombshells in *Hitler's Silent Partners*, save for the disclosure that Gestapo agents were able to penetrate Jewish accounts in Swiss vaults. Apart from that intriguing bit of information,Vincent recites a familiar litany of facts, ranging from Switzerland's laundering of looted Nazi gold and its sale of munitions to Germany to Switzerland's current strategy for dealing with its critics.

Vincent comes down hard on the Swiss, castigating them for being neutral when it suited their interests and debunking the myth that Switzerland staved off a German invasion solely on the strength of its army and its alpine terrain.

But in her view, Switzerland is not the only country that needs to reassess its past. Neutrals like Sweden, Spain, Portugal, Turkey and Argentina also contributed to the German war effort, while the United States and its allies were remiss in failing to enforce postwar agreements relating to purloined gold in Switzerland's possession.

Vincent, though respectful of Edgar Bronfman's and U.S. Senator Alphonse D'Amato's work on behalf of Jews like Renee Appel, claims they should have consulted Swiss Jewish leaders before launching their campaign against Switzerland.

Vincent, however, saves her ultimate wrath for the Swiss, who, in her opinion, owe Jews and themselves two debts of honor. First, Switzerland must spare no effort to find the rightful heirs of dormant account holders and, second, Switzerland must "reclaim the truth" about its wartime past.

Switzerland's role as a neutral

Did Swiss banks help to prolong World War II? Adam LeBor, author of *Hitler's Secret Bankers: The Myth of Swiss Neutrality During the Holocaust* (Carol Publishing), believes so. "No other neutral country," he writes, "played as crucial a role in keeping the Nazi war machine rolling as Switzerland."

In this informative book, LeBor, a *Times* of London foreign correspondent, delves into the Faustian bargain Switzerland struck with Germany for profit and self-preservation. Swiss banks bought Nazi looted gold in exchange for hard currency, and this enabled Germany to purchase vital war material. It's not a new story, but LeBor sums it up rather well.

LeBor also deals with Allied and Axis intelligence-gathering rings in Switzerland and with German efforts to spread anti-Semitic ideas there. Interestingly enough, they did not receive a warm reception.

Nevertheless, as he points out in a chapter about its refugee policy, the Swiss government was convinced that a mass influx of Jewish refugees would disrupt financial relations with Germany.

Until it sealed its border in August 1942, an act denounced by Swiss churches, Switzerland admitted some 30,000 Jews. But by the same token, an equal number of Jewish refugees were turned away.

One Swiss official who bent the rules in the name of humanity was Paul Grueninger, a police officer who, in 1938, let in 3,600 Jews and altered their papers. He was suspended from his post, then dismissed. Le Bor recounts this shameful incident with compassion.

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Policeman honored for saving Jews

By WALTER JELEN
Special to The CJN

Paul Grüninger is an unlikely hero, but he saved the lives of 3,000 Jews and now the city of Vienna has chosen to name a school in his honor.

Guest Voices

In 1938, the sudden Nazi invasion in March threatened the lives of Vienna's Jewish population with concentration camps or murder. There was little chance of escape because all borders were closed. A small number of Jews did manage to reach Switzerland, but they were returned to the frontier, according to the prevailing law.

More than 10 percent of Vienna's population was then Jewish. At the time of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, Vienna was the glittering capital of the multinational empire. It attracted the best and brightest, among them Jews such as Sigmund Freud and Gustav Mahler. In Vienna, Theodor Herzl wrote his prophetic book *Der Judenstaat* (The Jewish State).

Simon Wiesenthal, the Nazi hunter, has observed that "Vienna was, thanks to the Jews, a superpower in the arts and sciences."

There were 90 synagogues and prayer houses in Vienna at the time of the Nazi invasion.

Many desperate Jews killed themselves.

At that time, Polizeihauptmann Grüninger, then 48, was the ranking police officer in St. Gallen. There were a large number of refugees, because close to St. Gallen was a spot called Diepoldsau, from which there was a chance to reach Switzerland, then considered the paradise of hope.

Grüninger's task was to return 3,000 Jewish refugees to Germany.

Since, he knew what fate awaited them, however, Grüninger, "the police officer with the good heart," did not return the refugees to the German border. He even falsified some documents to keep them there for a time.

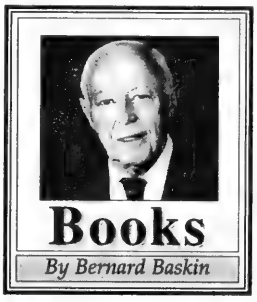
Then Heinrich Rothmund, chief of the Swiss Justice and Police Department arrived in St. Gallen. After Rothmund checked the documents, he immediately fired Grüninger for not fulfilling his duties. Grüninger also lost his pension and had to appear in court, where he was given a heavy fine.

Now the dismissed police officer had to find a job, but he had a hard time. He started as a laborer with a building firm, became a salesman, worked for a printer and sold wood.

Grüninger destroyed his career to help Jews. After the war, he was recognized to some degree for his efforts. Nahum Goldmann, who was then president of the World Jewish Congress, sent him a letter of thanks and a modest amount of money. The St. Gallen chapter of the League for Human Rights made Grüninger a honorary member. Grüninger never did get his pension back, but he received a letter of thanks from the highest authorities in St. Gallen. In it, the Registrungsrat thanked him for his acts of humanity. Grüninger, at 80, described this letter as a great joy of his life.

It took a long time for the city of Vienna to honor Grüninger, and just as long to launch a worldwide contest for the design of a monument to honor the memory of Vienna's 65,450 murdered Jews.

Walter Jelen lives in Toronto. He is a former correspondent for European newspapers.



Books

By Bernard Baskin

Authors explore Jewish history

***The Illustrated History Of The Jewish People* edited by Nicholas De Lange, essays by Jane S. Gerber, Oded Irshai, Ora Limor, Michael R. Marrus, Derek J. Penslar, Seth Schwartz, David Sorkin & Bernard Wasserstein (Key Porter Books, $50).**

***Chronicle Of Jewish History* by Sol Scharfstein (KTAV Publishing (paper)).**

***Understanding Jewish History* by Steven Bayne (KTAV Publishing, $24.95 (paper)).**

An eminent historian has lamented that most of us spend too much time in the last 24 hours and too little in the last 4,000 years.

The books under review challenge this concern with the present as they take readers on an informative and stimulating journey into the Jewish past. They come at a propitious time when, more and more, many Jews are energetically rediscovering their roots, seeking links with the creative past and connections with the protean presence.

The articles in *The Illustrated History of the Jewish People* are models of compression, filled with telling and colorful detail and unhackneyed in subject matter and presentation. Each, by a well-known historian, focuses on aspects of the past that have particular relevance for our own time.

The first article, *Beginnings* chronicles the existence of Jews from their emergence as a distinct Middle Eastern people with their own highly developed religious life to the time of the revolt against the Romans. The author writes that until the 8th century BCE, it seems likely that the two divided Jewish kingdoms were not unlike the other small states of the Eastern Mediterranean. They had a chief national god, but worshiped other deities as well.

This began to change with the rise of 8th century prophets, and reached its culmination in the reign of King Josiah (639-609) when the Book of Deuteronomy was discovered or perhaps "caused to be written."

The Making of the Diaspora continues the story from the destruction of the Temple in the year 70 CE and the subsequent dispersion of Jews into a network of communities extending over a large part of the Roman and Persian empires. It deals with the Talmudic period and the rise of the Geonim, who became the leaders of Babylonian Jewry.

A Rejected People deals with the conversion of the Roman Empire to Christianity at the beginning of the fourth century and continues through the period of the Crusaders, the expulsion of Jews from European countries and the convulsions of the Reformation and counter-Reformation for Jewish communities.

A discussion of Jews under Muslim rule is the burden of *My Heart is in the East*. This era provided Jews with conditions that were encouraging enough to develop a rich cultural life, both religious and secular. "The outstanding achievements of this era "have hardly been equalled before or since."

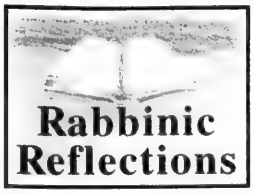
Into The Modern World covers the long period from the 17th century to 1918 when Jews confronted the multiple problems of a modern society. It brought to fruition contradictory ideologies and ways of being a Jew, many of which continue to shape Jewish life today.

The Darkest Hour, To Be A Free Nation and *The Age of Upheavals* deal respectively with the Holocaust, Zionism and the creation of Israel, and the perplexities and decisions of a divided Jewish community in search of continuity. The 150 black-and-white and color illustrations are well chosen and of unfailing interest.

* * *

Chronicle of Jewish History is a splendid survey of our people from the patriarchs to the 21st century. The hundreds of color illustrations and helpful charts complement the simply written text. This paperbound volume should have a special meaning to young adults and university students.

Understanding Jewish History by Steven Bayme draws upon the author's 20 years of experience in adult education. Each of his 34 well written chapters contains both primary source materials, extensive historical content and analyses, as well as a bibliography.



Abraham a model of the Jewish hero

By RABBI ELIE KARFUNKEL

The world defines a hero or role model as a person to be looked up to and emulated. There are many different types of heroes. Movie stars, athletes and politicians are common examples of the heroes of our day. We are drawn to many of these people for what they have achieved in the public forum. In many ways, we attempt to live vicariously through them.

A Jewish hero is quite the opposite of the stereotypical hero described above. A Jewish hero doesn't need a publicist or an agent. The lesson of the Jewish hero manifests itself in this weeks Torah reading, Parshah Vayerah.

The parshah gives us the example of our forefather Abraham, who was the quintessential man of kindness and had an unbounded faith in the Lord.

Upon receiving a visit from three angels, Abraham said, "I will fetch a morsel of bread and you will refresh yourselves." (18:5) Abraham offered the angels only a small piece of bread. But once they stopped, he prepared a sumptuous meal for them. (18:8) Abraham always put the comfort of others before his own and concerned himself only with the welfare of his fellow man.

Put comfort of others first

Later in the parshah, when faced with the test of slaughtering his son, Abraham was willing to comply without question. Abraham preached to the world that the Lord was just and rational. What would the world say now? Is this a just Lord? These were thoughts that could have entered Abraham mind, yet he did not hesitate for an instant. He was willing and ready to do this seemingly illogical act, simply because it was commanded. This was pure devotion.

Abraham paved the way for future generations of Jews to continue the Jewish tradition of kindness to others and faith in G-d. It is the Jews who remain committed to the ideals of Abraham that ensure the continuity of the Jewish people and are the true Jewish heroes.

While they are not always recognized publicly and may not have achieved greatness according to the world's standards, it is these countless Jewish heroes that we are called upon to emulate and look up to. It is through them that we ourselves can learn how to be heroes for the next generation, thereby continuing in the path of our forefather Abraham.

Rabbi Karfunkel is the spiritual leader of Beth Zion Congregation, Oshawa.

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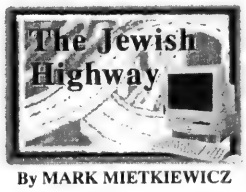


Internet has information on genetic disorders

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

One of the areas in which the Internet excels is its ability to allow people with relatively specialized needs to exchange information and even forge virtual communities around the world. One example is the field of Jewish genetic disorders. Despite the fact that these disorders are relatively rare, the Internet can help you find information, advice and even empathy from others who are facing similar challenges.

I must emphasize very strongly that although you can find a wealth of information out there, the Internet must *not* be considered a substitute for trusted medical or rabbinic experts who are familiar with your particular circumstances. Also, pay close attention to the credentials of the authors of anything you read on the Web. Not every one is a reliable or accurate source of information.

Before looking at any other article, I highly recommend the *Washington Post*'s Tricky Truths About Ethnicity and Genetics **[http://search.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/WPlate/1997-10/05/112l-100597-idx.html]**. Reading about the various genetic diseases that Jews are prone to can be quite frightening. This excellent article by Robin Marantz Henig puts the research into perspective. It explains why certain ethnic groups, such as Jews, have been tested for genetic disorders and the ironies that have resulted. "The very groups that have often been stereotyped and stigmatized for the qualities that kept them separate for hundreds or sometimes thousands of years may now be subject to a new form of [genetic] prejudice."

Some of the most famous studies about Jews and genetic diseases looked at the occurrence of mutations of breast cancer genes among Ashkenazi women and found higher rates among Jewish women. **[http://www.jcn18.com/newstand/wahrman/cancer.htm]** and **[http://www.usatoday.com/life/health/cancer/breast/lhcbr006.htm]**.

Scientists are constantly refining their research and in May, the National Cancer Institute released a report that said that although the breast cancer risk is higher among Ashkenazi women, it is lower than in previous studies **[http://rex.nci.nih.gov/massmedia/press releases/jewishgene.html]**.

If you suspect that you may be a carrier of a genetic disorder, would you get screened? Rita Rubin writes in *U.S. News and World Report* that despite the fact that two family members were both treated for breast cancer, she has decided not to be tested **[http://www.usnews.com/usnews/issue/GENEB2.HTM]**. She feels that even if she tested positive, she wouldn't change her basic health strategy of regular self-examinations and mammograms.

The controversial question of genetic screening and its ethical and halachic implications is dealt with at length in several areas on the Internet. In his essay on Genetic Screening, North Dakota State University student Mike Wetzstein gives a good overview of this issue and explains some of Judaism's concerns with genetic screening **[http://www.cc.ndsu.nodak.edu/instruct/mcclean/plsc431/students/mike.htm]**.

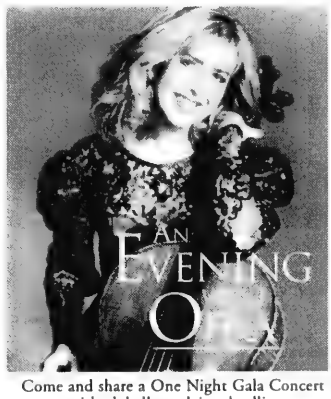
"The obligation with regard to procreation is not suspended simply because of the statistical probability that some children of the union may be deformed or abnormal."

Dr. Fred Rosner is a professor of medicine at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City. In Judaism, Genetic Screening and Genetic Therapy **[http://www.ijme.org/Content/Transcripts/Rosner/genetics.html]**, he concludes genetic screening and therapy "are permissible in Judaism when used for the treatment, cure, or prevention of disease. Such genetic manipulation is not considered to be a violation of G-d's natural law but a legitimate implementation of the biblical mandate to heal."

Next week, I'll focus on some of the creative ways people are using to the Jewish Highway to spread their message, and continue our look at Jewish genetic resources on the Internet.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].



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Mike Harris helps honor Righteous

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Yad Vashem chair Avner Shalev (right) bestowed Righteous Among the Nations status, posthumously, to Dutch Holocaust heroes Jacob and Klasiena Hamstra. Their children, Dorothy Kwantes (centre) and Hank Hamstra accepted the award. [Ron Csillag photo]

TORONTO — A choked-up Premier Mike Harris recalled his 1994 visit to the children's memorial at Yad Vashem, at a dinner last week honoring two Holocaust heroes.

"We were moved to tears by the memorial to the [1.5 million murdered] Jewish children," Harris, the guest of honor, told the audience of 500 at the dinner sponsored by the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem.

Harris said his son, aged nine at the time, was able "to grasp the horror and significance [of the Holocaust] and in some way, was able to deal with those, perhaps easier than did his mom and dad."

The lesson learned was important for members of his son's generation, "around the world, of all faiths."

The event paid posthumous tribute to Jacob and Klasiena Hamstra, a Dutch couple who hid a Jewish girl in their home during World War II.

"There have been few opportunities more emotional or important, to me than to be here to honor two of this century's most important models of courage," Harris said. "Their strength was a gift."

Yad Vashem chair Avner Shalev presented the Hamstras' son and daughter with the Righteous Among the Nations award bestowed on gentiles who risked their lives to rescue Jews during the Nazi era.

The teenaged girl who was rescued, Flora Vogel-Lirtzman, now a grandmother of eight, came from New York state to pay tribute to her saviors.

She recalled being hidden in bed with the couple's children to avoid being found during a raid by German soldiers. Klasiena Hamstra, she remembered, put a sign on the bedroom door, warning of diphtheria.

"They were like my family," Vogel-Lirtzman said tearfully.

The Hamstras came to Canada in 1950, and settled in Bradford, Ont. They both died in 1991.

Their daughter, Dorothy Kwantes, said young Flora was hidden in their home for two years, and helped with chores. She said her parents would have denied they were heroes.

Several of the Hamstras' grandchildren were in attendance.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu brought greetings in a specially prepared video.

Shalev presented Harris with a scroll making the premier an honorary trustee of Yad Vashem. Five cabinet ministers, including Attorney General Charles Harnick, were also in attendance.

Outside the Inn on the Park Hotel, about 35 protesters representing Tzedec, a Jewish social action coalition, staged a protest against Harris' presence, claiming the premier was an inappropriate guest of honor at a Jewish event.

The protesters cited the Tory government's deep cuts to education, social services, the elderly and housing.

"Mike Harris in not a righteous gentile!" they shouted to arriving guests.

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CORRECTION

The name of the chair of the fundraising dinner for the Israeli Air Force Museum, to take place Nov. 16 at the Royal Ontario Museum, was misspelled in the Nov. 6 *CJN*.

The chair is John Sereny.

The CJN regrets the error.

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Is Israel's democracy undergoing an ultra-Orthodox conversion to a theocracy?

As North American Jews, we are justifiably proud of Israel's democracy. We are quick to point out to our governments and friends that Israel is the only democracy in the entire Middle East.

But today that democracy is being threatened. Not only by external forces, but also from within. If Israel's religious right is allowed to have its way, both the democratic and Jewish character of the state are likely to be distorted beyond anything its founders could have imagined.

For years the Orthodox establishment has determined how Israelis could get married, divorced, and buried. Within today's fragile governing coalition, however, the religious parties wield disproportionate power and now seek still more influence over the daily lives of Israelis.

They are trying to undo recent Supreme Court rulings that grant some recognition to non-Orthodox forms of Judaism.They have also tried to pass the first laws in the state's history that would formally delegitimize Reform, Conservative, and Reconstructionist Judaism in Israel.

But any one group's ability to legislate its interpretation of the law and the will of God has the chilling echoes of theocracy. Is this the Israel that you would want to pass on to your children?

The New Israel Fund has played a leading role in the battle for religious tolerance and pluralism in Israel. Through a three-pronged strategy to promote these goals, we are providing support for advocacy, Jewish spiritual renewal, and dialogue among all streams of Judaism. Dozens of Israeli organizations working for religious freedom now receive grants from the New Israel Fund. In fact, it was our beneficiaries who won the very Supreme Court victories that the ultra-Orthodox now seek to overturn.

To mobilize North American Jews against religious extremism in Israel, we have provided rabbis with a resource guide on Judaism and the Jewish State. We have brought leading Israeli advocates of religious pluralism to audiences across North America. And, surrounded by TV cameras and reporters, we delivered thousands of petitions to Prime Minister Netanyahu urging him to withdraw his support for the proposed conversion law.

The New Israel Fund is one of the most dynamic partnerships today between Israel and the Diaspora. For further information about our work and a copy of our free brochure, "The Struggle for Pluralism and Religious Freedom in Israel," contact us at the numbers below.

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NOVEMBER SENDS CAMPAIGN CLIMBING

Even though the colder weather signals winter is just around the corner, November is proving to be a hot month for UJA Federation's 1998 campaign.

Four days of *Over the Top* telethons, including one at the Promenade Shopping Centre, raised more than $200,000, bringing the 1998 campaign total to over $28 million. During the four day period, 200 volunteers contacted close to 1200 community members, many of whom never contributed to the campaign before.

To date nearly 23,000 UJA Federation supporters have pledged their gift to help Jews in need all over the world.

Brian Schacter, who co-chaired this year's York Region telethon at the Promenade with Fran Gitter, said many shoppers stopped to take notice of volunteers making calls from the mall. "We raised twice as much as we did last year," noted Schacter.

Many families came out to help raise funds at UJA Federation's Promenade Telethon. *(Photo by Stephen Epstein)*

Representatives from UJA Federation's recently opened York Region headquarters were also on hand to introduce themselves to the community and distribute information about activities, programs and services available to the area's growing Jewish community. "People were pleased to see more of a UJA presence north of Steeles," Schacter added.

The final campaign thrust – *Days of Decision* - begins on December 7 and continues until December 17. *Days of Decision*, which will close campaign 98, will include a final series of telethons, special events and exciting divisional programs.

IN Jewish ACTION

No one ever said growing up was easy. In fact, many adolescents find it difficult and confusing. Rae Levy was an angry, rebellious teen who had no self-confidence and a very bleak outlook. Her troubled life on a continuous slide, Rae felt she couldn't cope any longer. That is, until she went to the Jerome D. Diamond Adolescent Centre, (JDD), of Jewish Family and Child Service, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency. There she spent four years undergoing intense therapy - learning to like herself, and taking one day at a time. JDD provides treatment to young people, aged 11-17 with a wide range of emotional and/or behavioural problems.

NOT MY CHILD

Diagnosed at an early age with a learning disability, Rae found school extremely difficult. "I always felt no matter how hard I tried, my work was never good enough," she said. Rae felt alienated and thought by "having a rough and tough attitude" people would like her.

"Things became so intense we didn't know what to do," remembered Rae's mother Rosie. "I thought because we raised our children in a warm, loving home, this kind of violent behaviour didn't happen to people like us."

It was only at JDD that Rae was assessed as having an extreme case of high anxiety - which explained her emotional state. "Through art therapy and counseling, I was taught how to channel my energy into positive thoughts," recalled Rae. "JDD was a place where I could express myself without feeling threatened."

A BRIGHT FUTURE

At the end of her treatment, Rae's school grades dramatically improved, and her morale was lifted - so much so, she received the JDD Stan Lerner Award, for the most changed student both academically and socially. "JDD has taught me never to give up. There is a meaning to life."

Today Rae is in her second year at community college, and hopes to be an art therapist to help other children with special needs "see there is a light at the end of the tunnel."

The Jerome D. Diamond Adolescent Centre provides day treatment programs focusing on education and counseling sessions with a team of experts. It's another example of UJA Federation funding in action.

UJA Federation's Sephardic connection

UJA Federation's Sephardic Network is up and running and steadily growing.

The Network, co-chaired by Messod Boussidan and Jacques Sayegh, has held several successful programs, including a mission to Morocco and Israel last spring. It has just published its third edition of the *Kehilla* newsletter, distributed to more than 2,500 people.

Jeff Toledano (l) and Solomon Beldeb help out at a recent UJA Federation telethon.

Leading members of Toronto's Sephardic community are working closely with members of UJA Federation's Community Cabinet, chaired by Les Klein and Dr. Harry Krakowsky, to increase awareness about UJA Federation.

Sephardic Network committee member Larry Berdugo has been involved with UJA Federation for the past ten years, but looks forward to fostering closer ties between Sepharadim and the broader Jewish community. "UJA Federation is an integral part of the Jewish community and serves all members of the community," stressed Berdugo. "We have to make people more aware of how they benefit from UJA Federation each and every day."

On December 1, the Network is sponsoring a program with Petah Tikvah Congregation, featuring Eli Eliezri from the American Joint Distribution Committee funded, in part, by UJA Federation. The JDC, among its other activities, provides food packages for poverty stricken Jews in countries around the world. Eliezri, who masterminded the rescue of Sarajevo Jewry, who are primarily Sephardic, also played a crucial role in Operation Solomon, which brought thousands of Ethiopian Jews to Israel during the 1980s.

The program begins at 8:00 p.m. at Petah Tikvah Congregation, 20 Danby Avenue. To reserve tickets call (416) 635-2883 ext. 107.

Community Matters

CHANUKA KICK-OFF FOR ISRAEL AT 50

Hundreds of Jewish organizations in the Greater Toronto Area have created a consortium to stage a year-long series of events for Israel's 50th anniversary next year.

The celebration begins on the first night of Chanuka, December 23, with a candle lighting at Queen's Park, where entertainment, sports and political personalities will join the Jewish community for the kick-off event. Similar candle lighting ceremonies will be taking place at the same time in Israel and around the world.

"Toronto is joining Philadelphia and Los Angeles in taking the North American lead to mark Israel's 50th anniversary," says Julia Koschitzky, Chair of the Israel at 50 Toronto consortium. "We will be working throughout the year with committees, beneficiary agencies and our consortium members to organize an unprecedented series of events that showcase Israel's accomplishments."

The major events include:

- The December 23 Chanuka candle lighting ceremony at Queen's Park
- A fashion show on March 8/98 at Yorkdale
- A gala Independence Day celebration on April 30/98 at the National Trade Centre, featuring a live link to Israel's spectacular birthday bash at the 50,000 seat stadium in Ramat Gan, a suburb of Tel Aviv
- The Israel Festival, May 24/98, highlighted by a community walk with up to 10,000 participants from City Hall to Ontario Place
- Israel Showcase at the Canadian National Exhibition, August 18 to September 6/98, with exhibits reflecting Israel's contributions to history, the arts and business. Nearly 2 million people are expected to visit the showcase.
- A closing ceremony on December 14/98

Among the most important projects already underway is *Toronto Remembers*, a unique book which will be published by McClelland & Stewart, detailing the most memorable experiences of Torontonians associated with Israel - whether they fought for the country's independence, lived through one of Israel's many historic events, worked there or just visited. Organizers are seeking stories and photos from Toronto residents to include in the book. Contributions of stories and photos, which will be added to the permanent collection of the Ontario Jewish Archives, must be submitted by November 21. "We want to highlight the personal and unusual stories that have so closely linked Torontonians to Israel during the last 50 years," says *Toronto Remembers* co-editor Bonnie Goldstein.

The candle lighting ceremony at Queen's

"Anyone with a touching story and photos about an Israel experience can share it in our book," adds co-editor Jackie Shulman.

For more details on *Toronto Remembers*, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 705, and for regular updates on the GTA's Israel at 50 program, check the UJA Federation web site: www.feduja.org.

FAREWELL TO A FIGHTER

Perla Arditti, long time UJA Federation volunteer and spirited advocate for the rights of the disabled, passed away suddenly on November 6 at age 38. Perla, who was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in her early twenties, founded and coordinated a Jewish Family and Child Service program combining skills workshops, educational sessions, counselling, exercise and a Jewish component for people with MS and their families. "She was a fighter and an inspiration to us all and she will be greatly missed." - Florence Weinberger - JF&CS

Art with Heart

When you combine a teacher, a nurse, an accountant, an ad executive, a bookkeeper and a homemaker what emerges is a surprisingly talented team. In this case, it's Stoneworks & Company, a group of six Jewish artists who recently donated a collection of their work for a silent auction to help Jewish Women's Federation (JWF) raise awareness and funds for the fight against women abuse. The show produced over $5,000 which will be directed toward woman abuse programs at Jewish Family and Child Service, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency.

The exhibition "New Beginnings" focused on the strength of Jewish women and their struggle to build new lives following episodes of abuse. "We felt our exhibit would offer other women strength, courage and hope to move forward," remarked artist Edie Harlang.

"We thought getting involved with JWF would be a good entry into helping other women in the community," said artist Sandra Duba-Shubs. "We have been very fortunate in our lives, but many others haven't been as lucky."

Allen Gales, who purchased one of the sculptures, believes the issue of abuse affects the entire family - women, men and children. "I feel it is important to support this cause - and I received a beautiful piece of art in the process."

Each year, an estimated 450 women come to JF&CS for help. "Many women do not disclose their victimization right away," said Susan Maldoff, who chairs JWF's Woman Abuse committee. "They need to speak up and realize that they are not alone."

Stoneworks & Company ensemble from L-R Helen Kirzner, Naomi Reich Freudmann, Barbara Bender, Sandra Duba-Shubs, Lilli Gillman and Edie Harlang.

Jewish Campus Life 101

High school students from the Greater Toronto Area will get a sneak peek at Jewish life on university campuses across Ontario next month.

Attendance is free and teens are encouraged to bring their parents to the *Jewish Life On Campus* information session and seminar, November 26, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., at Thornhill Community Centre, 7755 Bayview Avenue (corner of John St.). The evening, sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, UJA Federation, and Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, will feature representatives from 14 post secondary institutions, including Brandeis and Israeli universities.

Seminar workshops will also be conducted to answer specific inquiries and to discuss issues affecting Jewish students. Seminar topics include Jewish Studies Programs, Financial Aid, Doing Jewish on Campus, and How to Survive on Campus: Support Systems from Students and Parents.

UJA Federation's Vice-President of Jewish Continuity, Lorraine Sandler, says the Thornhill venue is ideal because of the high number of teens living in the area. "This is a great opportunity for students to find out how to stay in touch with their Jewish identity."

Jennifer Turack, Director of Community Services and Youth Activities for Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region, says the timing of the program is perfect. "Kids will be making their decisions about which university to go to by December," she explains, "so they need the information now."

For more information about the *Jewish Life on Campus* program, call (905) 707-8346.

Greater Toronto Area

Young Judaea in 'big league' of youth programming

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Young Judaea, the largest Zionist youth movement in Canada, recently celebrated its 80th anniversary with a reunion that drew several generations.

Some 100 people sang, danced, schmoozed, fressed and reminisced with old friends. Many participants had attended summer camps across the country associated with Young Judaea – Shalom and Solelim in Ontario, Kinneret and Biluim Canada in Quebec, Kadimah in Nova Scotia and Hatikvah in British Columbia.

Risa Epstein, executive director of Young Judaea, announced that in conjunction with the Canada Israel Experience Centre (CIEC) Young Judaea had become "the largest purveyor of high school programs" for Israel. "It puts us in the big league," she said.

As part of its summer Israel program, Young Judaea with CIEC will be adding two additional groups to Israel targeting unaffiliated high-school students, Ryan Hass, Young Judaea national shaliach, told *The CJN*. "We really want to get a lot of high school students to Israel."

The Kesher program, a newly instituted three-month program for students who have recently finished high school – it is jointly run with the CIEC – is particularly popular among high school students on the semester program, Hass said.

In his speech, he gave an overview of Young Judaea's national activities across the country, noting that some new programs would soon be starting up, including a bi-weekly youth group in Kitchener/Waterloo and a monthly group in the High Park area in the west end of Toronto.

Young Judaea also does outreach to small communities, including those in Moncton, Halifax, St. John and Prince Edward Island.

In St. John, which has approximately 25 Jewish families, Young Judaea runs a group for four to six children, Hass said. "If we don't do it, they won't get any [Zionist] youth movement experience."

He said Young Judaea – its monthly program in Vancouver is up and running this year – is very active in western Canada. He noted that some 352 campers attend Camp Hatikvah, with 100 of them coming from Calgary, and he added that approximately 70 to 80 percent of the Jewish children in Edmonton ages eight to 13 attend Young Judaea youth groups.

Hass also said a new youth leadership training program run by Young Judaea with a grant from the continuity committee of UJA Federation would be starting this month. Participants, who can come from any Jewish youth organization, would get a certificate in Judaic programming.

The reunion was an opportunity for Young Judaea to honor Helen Glazer for her many years of service. Glazer, an administrative worker who has been working for the organization for close to 30 years, was given two tickets to Israel.

A longtime volunteer who was active in Young Judaea in the '30s, Glazer said she was thrilled to receive the gift, which was a complete surprise to her. She said she and her husband plan to visit her son and his family in Jerusalem in the spring.

Irit Waidergoron, the Israeli consul to Toronto, brought greetings from the government of Israel. The activities and programs sponsored by young Judaea "strengthen the bond between Israel and Canada," she said. "We thank you for your wonderful work."

Other speakers included Vivian Sharon, who represented Hadassah-WIZO, the parent arm of Young Judaea, and Lenny Baranek of the adult committee. Also on hand for the festivities was author Shlomo Perel – the film *Europa Europa* is based on his life. His visit to Toronto for Holocaust Education week was sponsored by Young Judaea.

INAUGURAL NCJW SCHOLARSHIP

The National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto section, recently announced the first recipient of the Helen Weisbrod Memorial Scholarship Award. From left are Roz Fine, president, NCJW, Toronto section; award recipient Amy Schnoll; Murray Weisbrod, husband of the late Helen Weisbrod; and Sarah Schneider, endowment chair of the Weisbrod memorial scholarship committee.

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גידי קורן

סופו של מיתוס:

המיתוס הצבאי והביטחוני של ישראל נפגע קשות בשנה האחרונה. צבא הגרילה של החיזבאללה הורג חיילים ישראליים בני תשע עשרה ואין לאף אחד תשובה על כך. שבוע אחרי הצהרותיו של נתניהו שהביא ביטחון- אירעו פיצוצים זהים לאלה שגרמו לפרס להפסיד את הבחירות. כישלון אנשי המוסד ברבת עמון חידד עוד יותר את החשש שיש סיכוי שמשהוא יותר בסיסי לא עובד כשורה במערכת. מטבע העניין- לאף אחד מאיתנו שרק קורא עיתונות או עוקב אחרי המאורעות אין מספיק ידע כדי לאמת את החששות הללו. אבל כאשר עיתונאים רציניים שכל עיסוקם ביטחון, דוגמאת רון בן ישי, מגיעים למסקנות עגומות לגבי מצב מערכת הביטחון- יש בהחלט מקום לדאגה. קחו לדוגמא את ניסיון ההתנקשות שנכשל במנהיג החאמאס בירדן וחישבו מה היה קורה לו היה מצליח: חוסיין היה מואשם ששיתף פעולה עם כוחות הביטחון הישראליים לחיסול החאמאס חודש לפני הבחירות שם. אכזבתו וכעסו של חוסיין כלפי נתניהו וראש המוסד הם גדולים והיו גדולים באותה מידה לו היה המעשה מצליח. כלומר: ראש הממשלה, או שידע שהוא גורם נזק כה חמור לידיד הערבי המידי של ישראל, או שלא חשב עד הסוף, או שראש המוסד פשוט לא סיפר לו מה הוא הולך לעשות. שלושת האפשרויות חמורות באותה מידה, ומשלושתן יותר סביר כי אכן ראש הממשלה לא ידע, והוא נדהם כששמע ששני אנשי מוסד נתפסו ברבת עמון לאור יום. והישראלי ברחוב, כשמדברים איתו, לא יודע מה יותר עצוב: ראש ממשלה חפוז ובלתי רציני, או טיפש, או כזה שפשוט לא יודע מה קורה אצלו. מבלי להיכנס לנוסטאלגיה- דבר כזה לא היה קורה לא אצל שמיר, או פרס, או רבין. הפעם האחרונה שישראל טיפסה על סולם המיתוס היתה בין 1967 ו- 1973, והמיתוס כמעט הסתיים בחורבן בית שלישי. אז חשוב מאוד שכל מקבלי ההחלטות והישראלים שבוחרים בהם יפסיקו להתכסות במיתוסים ויסתכלו לאמת בעיניים. הרבה פרקטי, המון "סמוך", יותר מידי חנטאריש. ומה שקורה על גשרון הירקון במכביה קורה גם בצבא ובכוחות הביטחון וזה לא טוב.

משימה בלתי אפשרית- יורם פירוצקי:

שר האוצר יעקוב נאמן שהוא עורך דין בעל מוניטין, כלכלן עם קבלות, ואיש דתי שומר מסורת החליט להוריד גזרות על הציבור החרדי שאפילו אנטיוכוס או הצר ניקולאי לא היו מעיזים. תארו לעצמכם שהשר נאמן מורה להכניס רואי חשבון ממשלתיים לישיבות המלומדים כדי שיפקחו על כספו של משלם המסים. ומדובר במזומנים שזורמים, שלא נדע מצרות, לכיסים הכפולים והמשולשים של תלמידים מדומים אשר תרמו את שמם לישיבה בלי שיהיו נוכחים או קיימים. ואם לא די בכך מנסה הצורר חובש הכיפה לכפות על המתמידים עבודת כפיים כדי להתפרנס. השפלה שנם בימים השחורים ביותר של ההיסטוריה היהודית לא נחתה על המלומדים. אז למען המאמינים האמיתיים, ואפילו חילוניים מסורתיים, נקווה ששר האוצר יצליח במשימתו הבלתי אפשרית, ינקה את ישיבות החרדים ממתחזים, ישחרר את התלמידים האמיתיים מהתלות בשרלטנים ובאותה הזדמנות יקער גם את עובדי האלילים שמתרברבים כמו גשם אחרי הפטריות ויחסוך כסף רב למשלם המסים.

חידה :

מיהו סופר הילדים הנמכר ביותר בעולם כיום? ומה ספר הילדים שלו הנמכר ביותר (יותר משמונה מליון עותקים עד כה) ? רמז: הוא בסביבה. הזוכה המאושר(ת) - כרגיל, יזכו בפרס. את התשובות אנא שילחו לפקס 416-633-65577.

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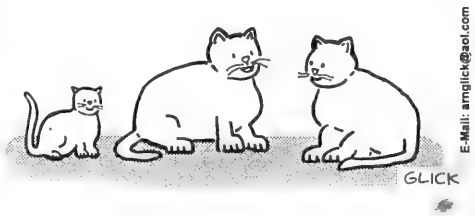

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Greater Toronto Area

Kohanim welcome new Torah scroll to BAYT

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Grey skies and the threat of rain couldn't dampen the enthusiasm of the crowd that recently accompanied the Torah presented to Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation (BAYT).

Guillaume and Rachel Friedman donated the Torah in memory of Guillaume's parents, Eliezer Gershon and Sarah. It will be used regularly in the shul's early Shabbat minyan, as well as the minyan for Grades 4 to 8, in which their son, Toronto physician Dr. Lazer Friedman, and grandchildren take part.

The Torah, accompanied by a drummer and over 100 men, women and children, was carried under a chupah from the home of the Friedmans' son, Lazer, to the shul. As it approached the synagogue, the older shul Torahs, carried by Kohanim, were brought out to the street in traditional fashion to greet the newcomer and escort it into the building.

Dr. Lazer Friedman carries the Torah his parents Guillaume and Rachel (beside him, right) donated to Beth Avraham Yoseph Congregation. The Torah was dedicated in memory of Eliezer Gershon and Sarah Friedman. [Zephyr Studios photo]

In the sanctuary, children and adults watched Rabbi Baruch Taub, spiritual leader of BAYT, and Guillaume Friedman fill in the last letters, and scrambled to catch the candy thrown from all parts of the room. Richie Idells of the Nafshenu Orchestra provided musical accompaniment.

The dedication was a family affair, as son Michael sang the parts of the synagogue service before placing a Torah into the ark, and son Avromi acted as master of ceremonies.

Avromi remarked that just as Moses' face shone when he brought the tablets of stone down from Mount Sinai, so his parents faces glowed when Lazer brought the Torah from Israel to Canada.

Synagogue chair Jerry Tollinsky noted that Guillaume and Rachel had moved to the area from Montreal less than a year ago, "but have already woven their way into the heart of the kehilla."

Lazer Friedman, speaking on behalf of the family, said that his parents epitomized Torah in their lives, in how they raised their children and ran their home, and by their generosity.

He spoke of the grandparents for whom the Torah was dedicated, his grandfather, who was killed while a prisoner of the Nazis in northern France, and his grandmother, who gathered her four children after the war and made a new life for them in Canada.

Rabbi Taub gave a d'var Torah.

Engagement Announcement

George & Agnes Eichler
and
Dr. Mike & Judy Alexander
of Boston
are happy to announce the engagement of their children
Leah and Danny

A wedding is planned at Or Haemet Congregation - Toronto on May 24, 1998

The Toronto Council of Hazzanim
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Gala Cantorial Concert
"East Meets West"
on
Sunday November 30, 1997 – 7:30 p.m.
at the
Sephardic Kehila Centre
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Guest Cantors

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Violinist: Charly Edery
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Bram Goldhammer
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Proceeds: Toronto Cantorial Trust Fund
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AN OPEN LETTER TO

The Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, and the leader of the Labor Party, Ehud Barak

The Board of Temple Emanu-El, a congregation of Reform Jews in Toronto, Canada, is gravely concerned over the legislation relating to religious councils and conversions soon to be considered by the Knesset.

Our congregation has demonstrated a deep and enduring commitment to the State of Israel. This commitment is spiritual; it is emotional; it is financial.

The strength of this commitment is rooted in the founding principles of Israel as home and sanctuary for any and all Jews, a State enriched by its democratic tradition and pluralistic ideals. Indeed, Israel's religious tolerance and diversity have distinguished Israel from the other nations in the region.

The contemplated legislation makes non-Orthodox Jews second-class citizens in their own land. It sends a clear and unequivocal message to diaspora Jews that some Jews are less welcome than others. This is painfully ironic for a nation created in the aftermath of the Holocaust to ensure that Jews will never again be persecuted or discriminated against by reason of their religious affiliations or beliefs. That this legislation is directed against non-Orthodox Jews, who have contributed so much to the lifeblood and continuing survival of the State of Israel, is especially distressing. Most Israeli Jews are not Orthodox. Therefore, legislation based on the wishes of a minority is not only undemocratic, but excludes the majority of Israeli Jews from fully practising their Judaism. It would be just as intolerable for Reform and Conservative Jews to impose their views on Orthodox Jews, or seek to undermine by legislation the legitimacy of Orthodox Jewry.

The time has come for you as Israel's political leaders to promote and enhance the country's egalitarian ideals, and to refrain from taking short-sighted and politically expedient courses of action.

We hope and pray that you will not act on behalf of one constituency at the expense of both the majority of Israel's population and the interests of the vast majority of Jews outside Israel.

Arthur Bielfeld

Arthur Bielfeld, Rabbi

Michelle Roher

Michelle Roher, President
On behalf of the Board

(The fax number for Mr. Netanyahu is 011-972-2-651-3950 and for Mr. Barak is 011-972-2-566-3418.)

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Nov. 17, is deadline for Nov. 27 issue, and Monday, Nov. 24, is deadline for Dec. 4. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Nov. 13

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am series: **Rachael Turkienicz** speaks about Rachel, 8 p.m. 633-5500.

CURRENT EVENTS

Program with **Erika Biro**, sponsored by National Council of Jewish Women, Toronto Section, 8 p.m. Council House, 4700 Bathurst St. Members $8, non-members $10. 633-5100.

Saturday, Nov. 15

CONSERVATIVE MINYAN

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, Federation of Jewish Brotherhoods Conservative minyan, 10 a.m. to noon, Sunnybrook Synagogue. Kiddush following. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

COFFEE HOUSE

Beth Tzedec Young Members Coffee House, 8 p.m. $7 in advance, $10 at door. **Marlene** 781-3514, ext. 34.

Sunday, Nov. 16

MEDITATION SEMINAR

Creating an Inner Balance Through Spiritual Insight Hands-On Meditation Seminar with Australian mystic **Rabbi Laibl Wolf,** 8 p.m., Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, 83 Green Lane, Thornhill. 905-886-0420.

BREAKFAST MEETING

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Brotherhood breakfast meeting, guest speaker **Col. (Res.) Yaen Vered**, JNF shaliach. Topic Israel on the Threshold of the 21st Century. Services 9:15 a.m., breakfast at 10. $5.

JEWISH FILM SOCIETY

Toronto Jewish Film Society screens *Abraham's Gold* (Germany 1977, English subtitles), 7:30 p.m., Art Gallery of Ontario. Co-presented with Holocaust Remembrance Committee and Goethe Institute.

REBBITZEN WEINBERG

Rebbitzen Phyllis Weinberg, author of *Yossi, the Boy Who Wouldn't Speak Loshon Hora* (*Gossip*) speaks on Have Your Heard the Latest Gossip? 7:45 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Sponsored by Aish HaTorah. $3.

BEIT RAYIM EVENT

Beit Rayim Synagogue and School feature **Barbara Coloroso.** Topics: How to Raise Your Child to be a Mentsh, Positive Home and School Climate, Stopping Trouble Before It Starts, Power Struggles, Stress Management, 7:30 p.m., 9711 Bayview Ave. Book signing 6:30. 905-770-7639, ext. 3.

SHOPPER'S FAIR

Na'amat's 69th annual Shopper's Fair, fashions, giftware, crafts, TV's singing **Chef Pasquali** (12:30 and 3 p.m.), Toronto Congress Centre, 650 Dixon Rd., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 636-5425.

PNAI MEETING

PNAI (Parents of North American Israelis) meeting, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Lisa Armony** , national director, Institute for National Affairs, B'nai Brith, speaks on Israel Internal Politics, Business as Usual or Disaster. 783-7872.

FALL BAZAAR

The Avenal non-profit housing corporation under the umbrella of Kehilla Residential Program fall fair, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 262 Ridley Blvd. Baked goods, craft items.

Monday, Nov. 17

CONCERT AND RECEPTION

Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation fundraising concert and reception featuring the Jerusalem Trio. 8 p.m., Jane Mallett Theatre, St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, 27 Front St. E. $100. **Grace Brooker** 932-2260.

BEN WICKS

Cartoonist **Ben Wicks** launches his new book, *Dawn of the*

[Cont'd. on page 23]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

Promised Land , at Holy Blossom Sisterhood Project 97 culmination draw, 8:15 p.m., Youth Chapel. Grand prize, trip to Nassau.

BOOK REVIEW
At Beth Sholom Sisterhood general meeting **Norma Rubin** reviews *The Sacrifice of Tamar* by **Naomi Ragen**, 8 p.m. $2.

SUPPORT GROUP
Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building. Phone in confidence **Ruth** 763-9111.

SWISS BANKS
Isabel Vincent, author of *Hitler's Silent Partners: Swiss Banks, Nazi Gold and the Pursuit of Justice*, at Holy Blossom Temple, 7:30 p.m. Book signing. Sponsored by the Library Committee.

Tuesday, Nov. 18

PUBLIC FORUM
Public forum on Emotional Intelligence, keynote speaker **Dr. Steven Stein**, Canadian psychologist; special guest **Dr. Reuven Bar Or**, psychologist, Tel Aviv University Medical School; moderator **Jan Wong**, *Globe and Mail* columnist. 8 p.m., Inn on the Park. Presented by Jewish Vocational Service.

ABOUT MISSIONARIES
Julius Ciss and **Rabbi Michael Skobac** of Jews for Judaism lecture/audio-visual presentation, Missionaries in Our Midst: Who is Winning the Battle for the Jewish Soul?, 8 p.m., Shomrai Shabbos Synagogue, 585 Glengrove Ave. W. $2.

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES
Rabbi Moshe Stern discusses the Halachic Status of "Embryos" Frozen for Future Use, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP
Chug Tanach meets 8 p.m. at Associated Hebrew Schools Finch building. **Irving Matlow** discusses Chapter 5 of the Book of Amos.

KOSHER COOKING
Kashruth Council of Toronto Kosher Cooking School, Less Fat-More Energy, 8 p.m. Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. 635-9550.

Wednesday, Nov. 19

JEWISH LIFE ON CAMPUS
Representatives of 14 Ontario universities participate in the information session for parents, students and teens, 7-9 p.m., main foyer, Thornhill Community Centre, 7755 Bayview Ave. Sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region; UJA Federation, York Region; and Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto. **Jennifer Turack,** 635-2883, ext. 152.

INTERMARRIAGE
Beth Tikvah Synagogue chesed committee series on Intermarriage and Interdating, **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl** discusses Keeping the Faith and Keeping the Kids, dealing with issues of parents whose children are interdating and intermarried, 8 p.m.

RABBI'S CLASSES
Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich's adult education classes continue with Sex and Love, 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue.

Thursday, Nov. 20

THE JEWS OF PORTUGAL
Slide presentation and dialogue with **Frances Kraft**, reporter for *The Canadian Jewish News*, 8 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue.

COEXISTENCE IN ISRAEL
Canadian Friends of Givat Haviva presents **Shuli Dichter,** co-director, Children Teaching Children, Givat Haviva Educational Centre, Israel, and **Mary Abu-Jaber,** director, Public Events, City of Nazareth, speaking on The Challenges of Jewish and Arab Coexistence in Israel, 7:30p.m., St. Gabriel's Parish, 650 Sheppard Ave. E. 736-9655.

KABBALAH, BIBLE CODES
Discussion on universal principles of Kabbalah and how it relates to the book, *The Bible Code* by **Michael Drosnin,** 7:30 p.m., Chapters Bookstore, 7040 Yonge St.

And What Else Is New

BETH SHOLOM EVENTS
Monday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m., **Rabbi Irvin Beigel** discusses Gimilut Hasadim – Deeds of Kindness.

Tuesday, Nov. 18, 8 p.m., **Prof. Arnold Dees** speaks on Mysterious Character of Marc Chagal.

Thursday, Nov. 20, 12:30 p.m., Lunchtime class led by Rabbi Beigel at the office of Green and Spiegel, 121 King St. W., Suite 2200. Lunch served.

Tuesday, Nov. 25, 8 p.m. The Act of Jewish Prayer with **Cantor Israel Gutman.**

YIDDISHLAND CAFE
Once Upon a Time with **Batsheva, Michael Mandel, Anne Lederman, Sasha Luminsky, Martin Van de Ven,** 8 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 22, Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. $10 in advance, $12 at door 635-0720. Supported by a grant from the action committee for Jewish continuity of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

AT BETH TIKVAH
Search for Spirituality, three-part series of interviews by **Michael Enright**, host of CBC's *This Morning* radio show, Thursdays, 8 p.m., interviews focusing on the person's approach to Judaism and Jewish life: Nov. 13, **Eva Goldfinger** of Toronto congregation Oraynu for Secular Humanist Judaism; Nov. 20, **Elliott Malamet,** Jewish educator and CHAT faculty member; Nov. 27, **Simcha Jacobovici**, award-winning filmmaker and founder of Toronto's new east-end Beth Joseph Congregation.

EXPERIENCES IN ISRAEL
Beth Tzedec Sisterhood features **Loretta Tanenbaum** speaking on Personal Experiences in Israel: Before and After the Six Day War., Tuesday, Nov. 25, 8 p.m. $3. RSVP by Nov. 18, 781-3511, ext. 34.

KABBALAH CENTRE
Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Hidden Secrets Revealed, free lecture, Sunday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m.

Sunday School for ages 3-13.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program for ages 11 and up.

Shabbat Saturday service, prayer 8:30 a.m., lecture on weekly Torah reading, 9:30 a.m. Children's service 9:30 a.m.

Kabbalah Basic Course, 8 weeks, starting Tuesday, Nov. 25.

CLUB FOR THE BLIND
The Hebrew Club for the Blind, which provides social programs for its visually impaired members as well as monthly meetings, welcomes new members, volunteers of all ages and drivers. For membership **George Kline** 633-3524. For general inquiries **Ben Bauer,** president, 905-731-7447.

JF&CS GROUPS
Jewish Family & Child Service groups. 638-7800.

Group to examine divorce-related stress experienced by children, parents' role in their children's adjustment, Forest Hill Library, Nov. 13. **Pat Lieberman**, ext. 215.

The Challenge of Anger for Women, daytime and evening groups start Nov. 13. Pat Lieberman.

A six-week group for family members of relatives with schizophrenia or manic depression, Mondays, 6:30-8 p.m. begins November. **Marsha Berniker** ext. 257.

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Nov. 13, Hearing test clinic 10 a.m. to noon; Nov. 16, Sunday dance 7:30 p.m.; Nov. 19 Square One Shopping Centre; Dec. 3 *Showboat* matinee; Dec. 10 local day trip to Magnotta Wines; Dec. 17 Casino Rama. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Tuesday, Nov. 18, concert, 7 p.m., dance group from Bathurst Jewish Centre, Chorale of North York. Non-members $1. Nov. 20 bingo and games. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

LZA Seniors Club has space available for Miami Trip 1998. **Libby** 782-2059. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE
Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Gala Fall dance, entertainment by **Edward Rubin** and **Rachel Kastoryano**, 7-10 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 13. Light supper. Members $8, non-members $10.

Lecture series on Alternative Therapies – Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine as a form of Pain and Itching Management, lecture by **Dr. Yanli Cao**, Chinese medicine doctor, Monday, Nov. 17, 1:15 p.m.

Quality Health Care, The Past and the Future, **Helen Heeney,** author of *Life Before Medicine*, discusses changes to our health care system, Tuesday, Nov. 18, 1:30 p.m. **Sheila Zane.**

Healthy Cooking, dietician/nutritionist **Sharon Zeiler** and two community food advisors, Tuesday, Nov. 18, 1 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, sing-alongs, dances, bingo. Nov. 18 is bingo. **Anna**.

Movie *That Old Feeling* Sunday, Nov. 16, 2:15 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 19, social with **Larisa Rosenfeld** and **Vladimir Gurevich**, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Books and Bagels Sunday, Nov. 23, 11 a.m., **Linda Frum**, producer of award-winning documentary *Ms Conceptions,* reads from *Barbara Frum – A Daughter's Memoir*. 11 a.m. Non-members $8. Coffee and bagels served.

South 'Y' Dance Saturday, Dec. 6, 8 p.m. Special guest DJ **Murray 'Squirt' Tonken, Jay Jackson, Bob** and **Roy Ellis, Jack Geldbloom,** with renditions of your favorite songs. $15.

Seniors Club meets 2 p.m. Thursdays – Nov. 13, film *Almonds and Raisins* , a retrospective of the history of Yiddish cinema; Nov. 20, A Musical Interlude with Tea and Company, an intergenerational program with University of Toronto students students. **Judy.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Senior Adult Service department luncheon, entertainment by singer **Leilani Kim**, Tuesday, Nov. 18, 12:30 p.m. Tickets at information desk. **Teme** ext. 364.

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Holocaust Education Week

Sephardim too fell victim to Nazi onslaught

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

THORNHILL — A late addition to this year's Holocaust Education Week program provided an overview of a lesser-known aspect of the Holocaust.

Sarah Taieb-Carlen, professor of Sociology and Sephardi Studies at York University, spoke about Sephardi Communities and the Nazi Regime at a program sponsored by the Sephardic Educational Centre's (SEC) young adult chapter.

Rabbi Yehiel Benayon, spiritual leader of Magen David Sephardic Congregation, also spoke.

"I would be here and I would think it would be an occasion to come together if not a single Sephardic Jew perished in the Holocaust," said the rabbi.

"Simply that my brothers' and my sisters' blood flowed the way it did, that's enough of a reason for us to come together and commemorate this."

Most Sephardim at the time lived in the Middle East and North Africa, although there were enclaves in western and eastern Europe and the Balkans, noted Taieb-Carlen, a native of Tunisia.

"I think it's important for you to know that when the North African Jews heard about the extent of the catastrophe in Europe, many of them fasted for weeks and many men grew beards [as a sign of mourning]," she told the gathering of mostly young, Sephardi adults.

Her own father fasted every Thursday for the rest of his life to commemorate the Jews who died in Europe.

In Tunisia, a few hundred Jews died in Nazi bombings, Taieb-Carlen said. Jews faced quotas at schools, job loss and more limited food rationing than their non-Jewish counterparts. In the main cities, men aged 18 to 45 were recruited for forced labor.

Algerian Jews, who had their French citizenship revoked in 1940, faced similar discrimination, but unlike stateless Jews in other countries, were not deported, she said.

Sarah Taieb-Carlen

The Jews of the Middle East suffered "practically not at all except for the usual restrictions any world war would bring.

"God only knows what would have happened had the Germans indeed invaded the Middle East," said Taieb-Carlen, recalling British field marshal Bernard Montgomery's 1942 victory over German field marshal Erwin Rommel in Egypt, and the influence of a particularly vocal pro-Nazi mufti in Jerusalem.

In Europe, the Sephardi populations of Greece, Italy, France, Holland and Yugoslavia were among those most affected. Salonika was captured by the Germans in 1941, and most of its Jewish inhabitants lost their lives in 1943. Almost 13,000 Jews served in the Greek army, she noted.

In Bulgaria, Jews were protected by the government despite an alliance with Germany. Some 10,000 Bulgarian Jews, however, served in forced labor companies. The decline of Bulgaria's Jewish population to just over 5,000 in 1965 can be attributed primarily to a mass aliyah in 1948.

Similarly in Turkey, the Jewish population declined after the creation of the State of Israel.

Of the European Jews who died in the Holocaust, an unknown percentage were Sephardim. In France, for example, Bordeaux had a Sephardi community that predated the Spanish Inquisition, and Sephardi enclaves could be found in Avignon, Nimes and Carpentras, the site of one of the oldest Sephardi synagogues in Europe, noted Taieb-Carlen. Eighty-three thousand French Jews perished in the Holocaust.

'Pockets'

Yugoslavia also had "pockets" of Sephardim, and the bulk of the Sarajevo Jewish community was Sephardi. There were 55,000 Yugoslavian Jewish victims.

In Holland, over one-third of the Jewish population was Sephardi. Over 60 percent of the Dutch Jewish population was murdered, according to statistics cited.

Interestingly, 376 members of the Amsterdam Portuguese community were saved because they appeared so distinct from Ashkenazi Jews that their Jewishness was called into question, said Taieb-Carlen.

She ended by crediting the Algerian resistance, which was "essentially formed by Jews. No one doubts today that it is...the young Jewish members of the Algerian resistance who made possible the landing of the Allies in North Africa, thus contributing to the victory of the free world over the Nazis."

The program ended with a candlelighting ceremony with participants Mira Shemtov, Keren Sakal, Ruben Benquesus, Michael Benarroch, Esther Benquesus (president of Toronto's SEC chapter), Ygal Cohen and Jamie Cohen.

Also participating in the program were Yona Shemtov, co-chair of the SEC's education committee with Ygal Cohen, and Francesca David.

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Holocaust Education Week

Swiss refugee policy slammed

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

Heini Bornstein

TORONTO — Switzerland's once-sterling reputation "deserves" the black eye it has received over the banking debacle. But even more indicative of its wartime record was the way it treated Jewish refugees, says a Swiss-born Jewish activist.

Between 1933 and 1945, Switzerland admitted 28,000 Jews, less than 10 percent of all the refugees it took in. But virtually all the refugees it turned away were Jews fleeing the Nazis, according to Heini Bornstein, author of the recently published book Switzerland: *A Wartime Island – Aid and Rescue Activities, 1939-1946.*

"I'm less concerned about Swiss behavior in the financial and economic fields," says Bornstein, who was born in Basel and who's lived on an Israeli kibbutz since 1947. "My concern is much more about Swiss policy on refugees – the human aspect."

And it's not a pretty picture, added Bornstein, who was in Toronto last week for a series of speaking engagements, including at Holocaust Education Week.

Before and during World War II, Switzerland didn't have a refugee policy. "But it did have a policy on Jewish refugees, and it was against Jewish immigration," Bornstein noted.

One of those policies is a shocker: It was Switzerland's idea to stamp the passports of German Jews with a "J," and to include on them the first name "Israel" for Jewish men, and "Sarah" for Jewish women, an idea the Nazis accepted. The Swiss rationale, Bornstein said, was "Jews were not welcome."

Between 1933 and 1939, Nazi Germany permitted free Jewish emigration and 250,000 German Jews left. In that period, when severe anti-Jewish laws were enacted in the Reich, Switzerland took in just 8,000 Jews and rejected 40,000.

"When the Swiss president was asked why, he said the lifeboat was full. But the truth is, that was only as concerned the Jews."

In all, Switzerland admitted 300,000 wartime refugees, 100,000 of whom were foreign soldiers who had been wounded or had deserted, Bornstein says.

Included in the Jewish total were 2,000 children. The Red Cross had asked countries to take in 60,000 Jewish children.

Bornstein played an active role in this. As a leader of the Hashomer Hatzair youth movement in Switzerland during the war, he organized rescue activities by establishing a network of clandestine contacts, supplying food parcels, medicine, money and documents to underground Jewish movements.

Hundreds of Jews were brought to Swiss safety illegally, he pointed out. And to compound its dismal record on Jewish immigration, the government made things difficult for the 18,000-strong domestic Jewish community.

"They explained to the Jews that Swiss policy was in their interest: 'More Jews equals more anti-Semitism.' So [the local community] was told to keep quiet.

"This brought Swiss Jews a deep dilemma. They were Swiss citizens [but] expressed solidarity with Jews. There was a split in the [Jewish] leadership."

But more crucial, Bornstein pointed out, is that the Swiss government made the Jewish community financially responsible for all Jewish refugees, despite the fact that the government picked up the tab for all other refugees.

"The government said to the Jews: 'They are your brothers. Pay for them.'"

The community managed to raise 18 million francs, but it wasn't enough. It was only then the government allowed the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to get involved.

As for the debacle over the seizure of Holocaust victims' dormant bank accounts, Bornstein makes no apologies for his native country. "But you have to understand Switzerland was surrounded by France, Austria, Italy and Germany. The danger of a German invasion was always imminent.

"Today, we know Germany never intended to invade Switzerland."

For Bornstein, it's "very difficult" to prove that Switzerland's role as the Nazis' banker prolonged the war. "But they were a factor in the strengthening of Germany's military, and in the supply and purchase of weapons."

The whole banking affair has triggered an increase in domestic anti-Semitism in Switzerland, he said, but the country is making an effort to shore up relations with Jews. His birthplace deserves the knock to its image, "and I'm a little bit sorry about that."

Nevertheless, world Jewry "has the right to demand this money. It's only a small answer to everything that happened during the war. Money can be refunded, but not human life."

Berlin decision day soon

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The winner of a much-awaited design competition for a national Holocaust memorial in Berlin will be chosen this week, *The Canadian Jewish News* has learned.

The nine finalists, selected from a pool of 19 designers, will give oral presentations on Nov. 14, and a final decision is expected to be made on the following day, said Ekkehard Klausa, a Berlin official in charge of Holocaust memorials in Germany's capital.

Klausa, here as a guest of Holocaust Education Week and the Goethe Institute, said the foundation of the planned memorial will be laid on Jan. 20, 1999, the 57th anniversary of the Wannsee Conference, which signalled the start of the systematic destruction of European Jewry.

Construction of the memorial, just south of the Brandenburg Gate and a few blocks from parliament, will be finished by the turn of the century, Klausa said in an interview last week.

The memorial, to be built on a 20,000-square-metre plot of land donated by the German government, will be dedicated only to Jewish victims of the Holocaust. There are plans to erect a separate memorial to gypsies.

Engagement Announcement

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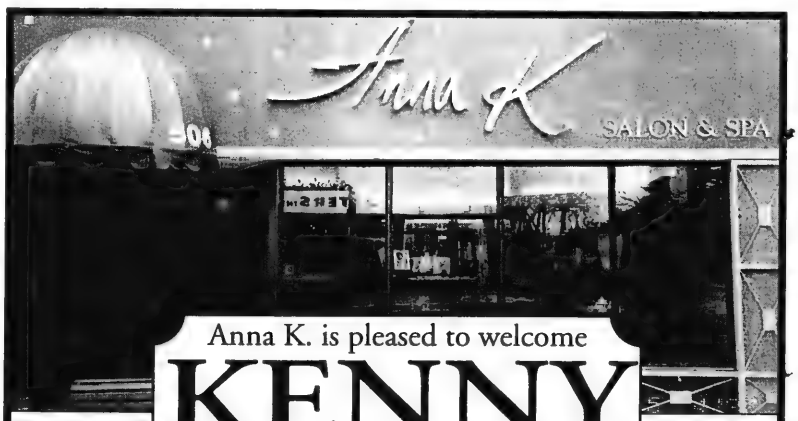

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Holocaust Education Week

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Howard Driman lights a memorial candle at Shaar Shalom Synagogue as (from left) Alex Rosenberg, Irene Frolic, Bertha Sumner, David Rosenberg and Dana Bennie look on. [Frances Kraft photo]

Holocaust sculpture unveiled

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

THORNHILL — The unveiling of *Out of The Darkness*, a Holocaust memorial sculpture by Toronto-based award-winning artist Irene Frolic, capped a moving Holocaust Education Week program held at Shaar Shalom Synagogue last week.

The 10-foot-high by 10-foot-wide sculpture located in the main-floor foyer of the synagogue is made mostly of sand-blasted and patinated glass and includes the poem *We Remember Them*.

Frolic, a child survivor of the Holocaust, was born in Poland in 1941 and came to Canada in 1948.

The program, co-sponsored by the synagogue and Canadian Young Judaea (CYJ), featured keynote speaker Shlomo Perel. A retired Israeli businessman, Perel spent four years of his youth masquerading as an Aryan in the Hitler Youth and the German Wehrmacht. His story of survival was made famous in the movie *Europa, Europa*, based on his memoirs. (Perel is the subject of an upcoming *CJN* column by Sheldon Kirshner.)

Capacity audience

The capacity audience, with every age group represented, fell completely silent at some of the more poignant and incredible parts of Perel's story.

Frolic, Alex Rosenberg, Bertha Sumner, David Rosenberg, Dana Bennie and Holocaust Education Week chair Howard Driman took part in a memorial candlelighting ceremony as Arna Cappe and Frank Myers read a partial list – over 120 names – of congregants' family members who perished in the Holocaust.

Thornlea Secondary School student Adee Bross read *G-d Bless This Congregation*, taken from the 1996 March of the Living handbook.

Amanda Brewes, a student at Associated Hebrew Schools, read *Who Will Be Invited?*, a reflection written by her father, Russell, after a family discussion about the guest list for her older sister's bat mitzvah.

"Only 50 years ago, my relatives were struck down in a country far from where I live, but the ripples have crossed time and distance to affect me today," she read. "How many joyous singing voices have been silenced? How many tear-filled eyes are missing, beaming their love for me? How many smiles have been darkened? The room will not be as bright in their absence."

Event chair Sam Chaim, a vice-president of the congregation, noted that 50 years post-Holocaust, "we are running out of time to learn from those who [lived through it]. Let us remember so that we may learn and teach future generations," he exhorted, noting the importance of fighting for the rights of all oppressed people, not just Jews.

Other participants included Rabbi Martin Berman, CYJ's executive director Risa Epstein, Shaar Shalom Brotherhood president John Glicksman, Michael Sone and Gary Segal, who recited K'El Maleh Rachamim and the Kaddish respectively. The sculpture was unveiled by survivor Sara Eker, child of survivor David Kestelman and grandchild of survivor David Adler.

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On Campus

Vancouver BB Hillel Foundation gets new leader

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

VANCOUVER — Gabriel Meranda, new executive director of the Vancouver B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation, could easily pass for one of the students he works with.

The 30-year-old Toronto native studied science at the University of Toronto before embarking on a career in the Jewish community. He spent several years coordinating the Israel Youth Program Centre and B'nai Brith Youth Organization in Montreal, then served as director of the Jewish Students' Union at the University of Western Ontario. In his own student days, Meranda was a local and regional leader of Habonim Dror.

In Vancouver, he replaced Rabbi Ken Kaufman, who is now working at the University of California, Davis.

"My hope in Vancouver," said Meranda in a news release, "is to foster a warm, welcoming and pluralistic atmosphere at Hillel and with the students in the Greater Vancouver area."

"Things are going very well," he said in a recent telephone interview. "We're getting more students involved every day. The place [Hillel House on the University of British Columbia (UBC) campus] is virtually packed every day with students studying, shmoozing, checking e-mail."

Hot lunch every Tuesday is "a mainstay."

Aside from the Vancouver campus' proximity to the mountains and the ocean, the existence of the Hillel facility is probably the most obvious difference between UBC, which has an estimated 1,000 Jewish students, and the University of Western Ontario, with three times that number.

"The [Hillel] space here is quite considerable," said Meranda. "At Western we just had our office. The level of enthusiasm is equal."

Hillel activities at UBC include speakers, coffee houses, contests and currently, Holocaust Awareness Week displays and lectures. Text study relating to everyday experiences, is in the planning stages.

Based at UBC

Although Meranda is based at UBC, where he works with two other staff members – program director Daniella Weber and office manager Lily Nechamkin, "technically all of B.C. is our jurisdiction."

Simon Fraser University, which had a successful Hillel start-up last year, is one hour from UBC, and offers Hebrew and Kabbalah classes. Meranda has been in contact with Jewish professors there to enlist their help as Hillel advisers.

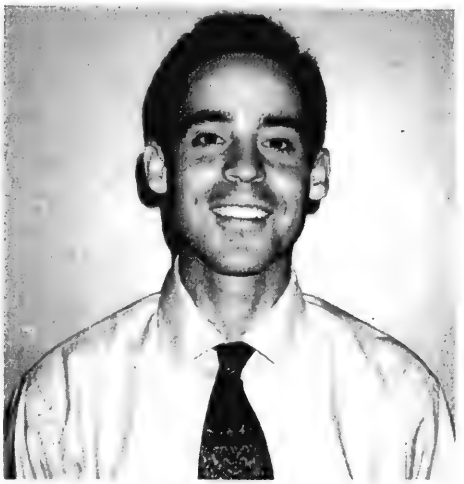
He is also in touch with Jewish students at the University of Victoria as a resource person. Occasional joint programming between Victoria and Vancouver campuses is a possibility, he said, but frequent inter-campus programming is difficult because of the necessity of ferry or plane travel to reach Vancouver Island.

Meranda believes the campus professional's role is to act as an adviser and guide for students, cultivating their ideas and fostering leadership.

He also feels it's important "to establish Hillel as a community organization. I think we need to share resources and share people [in both directions]." He would like to see students take on a more active role, whether in terms of youth leadership within and outside of Hillel or on Hillel's adult board.

"If the community commits itself to nurturing the students, they'll want to ensure that the Hillel organization flourishes," he said. "In terms of continuity, I think it's very important. Building a strong leadership at Hillel means building a strong Jewish community now and in the future – and it's not just the Jewish community. Building leadership, period, [benefits the entire community]."

Meranda enjoys his work, he said. "Being able to impart anything a student can use is a satisfaction and a great thrill. I'm being myself, and getting students to see their potential. I think when it comes from the heart, you really enjoy it."



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Montreal Campus planned

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — A $23-million project to expand, renovate and integrate FEDERATION CJA and the YM-YWHA was unveiled recently.

It is not only the largest construction project ever undertaken by the Jewish community, but a concrete "message to ourselves, to our city, and to all Quebecers and Canadians alike that our future is here," FEDERATION CJA president Stanley Plotnick said at a press conference.

"It would be false modesty to claim that this moment and this project are anything less than historic."

The complex, known as the Jewish Community Centre Campus, will be made distinct in the neighborhood by such landscaping features as the repaving with stones of Cote Ste. Catherine Road, between Westbury and Mountain Sights avenues, and the installation of special light standards to form a common "plaza."

The project includes the Y's $15-million expansion and upgrade announced in July, for which $14.5 million has been raised after about eight months of private campaigning.

Plotnick said, in total, $16.5 million has been raised, mostly from prominent members of the Jewish community, and the rest from corporations. The community is counting on a combined grant of $5 million from the Quebec and federal governments and the city of Montreal, he said.

Plotnick said a letter last week from Robert Perreault, Quebec minister responsible for Montreal, "confirmed" that the province will "participate significantly," and that Ottawa and the city may also contribute.

He is confident the $23-million goal will be reached within 90 days. No funds are coming out of Combined Jewish Appeal, and the maintenance costs for the larger premises will come out of an endowment fund, not the regular operating budget.

Construction is expected to start in the spring and be completed late in 1999.

Highlights include the addition of 50,000 square feet of space in a new two-storey wing to be built where the parking lot is now behind Cummings House and attached to the Golden Age Association (GAA) building, and an indoor passage that will connect the entire complex from the new south end of the Y on Edouard Montpetit Avenue through the Saidye Bronfman Centre and, via a tunnel under Cote Ste. Catherine, onto Cummings House and the GAA.

Visitors will be able to move throughout the campus without ever being exposed to the elements or having to watch out for traffic. Plotnick admitted that such a linkage does heighten security concerns.

The "consolidation" of these organizations, all FEDERATION CJA agencies, under one roof is more than symbolic, he said. It will reduce overhead and make for a more efficient delivery of services.

The plans also call for the "potential" relocation of Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q), the Communauté Sépharade du Québec (CSQ) and the Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) into the expanded facilities.

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CJC symposium explores Canada's social cohesion

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Participants were offered a thought-provoking look at where Canada stands in its struggle to achieve social cohesion, at a recent symposium presented by the law and social action committee of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), under the sponsorship of Multiculturalism Canada.

The session on Social Cohesion Through Social Justice at the Chateau Laurier Hotel in Ottawa drew over 100 people, including students, representatives of various interest groups and relevant government departments, as well as members of CJC.

In her keynote address, Hedy Fry, secretary of state for Multiculturalism and Status of Women, noted that it was "important today that we look at a framework of social justice." She emphasized that "in today's society, based on 30-second clips, everyone is looking for a simple answer to a complex problem. To say unity equals equality is too simplistic."

A panel including Dr. Elaine Todres, president of the Baycrest Centre Foundation; Prof. Rebecca Johnson and Prof. Thomas Kuttner, Faculty of Law, University of New Brunswick; and Prof. Will Kymlicka from the University of Ottawa's philosophy department, spoke of the Canadian government's record in human rights legislation, of the shift in focus from national to regional and public to private in dealing with many social issues and problems.

Speaker after speaker echoed Johnson's observation that "equality is not about sameness, but the importance of making distinctions."

In spite of the fact that many Canadians are unaware of Canada's multiculturalism policy or even skeptical about its success, Kymlicka said our record of successful integration of immigrants is second only to Australia's and that "we do a better job than the United States or France, which have both rejected the concept of multiculturalism."

John Hucker, secretary general of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, noted, "we have to expect some bumps on the road to equality, but conditions are definitely improving."

Hucker stressed that improved communication is vital to let the Canadian public know what the human rights commissions are doing.

A second panel dealing with how social justice advocacy groups can work together to promote social cohesion was chaired by Prof. Maureen Molot of Carleton University and included Rev. Eric Beresford, coordinator of Ethics and Interfaith Relations for the Anglican Church of Canada; Joan Grant-Cummings, president of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, who asserted that "social justice, as fundamental to social cohesion, must include gender issues;" and Art Hagopian, vice-president of the Canadian Ethnocultural Council.

Hagopian summed up the mood of the symposium with his observation that, as we face increased government cutbacks, "it is timely and important that Canada's multicultural groups work together. One way to overcome unfairness and injustice is by building bridges between communities…Today's event is a good example of this type of cooperation."

From coast to coast

Irving Rivers, Ottawa 'landmark,' dies at 74

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Irving Rivers, a prominent Ottawa retailer and community worker, died last week of a heart attack. He was 74.

His store, Irving Rivers, at the corner of the Byward Market and York streets, was a popular Byward Market landmark for 47 years.

His family commented that it was appropriate that Rivers died on his way to open his store after attending services at Beth Sholom synagogue, where he was the parnass.

It symbolized his attachment to "shul, family and the store – that was his whole life," according to his daughter, Ellen Osterer.

He was active in the Jewish community, she said. He was a past president at both Beth Sholom synagogue and the Jewish Community Centre (JCC), and was involved with the Jewish National Fund, Israel Bonds, Camp B'nai Brith, the Hillel Academy PTA and the JCC day camp.

"It was all part of what made him 'him,'" Osterer said. "It was like eating and breathing.

"He was a man who loved his family and his community more than anything," she said. "Everything he did was for the people and the community that he loved, not for the kovod."

Born in Ottawa, Rivers took over the store from his father and his brother in 1950. Osterer described how the store was stockpiled from floor to ceiling with merchandise.

"He didn't believe in wasting money for shelving. He used to say that if the merchandise was there, customers would buy it whether it was in a fancy box or not."

Rivers specialized in different, unusual lines of merchandise, "from workboots to funky patches," Osterer said.

Irving Rivers

While he was committed to the continuation of the Byward Market, he didn't believe that governments should step in and control what was happening there.

Sam Zunder, a former retailer in the market, was quoted in the obituary in the *Ottawa Citizen* as saying "He really believed in attracting people to the market, and he was on the side of the farmers. When we went to city hall, he always said the city should leave the market alone."

Rabbi Ely Braun, spiritual leader of Beth Sholom, called Rivers "a total original. Even though he was born in Ottawa, he was like the classic definition of a sabra – thorny on the outside and sweet on the inside."

He was very much respected, Rabbi Braun said. He didn't play games – he said what he thought to your face, but never behind your back. And he expected the truth in return."

Rivers was a surrogate father and grandfather to many in the city, Rabbi Braun said. "When my own children, who don't have grandparents here, needed one for a project, they went to him."

Rivers was a very private person, Rabbi Braun said, and "did much that no one will ever know about.

"He was an institution in the community. We will miss him. I will miss him."

Rabbi Braun and several members of the family noted that the funeral chapel was filled beyond capacity, with many waiting outside.

Rivers is survived by his wife Evelyn, daughters Ellen Osterer, Ilsa Kamen and Jacqui Vital, stepchildren Joanne Kalman and Sue Diamond and Rabbi Reuven Tradburks of Toronto, brother Albert, sisters Thelma Steinman, Eileen Goldberg and Goldie Cantor, and 22 grandchildren.

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants: 1. Twelve years old and under; 2. Thirteen to 18 years old; 3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter: The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem.

We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.

We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: "Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 12, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 25, 1997. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Ont. Tory agenda focus of conference

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — A one-day conference entitled In Search of Common Sense in the Common Sense Revolution will be held Nov. 23, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Temple Sholom, 215 Cline Ave. N., Hamilton.

The keynote speaker will be Rabbi Dow Marmur of Toronto's Holy Blossom Temple, whose topic will be the Jewish Response to the Common Sense Revolution.

Judge Marvin Zuker of the Ontario Court of Justice (Provincial Division) will discuss The Impact of the Common Sense Revolution on the Educational System in Ontario.

Other topics to be discussed include Welfare – The Business of Poverty: Costs and Benefits, Myths and Realities – Welfare Reform in Ontario and Health with Andrea Horwath, community development coordinator, McQuesten Legal and Community Services; and the Common Sense Revolution and the Health Care System with Dr. Susan Watt, professor of social work at McMaster University.

The conference coordinator is Dr. Ronnie Miller, director of education, Temple Anshe Sholom. All sessions except session number 3 are free. The cost of session 3, which includes the luncheon, is $20. Free babysitting services will be provided. Payment should be made to Temple Anshe Sholom before Nov. 18. For more information call 905-528-0121 or fax 905-528-2994.

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From coast to coast

Slave-labor survivor loses battle for lost wages

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Anna Heilman is bitter but resigned.

"I'm frankly very, very sad," the 68-year-old Auschwitz slave-labor survivor, told *The CJN* from her Ottawa home. "It's sad when your worst expectations are realized."

Heilman was referring to last week's ruling by a German court rejecting her claim for back wages for her war-era slave labor.

She was one of 21 elderly Jewish women who had launched a class-action civil suit against the German government, claiming they are owed compensation for their forced labor.

Heilman was the sole Canadian plaintiff. The others live in Israel, Germany and the United States.

The court upheld the German government's policy of rejecting compensation claims by former Nazi slave laborers.

The judges ruled that German law already provides compensation to victims of Nazi persecution, but excludes the payment of wages to victims of forced labor.

The ruling said the compensation the women have received has been sufficient, and that they are not entitled to more.

"I didn't expect anything else," a weary-sounding Heilman said of the court ruling. "But it's terrible. I'm sick about it."

The suit took five years to wind its way through the German courts.

All the plaintiffs had been forced to work at German chemical and munitions factories near Auschwitz.

The Warsaw-born Heilman said she received a one-lump restitution payment of about $3,000 in 1956 for "denial of freedom."

As a teenager, she was forced to work in the munitions factory at Auschwitz for two years. Her parents were gassed at neighboring Birkenau.

Anna Heilman

Heilman's sister, Esther Wajcblum, was one of four women publicly hanged at the camp for trying to blow up a crematorium.

Only one of the plaintiffs was awarded back wages. The court ordered an award of 15,000 marks (about $12,000) to a Polish woman who had immigrated to Israel in the late 1960s, too late to have filed for compensation under a 1953 German law.

The plaintiffs' lawyer said he would appeal the decision.

But Heilman says she's had enough.

"I'm so tired of it. We wanted to bury the past. Now, they are denying their culpability, and they'll continue to do it."

Heilman said the ruling will affect all the former slave laborers at the Auschwitz munitions plant, which was called Union.

There are at least eight Union survivors in Toronto, and one in Montreal.

Only one day before the court's ruling, the German government insisted that compensation demands for slave labor under the Nazi regime were no longer valid.

An estimated 12 million foreign slaves in occupied countries labored in Nazi factories.

Last Wednesday's ruling was a stinging defeat for the thousands of Holocaust survivors who worked under the Nazis' forced-labor system.

Jewish organizations estimate there are between 15,000 and 40,000 Holocaust survivors in Eastern Europe who have never received compensation.

German companies that used forced labor generally paid their salaries to the Nazi SS, which kept the money.

Most of those companies – including German industry giants such as Volkswagen, Daimler-Benz and Siemens – are still in business. None of them has made more than token payments to their former slave laborers.

The companies have argued that they paid the Nazi SS for the forced laborers they employed, and that any further compensation should come from the government.

Heilman said Jews should be a "bit more demanding" when it comes to claiming compensation from German companies that used slaves during the war.

— *With files from JTA*

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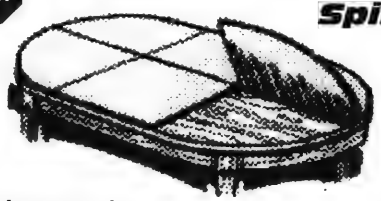

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From coast to coast

A look at Toronto's Jews from Russia

[cont'd. from page 1]

250,000 Russian Jews. There are also sizable Russian-Jewish populations in Los Angeles and Chicago of roughly 60,000 and 40,000 respectively. Toronto's Russian-Jewish community is the fourth largest in North America and comprises about 18 percent of the city's Jewish population of about 170,000.

Their problems, for the most part, are typical of all new immigrants: lack of shelter, money, employment, English-language proficiency, social connections and know-how. No matter what their professional backgrounds may be, many find they must retrain for jobs in new fields.

"When they get on a plane in Moscow, they still have their professional status of doctor, lawyer, engineer," says Sophie Fischhoff, a veteran social worker at Jewish Family & Child Services (JF&CS). "This status is very important in Russia. But when they reach Toronto 12 hours later, they're nobodies and they have to get in a breadline with everyone else.

"Initially, there's a honeymoon period when they see this beautiful city. Then they begin asking questions: Where do I live? How about a job? I was a surgeon, I was a chief of a department, I'm ready to work for nothing, just to show you my work.

"But there are no jobs and it's hard even to get an appointment. They become disappointed and disillusioned, and the honeymoon is over. Those who were in the big professions end up working in bakeries. They clean houses. They do menial work."

According to Fischhoff, many new arrivals go through a lengthy period of grieving for the old life while becoming accultured to the new, a process that can last as long as 25 years, a full generation.

"Very few get back into their fields," she says. "The ones who succeed are the ones who change their fields. They get angry – they don't want to be on welfare forever – and they get a move on with their lives."

In Minsk, Alex Gurevich was a highly skilled process engineer, his wife Maina a piano teacher. When they arrived here with their teenaged son in 1990, they knew only a smattering of English between them. Assisted by the government, the Jewish community and some Canadian relatives, they settled into an apartment in the Lawrence-Dufferin area of North York. Within a week, he was pumping gas at a service station and she was tending the refreshment bar at a bowling alley.

Even after the couple significantly improved their language skills through an English course at George Brown College, Alex could not find anyone willing to hire him as an engineer. "Sometimes at the gas station, I felt desperate – no future, very little money, lots of work," he recalls. Assisted by an empathetic counsellor at a Canada Manpower Centre, he sent out hundreds of resumes.

Maina, who upgraded her music-teaching skills, soon encountered one important cultural difference between the land of her birth and the land of her future. Music students in Russia, she found, are far more devoted than their counterparts in Canada, for whom music is often just a hobby.

"There is a different mentality here than in Russia," she says, speaking of the cultural gulf in general, "and this is almost as big a problem as language."

Strangers in a strange land, the newcomers try to understand how Canadians think. Perplexed by Canadian society, they are challenged by the ordinary decisions and activities of daily life. What type of clothes should they buy? Where should they shop? What food should they put on the table? What is proper telephone etiquette? In Russia, they worked for the state and overtime was often forbidden; in Canada it is frequently encouraged.

The Gureviches are a success story: both eventually found work in their chosen fields and they recently purchased a home.

"The life in Russia was very difficult," says Maina. "What we got here in a very short period of time we could not have in Russia in our whole lives."

One factor that worked in their favor, they say, was their relative isolation from the Russian community. Unlike the Gureviches, however, many newcomers move into neighborhoods teeming with expatriate Russians, thus impeding their own goal of acculturation and integration into Canadian society.

Elia Voloh, who learned English in his native Moldova, where he worked as an electrical engineer, arrived with his wife Inna and 6-year-old son last summer. Assisted by a variety of social agencies, including the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society (JIAS), they moved into an apartment near Bathurst and Steeles, the heart of the Russian-Jewish "ghetto."

"We're still speaking Russian a lot, since we're in an apartment where most of the people speak Russian," he says. "My child goes outside and he speaks Russian with the kids outside. This is a problem, it seems to me."

Established 75 years ago to help all Jewish immigrants with resettlement in Canada, JIAS' chief client group in recent years has been the Russians. "Our main business is not necessarily financial – we're not a welfare office," says Perry Romberg, director of the Toronto JIAS office.

In essence, the Federation-affiliated organization offers a smorgasbord of essential resettlement services in conjunction with other agencies, including English courses, adjustment counselling, and assistance with employment and housing. JIAS also hosts parties on Jewish holidays and offers classes on Jewish subjects year-round.

Organizations like Jewish Vocational Services (JVS) and JF&CS also help the immigrants establish new lives in their chosen country. JF&CS, for instance, has cooperated with the North York Board of Education for the past three years to provide a joint outreach program in five North York schools, focusing on the initial transitional months. At one school, Rockford Elementary, young Russian-speaking newcomers make up nearly 50 percent of the enrolment, up from 24 percent only a year ago.

"Young people integrate more quickly than their parents," says Margaret Kata, the JF&CS social worker who coordinates the program. "The children have the advantage of being able to acquire a second language very fast. Often, we're able to see dramatic changes in a period of six months. After that, they're able to communicate very effectively and participate in all classroom activities."

Bearing the stressful burden of resettlement and all it entails, parents often rely upon their children as cultural interpreters. Meanwhile, they find that the parental discipline techniques acceptable in Russia don't apply here. Just as schools here are far less strict and authoritarian than in Russia, parents soon learn that they too must become more liberal and abandon the heavy-handed, punitive style of child-rearing that is the norm in Russia.

"The goal here is to work with these families and help them understand and find new ways of disciplining their kids," says Gordon Wolfe, executive director of JF&CS.

Reflecting the general population, the Russian-Jewish community has its share of social problems like alcoholism, child and wife abuse, deteriorating family relations, prolonged unemployment, poverty and the temptations of crime. The transplanted Russians, however, are generally averse to resolving their problems through counselling, says Fischhoff.

Social workers don't exist in Russia and one sees a psychiatrist "only if you have a mental illness – he is a doctor who gives you pills or puts you in a mental institution," she says. "People here can come in and talk for an hour to get in touch with their feelings. That's not something the Russians can do. It's a luxury they feel they can't afford."

The issue of Russian Jews and crime is a touchy subject – and one no communal official claims to know much about. "The ones connected to the mafia, they don't need financial assistance because the mafia has money," Fischhoff says. "Sure I've heard of cases of this one getting shot, that one disappearing, but these are not clients. How true these stories are, I don't know."

She does know, she continues, that "these people come with wonderful values and they're enriching our community."

Part two will appear next week.

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Features

JIAS celebrates its 75th with an audible buffet

By JOYCE SINGER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — The Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, was recently *the* place to be seen. But not heard.

We were there to listen. To appreciate. And most of all to celebrate our heritage together with the folks from the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, and their extraordinary musical guests, on the occasion of JIAS' 75th anniversary.

There were heartfelt speeches from both Sandy Atlin, president of JIAS and Joey Steiner president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Harvey Atkin, (filling in for Ralph Benmergui who had to bow out at the last minute), kept the show running smoothly, as master of ceremonies

The concert was an audible buffet, with glorious musical arrangements performed by violinist Mark Skazinetsky (Toronto Symphony Orchestra), pianist Marina Surgan (National Ballet), and outstanding cellist Igor Gefter (Julliard). Ben Steinberg's *Ma Navu* was a particular crowd pleaser, as was the poignant Sephardic splendor of Cantor Armand Amoyal.

"We were trying to show the people in attendance the diversity of our Jewish roots." says JIAS' Sandy Atlin.

"One of the ways that we celebrated," Atlin explains, "was by commissioning a special piece of music for the occasion, by renowned composer Yefim Adler, as a musical keepsake." A highlight of the evening was his lovely composition *Jewish Dances.*

There was a wonderful performance by the dynamic "Yiddish Diva" and award-winning triple-threat (singer/ actress/playwright) Theresa Tova, (*Still The Night, ENG*).

Tova has us in stitches one moment and in tears the next, as she belted out such favourites as *Sheyne Vi Di Levone, Di Grine Kuzine*, and a delightful Molly Picon medley, in both Yiddish and English.

Tova confides that " These concerts are extra, when people ask me to do it. I don't actively go out and search for it, but I love it. I'd like to make this my life."

The Gala event was attended by such notables as actress Marilyn Lightstone; Moses Znaimer, head of the CityMuchBravoSpace stations; Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, Temple Sinai; Rabbi Yosef Zaltzman, executive director of the Jewish Russian Centre; Cantor Benjamin Maissner, Holly Blossom Temple; and Charles Heller, musical director of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, and Lorna Jackson, the Mayor of Vaughan.

The evening was also a reminder that JIAS has been an integral part of our ever burgeoning Canadian-Jewish community. Since 1922, they have been helping the less fortunate among us, worldwide, to emigrate and settle across Canada.

The Toronto Chapter took this occasion to launch a special Community Heritage Book. In it, early Jewish Torontonians, and their descendants, recollect their emigration experiences and express their profound, collective gratitude towards the JIAS organization and its membership.

Cellist Igor Gefter [Stuart Moscoe photography]

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Albright seeks to resolve remaining difficult issues

By MATTHEW DORF
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright plans to press Israel and the Palestinians to resolve two of the most difficult issues on the peace process agenda: an Israeli "timeout" on settlement expansion and further Israeli redeployment from the West Bank.

Citing progress in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks held last week near Washington, Albright decided to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in London and with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in Geneva.

Lower-level Israeli and Palestinian officials will work with U.S. officials on other issues such as a Palestinian airport and seaport in the Gaza Strip, and on establishing a safe passage route between the West Bank and Gaza.

Upbeat Palestinian and Israeli negotiators pledged to reconvene daily in the Middle East.

"It's a very good beginning," said Mahmoud Abbas, Arafat's deputy, after meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy and Albright. "We did not reach an agreement but we found a good deal of understanding."

Levy said, "We have still much work between us, but we will do it together."

U.S. officials tried to put the best spin on the talks in hopes that they can still persuade some Arab states to send representatives to the Middle East economic conference scheduled for later this month in Doha, Qatar, which Albright is scheduled to attend.

"On some of the issues, the gaps have clearly been narrowed and progress has been made. On others, there is still work to do," said James Rubin, State Department spokesperson.

"Each side has a better appreciation of the needs and concerns of the others on the issues."

As for the Doha conference, Rubin said, "We don't feel a greater sense of urgency about the Middle East peace process because of the Doha conference."

Prosecutions urged over Maccabiah bridge collapse

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — If Israel does not prosecute those responsible for the bridge collapse at the Maccabiah Games, the father of an Australian athlete injured in the tragedy has asked the Australian government to bar Israel from participating in the Sydney Olympics in the year 2000.

In a letter to the office of the Australian sports minister, Colin Elterman asked that Israel not be allowed to participate in the games if those responsible for the collapse are not brought to justice.

Elterman's daughter, Sasha, a tennis player, was seriously hurt when the temporary bridge collapsed.

Two Australian athletes were immediately killed July 14 and hundreds of other participants at the games injured when a pedestrian bridge collapsed during the opening ceremony at the Ramat Gan stadium, plunging scores of people into the Yarkon River.

Commission attributed responsibility

Two more Australians died weeks later as a result of complications that medical officials linked to contaminants in the river water.

A commission investigating the accident found the engineer and contractors who built the bridge at fault for poor planning and execution. It also criticized Maccabiah organizers for trying to cut costs and take a cheaper bid.

State Attorney Edna Arbel, who met this week with Australian Jewish leader Mark Liebler, said she intended to decide by the end of the month whether charges would be brought against any of those believed to be responsible for the collapse.

Liebler said that while the Australian Jewish community had not requested that Israel not be allowed to participate in the Sydney Olympics, there was a sense of frustration over what is perceived to be Israeli foot-dragging in handling the matter.

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The China/Iran link

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

In a decision welcomed by Israel, President Jiang Zemin has pledged to scrap China's nuclear assistance program to Iran.

Mideast Analysis

Jiang delivered the promise to President Bill Clinton during the course of a recent visit to the United States. It is similar to an assurance given to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu by China's deputy premier, Li Lanqing, last August.

Even if China keeps its word and stops helping Iran to build a nuclear reactor, the fact of the matter is that China still remains a major supplier of military equipment to Iran and other Muslim countries.

According to a recent report released by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, China is the world's biggest supplier of advanced technology to developing nations like Iran seeking ballistic missiles, chemical weapons and nuclear devices.

China, which established formal diplomatic relations with Israel five years ago last January, has been a major source of arms to Iran since the late 1980s, when the Iran-Iraq War was still raging.

During the decade ending in 1995, China sold $3 billion (US) in weaponry and munitions to Iran. Last September, China signed a $4.5 billion agreement with Iran under which it will acquire high-performance aircraft, naval vessels, artillery pieces and cruise missiles.

Iran, a vociferous adversary of the Oslo peace process and an opponent of Israel's very existence, has been rebuilding its armed forces since the conclusion of the Iran-Iraq War in 1988. With the reported help of China and Russia, Iran is currently on the brink of completing work on a long-range missile capable of striking Israel.

Israel – itself the fifth largest arms supplier in the world – has repeatedly raised this issue with China. But China has fended off Israeli concerns with disingenuous disclaimers.

Last March, Li Lanqing, the Chinese deputy vice premier, visited Israel, and dismissed suggestions that China was selling Iran nuclear and missile technology. To hammer home the point, he declared that China had a firm policy of not escalating tensions in the Middle East.

In May 1993, in Tel Aviv, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen told Shimon Peres, the then foreign minister, that China had no intention of selling missiles to regional states at war with Israel. "China," he said, "will be very, very careful not to sell weapons that would endanger the security of your country."

As observers noted, Qian's statement echoed one he had made in September 1992 on his first visit to Israel, when he promised Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, that China would limit weapon sales to the Middle East and would not sell Iran an atomic reactor which could be used for military purposes.

But judging by the Central Intelligence Agency's recent assessment of China's arms policy, and Israel's own knowledge of Chinese weapons sales, China has been less than candid with respect to this sensitive subject.

In addition to Iran, China has supplied Syria, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Egypt and Algeria with arms. Writing in the current edition of *Middle East Quarterly,* Frank Gaffney, Jr., director of the Centre for Security Policy in Washington, D.C., claims that China has enhanced Syria's, Libya's and Saudi Arabia's long-range missile capability.

The Chinese, he observes, regard arms sales as a means by which to generate hard currency, pay for oil imports, gain prestige and diminish the United State's influence in the Middle East.

Although Chinese proliferation activities put Israel at risk, Gafney adds, some of the deadly technology reaching Iran via China has come by way of Israel.

Israel denies having sold military technology to China, but in 1993, when Yitzhak Rabin was in China, the director of the Central Intelligence Agency alleged that Beijing had acquired Israeli technology from the now-defunct, U.S.-funded Lavi jet fighter.

In the Middle East, truth can be stranger than fiction.

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The Week in Israel

Nov. 3

• Haifa's Chief Rabbi Sha'ar Yishuv Cohen said Reform and Conservative rabbis in Israel should be able to conduct marriage and funeral ceremonies as long as they do not conduct interfaith and same-sex marriages. He also voiced support for a compromise reached earlier by the Ne'eman Committee on conversion that was rejected by the Chief Rabbinate.

Nov. 4

• One of the two agents involved in the failed assassination attempt of Khaled Meshal in Jordan failed to follow orders in not calling the attack off, according to Israel Television. The senior of the two operatives was supposed to stop the attempt if he saw Meshal's driver, which he did.

• The High Court ruled that then-defence minister Ariel Sharon misled Prime Minister Menachem Begin regarding the extent of the military operation he planned for the war in Lebanon in 1982. The court made the statement in a ruling rejecting a libel suit brought by Sharon against the daily *Ha'aretz.*

Nov. 5

• IDF soldiers gathered more than 150 Palestinians in the street in Hebron. The men were photographed and warned not to attack Jewish settlers. The army said it took the action because of recent incidents involving rocks and bottles thrown at Israeli troops.

Nov. 6

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu calmed anxious Likud ministers by restating his promise that no resolutions on the party's internal primaries would be voted on at the upcoming convention.

Nov. 7

• After investigating suspicions that two senior reserve officers may have been involved in a plot to kidnap the granddaughter of Aristotle Onassis, police have dismissed the case for lack of evidence. The two officers were implicated in a report in *Paris Match.*

• "El Nino is a real phenomenon, but not in our region," said Zvi Alpherson, director of the Meteorological Service.

With files from the JTA and JPFS

Rabin assassination report to remain secret

BY LIAT COLLINS AND BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein last week instructed cabinet ministers not to reveal the classified section of the Shamgar Commission report on the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, saying the contents could not be published until further notice.

Science Minister Michael Eitan was the first cabinet member to review the classified section of the report. Eitan, who has been compiling material on alleged agent provocateur Avishai Raviv for the past two years, said afterwards he believes that some of the material he has was not known to the Shamgar Commission when it reached its conclusions.

Rubinstein ruled that ministers could see the classified section, which deals, among other things, with the role of Raviv, who was working for the General Security Service (GSS) even as he led several extreme right-wing groups and was a close companion of assassin Yigal Amir.

The decision to at least partially open the files follows the renewed debate on Raviv's role in the incitement that preceded the murder and the revival of a conspiracy theory which most MKs and ministers have rejected.

Without discussing the report itself, Eitan said that he saw no proof of a plot implicating either politicians or the GSS, but he called for a debate on the conclusions of the classified material relating to Raviv to be held at the next cabinet meeting.

"I have reason to believe the material which I have acquired was not presented to the Shamgar Commission.

"Therefore, I will demand a check into whether the government officials who were meant to supply all the information relating to Raviv's activities actually did supply it to the commission," Eitan said.

Eitan said the Raviv affair has significant implications on the rule of law. He claimed the law enforcement system "regarding this affair, did not operate and is not operating as it should in a democratic country."

He said last year he had given the State Attorney's Office the sworn statement of a member of Raviv's group, saying Raviv had incited the murder of Rabin and organized anti-Arab acts, but the office had not yet acted on it.

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, who also saw the report, called it "shocking." He said the material relating to the use of Raviv as an agent provocateur has serious implications.

But Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, who was privy to the classified report as a member of the ministerial committee on the GSS in the last government, said it contains "nothing at all that can redeem those political hooligans who incited against Yitzhak Rabin until he was murdered.

"It was not a GSS plant who planted the slanderous words which came out of the mouths of the leaders of the right, and it was not he who wrote their speeches and responses. It is the leaders of the right who are responsible for what happened in the country before the murder," said Sarid.

Aryeh Dean Cohen contributed to this report.

Israeli dialogue urged

Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Two years after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, nearly 41 percent of Israelis feel that neither the religious nor the secular have done sufficient soul-searching over the event or have learned practical lessons from it.

This is one of the findings from a poll commissioned by the Gesher association, which promotes understanding between the secular and religious. The survey found that 45 percent of secular respondents have this view, which is shared by 38 percent of the religious.

Asked who they thought did more soul-searching, 40.8 percent said no one; but 23.7 percent said the secular and 14.3 percent said the religious. Another 17.8 percent said both groups performed introspection equally following the murder and 3.4 percent had no opinion.

"My conclusion from the survey," said Gesher chair Daniel Tropper, "is that two years after the Rabin murder the dialogue between the religious and the secular is more vital and possible than ever, since what is common among the population is greater than what divides it."

Scholar advocated pluralism

CJN Wire Services

LONDON — Sir Isaiah Berlin, a giant in 20th-century political philosophy, avid raconteur and ardent Zionist, died in London last week after a long illness. He was 88.

Sir Isaiah was recalled as a man who reshaped political and social philosophy. A renowned scholar, he was a staunch advocate of pluralism, often warning that single truths about human behavior would lead to bloodshed and deprivation of liberty.

Sir Isaiah Berlin

He had a 60-year relationship with Oxford University, where he was a lecturer, professor and college president.

A liberal and fervent anti-communist, Sir Isaiah examined the development of liberal and totalitarian ideas, and wrote about Renaissance and Enlightenment thinkers, opera, and Russian literature.

He is perhaps best known for his 1953 essay, *The Hedgehog and the Fox*, and for his 1959 work, *Two Concepts of Liberty*, considered a major contribution to political theory.

Sir Isaiah was born in Riga, Latvia, the son of a successful timber merchant. His maternal grandfather was a chassidic rabbi. The family moved to St. Petersburg, where he was witness to the Russian Revolution. In 1919, his family moved to Britain and he attended Oxford.

He was awarded several accolades, including the Jerusalem Prize for his defence of civil liberties.

His Zionism was rooted in his belief in pluralism and not necessarily in the need to preserve Jewish culture.

One of Sir Isaiah's many close friends was Chaim Weizmann, Israel's first president.

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Joint medical research planned

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

HAIFA — A new initiative by the president of the Medical Research Council of Canada (MRC) will increase cooperation between Canada and Israel in medical research.

Dr. Henry Friesen was in Israel this week to visit some of the leading medical research centres and discuss his far-reaching plans to encourage the Canadian Jewish community to participate in a newly formed partnership to be known as the Canada-Israel Health Research Foundation.

"The MRC is a leading federal agency that supports medical research across the country," explained Friesen. "The council held some discussions recently to explore international opportunities for joint projects. At the moment, the foundation is a conceptual proposal and we are now at the stage of eliciting suggestions in both Israel and Canada to see how it might work. It is for this reason that I am in Israel to discuss such possibilities of joint projects with the country's leading medical research centres. The ultimate aim of the project is to enhance scientific interaction in medical research and health sciences between Canada and Israel."

Although there are many arrangements between individuals and institutions in the two countries, there is at present no national program, he said. This initiative would transform individual efforts to a national effort, giving it a high profile in both countries.

"The financing for the new foundation would come from individuals across Canada who share in the objectives. In the first instance, the funding would be mainly dependent on contributions from the Canadian Jewish community. In the future we would hope to enlarge that constituency to include any Canadian who recognizes that discoveries can be of importance, no matter who funds and supports the initiative," Friesen said.

"Once the foundation is under way we would hope that both Canadian and Israeli government funds might become available for specific projects."

Friesen received a strongly positive response when he held meetings to sound out his ideas with representatives of the Jewish community in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Winnipeg and Ottawa.

The foundation will grant funds on the basis of applications made by interested groups, individuals or institutions for projects or additional personnel support. At all stages, there would be stringent international peer reviews to evaluate the proposals, as well as to ensure that the contributions are being spent wisely. The foundation, which it is hoped will begin operation next summer, will be administered by a board selected from the contributors.

The foundation should build bridges between Canada and Israel and allow for the exchange of the latest information and opinions. It is envisaged that post-doctoral scientists beginning their careers will be eligible for fellowship grants for two years to support them in either Canada or Israel, and then a further grant of another year while they resettle in their home country.

On this first visit to Israel, Friesen and his colleague Francis Rolleston, the director of ethics and international relations of the MRC, targeted hospitals and universities with attached medical faculties. In their four-day stay, they visited the Hadassah Medical Centre, the Weizmann Institute of Science, Ben-Gurion University, the Chaim Sheba Medical Centre, the Technion and Israel's leading pharmaceutical company, Teva. In addition, they had discussions with the Israeli minister of health, Yehoshua Matza, and the chief scientists of the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Health Ministry.

The deputy director of the Chaim Sheba Medical Centre in Ramat Gan told Friesen: "It would be an honor for us to collaborate with you. We recognize Canada as a caring society with health matters as a priority. I think that we have a lot to offer."

Prof. Karl Skorecki, who came to the Technion from Canada two years ago to continue his world renowned genetic research, also expressed his support for the project. "I am sure there would be a net gain to get this project off the ground. The individuals and organizations are already in place—we don't have to reinvent the wheel. The systems of peer reviews and the people are already here, we should just get on with it. In my opinion, post doctorates and projects are the most important factor today in health research."

A Message to CJN Snowbirds

If you will be spending all or part of this winter outside of Canada, there are three options available to you regarding delivery of your Canadian Jewish News.

1/ Continue regular delivery to your home, and arrange for Canada Post to forward The CJN on with your other mail each week.

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To make any change in your delivery please call Janice at **416-391-1836**, allowing a minimum of two weeks notice.

ANNOUNCING

THE BRONFMAN YOUTH FELLOWSHIPS IN ISRAEL 1998

For the twelfth consecutive summer, a group of outstanding Jewish teenagers in the U.S. and Canada, coming from a wide variety of backgrounds and entering the twelfth grade of school, will be recipients of the Bronfman Youth Fellowships*. They will spend five fulfilling weeks of study, dialogue and travel in Israel.

The Bronfman Fellows will be selected on the basis of character, intellectual interests, special talents and leadership qualities. Merit, not financial need, is the program's selection standard. Fellowship activities begin on July 6th, with a return from Israel on August 12th. All meals will be kosher, and Sabbath activities will be in the spirit of the day.

Based in Jerusalem, the Fellows will engage in an intense interaction with a diverse rabbinic faculty and counselors, representing a wide range of Jewish perspectives. They will explore Jewish texts against the background of Israel's land, culture and customs ... take part, at a time of rapid change, in seminars with some of the country's leading political and cultural figures ... debate ideas and search for insights on the different ways to define oneself as a Jew today, all in an atmosphere of mutual respect and open dialogue.

The purpose: to return home with a new understanding of the myriad issues facing the Jewish people and the Jewish state, and a new appreciation of the need for dialogue among Jews.

* Fellowships cover all expenses including roundtrip transportation between New York and Israel, room and board, travel in Israel and incidentals.

For a descriptive brochure and application form, please call or write at once to:
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Fax: (518) 432-8984
E-mail: YFI@bronfman.org
Website: http://bronfman.org

Completed applications must be postmarked by January 30, 1998

A PROGRAM OF THE SAMUEL BRONFMAN FOUNDATION, INC.

Is PA hiding arms for Iraq?

[Cont'd. from page 1]

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's political adviser Nabil Amr said, "I have no idea about this information."

Asked if it was conceivable that the embassy could be used to hide sensitive Iraqi documents, he declined to comment.

The PA embassy is situated in Arafat's private residence in Baghdad, a heavily guarded palatial structure well inside a compound.

"The material is in Yasser Arafat's house," the Iraqi exile said. "It's a fact."

One of the Iraqi opposition groups' American sympathizers, who worked with them in London from 1991 to 1994 and recently resumed activity on their behalf in Washington, said the hidden documents refer to Iraq's chemical weapons, VX nerve gas, "and possibly nuclear arms."

Arafat's residence, "which has just been designated as the PA embassy," he went on, has extra-territorial status and therefore "it is difficult for the UN arms inspectors to make a fuss about it."

Speaking for the Iraqi opposition, the source said, "we have had agents at the site who could see that the embassy building is used to hide documents."

He said the nerve gas is stored in a solid state, "like salt," and probably is deposited in the Iraqi desert.

The alleged existence of secret repositories that effectively are off limits to the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) was reported to its British chair, Richard Butler, in a confidential letter sent by the Iraqi exiles on Sept. 16. Its text contains these passages:

"We learned certain information from sources in Baghdad which will be of use to you.

"We believe there are documents regarding Iraq's weapons of mass destruction hidden in St. Joseph's Church in the Dora district. The church is on the main street across from the Assyrian market.

"There are also important documents being stored at the Baghdad residence of President Yasser Arafat in the Jadiriya district."

The cordial relations between the PA and Saddam's regime are borne out by a report in the Palestinian press this week that $100 million (US) in aid from the Iraqi government is being blocked by the UN.

Sources here believe Iraq is interested in exporting oil to the PA through Jordan in addition to providing monetary assistance or as a substitute for it, but this is being prevented by Israel. "It could be a lucrative proposition for all the parties concerned," a source said, "Iraq, Jordan, Israel and the PA."

Elements of the Palestinian Police were trained in Iraq "and the Iraqi government pays the PA for using camps on Iraqi soil," the source went on, contending that Iraq has been actively involved in preparing terrorists for missions that it initiates.

"Arafat never stopped his relations with Iraqi intelligence," a Palestinian familiar with the inner workings of the PA said.

He said Arafat's reported meeting in Amman with Iraq's ambassador on Aug. 8, "actually was with a senior Iraqi intelligence officer. The Iraqi Embassy was the logical venue, because Iraqi intelligence personnel never stay in hotels when they are abroad."

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Israel's physicians search for new treatment methods

By WENDY ELLIMAN
Special to The CJN

JERUSALEM — Thousands of Israel's physicians not only care for the sick, they also actively search for more and better ways to prevent, diagnose, treat and cure.

This year, as in the past, Israelis have developed new drugs and found new uses for known drugs; they have extended our knowledge of how the body works, introduced new treatment techniques and put medical consultations on line with new digital technology.

The very large number of health professionals in Israel, one of the highest per capita rates of physicians in the world according to a recent British study, is undoubtedly one of the reasons why the country has come up with so many medical innovations in recent years.

Two drugs recently developed in Israel are of particular importance, as they slow the progression of two relentless and incurable diseases – multiple sclerosis (MS) and Parkinson's.

Injected every other day, the long-heralded Copaxone, developed at the Weizmann Institute of Science over the past 30 years, reduces both the severity and frequency of MS attacks. Israel approved its use last November, and FDA approval followed soon afterward.

The second major new drug slows the ravages of Parkinson's disease, and may possibly halt it entirely if taken early enough. Known as L-Dopa ethyl ester, it was developed at the Hebrew University and Rabin Medical Centre as an alternative to L-Dopa, which loses its effectiveness over the long term.

A third new made-in-Israel compound was declared safe and effective last March. It is an influenza vaccine in the form of nose drops, and its Hadassah Medical Centre developers believe it will be a breakthrough in controlling flu.

These compounds are totally new. Other Israeli researchers have found new uses for old drugs. The headache clinic team at Meir Hospital in Kfar Saba, for example, have used a muscle relaxant developed 80 years ago in Switzerland to control migraine headaches. They found it substantially reduces the frequency of migraines in four-fifths of patients tested, and prevents it altogether in one-third of them. Trying Baclophen for headache prevention was no lucky chance: the reasoning was that since it stabilizes myelin in the neurons, it will prevent release of headache-triggering substances.

Doctors at Tel Aviv University and the Schneider Children's Medical Centre of Israel, have found new use for a drug first synthesized 10 years ago to speed growth in patients with dwarfism or Laron's syndrome. Doctors now believe it can also reduce the risk of heart attack. An insulin-like hormone (IGF-I), the drug lowers lipoprotein levels in the blood – one of the important risk factors in cardiovascular disease. Prof. Zvi Laron, a leading pediatric endocrinologist (who gave his name to Laron's syndrome – one of only two diseases named for an Israeli), believes this can "contribute to treatment of people at high risk for cardiovascular diseases and even play a determining role in preventing these diseases."

IGF-I has also been found helpful in controlling non-insulin-dependent diabetes, "and there is hope, according to our new data, that [it] will be accepted as a drug to extend the life of diabetes patients," says Laron.

Diabetes has been the focus of several Israeli researchers during the past year, and two groups have come up with new ways of treating "diabetic foot." This common complication results from poor blood circulation, with too many diabetics developing gangrene of the foot, which requires amputation.

Parasitologists at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School have come up with an effective –but far from esthetic – solution: placing maggots on the infected wounds to eat away necrotic tissue and allow healthy skin layers to grow. So far the procedure has been performed on five patients and it has been completely successful. The researchers took the idea from Napoleon's chief military physician and from the U.S. Civil War's chief medical officer. They believe it can also be successfully used for burns, sores, abscesses and chronic bone infections.

A Russian-born vascular expert and a Jerusalem gynecologist-cum-rabbi are the team who have developed the second new "diabetic foot" treatment. They inject into the blocked blood vessels of the foot the same medication that is injected into blood vessels in the penis to expand them and cure impotence. In some 500 diabetics, they have achieved an 80 percent success rate, with no amputations necessary.

Another Weizmann Institute discovery this past year concerns the battle between man and increasingly antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Biochemists at Weizmann have identified a molecule (MdfA) that enables bacteria to resist a wide range of drugs. They hope MdfA will serve as a model for greater understanding of multi-drug resistance, perhaps even clarifying its influence in human cancers.

Cancers – prevention and treatment – remain a key area for research. A gene mutation responsible for breast and ovarian cancer was discovered in Israel in May by researchers at the Sheba Hospital at Tel HaShomer. Women carrying this mutation are advised to come for regular examination for early detection.

A technique for treating cancers that attack the brain was one of several very new medical techniques being pioneered in a handful of medical centres worldwide. Israeli hospitals among them. The Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical Centre this year became the only centre outside the United States to perform a technique to use effective chemotherapy for cancers of the brain. Injecting the sugar solution mannitol into the artery that supplies blood to the brain, they open a tiny temporary window in the well-fortified blood-brain barrier, and slip chemotherapeutic drugs across it.

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Actress' dream comes true

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts Editor

TORONTO — When *The CJN* last wrote about her five years ago, Mia Kirshner, then a teenager attending Jarvis Collegiate here, had just landed a part on the TV show *The Freshman*.

Her acting career has come a long way since then. Kirshner, now 22, divides her time between working on a degree in literature and acting in major films.

She can currently be seen in *Mad City* opposite icons Dustin Hoffman and John Travolta.

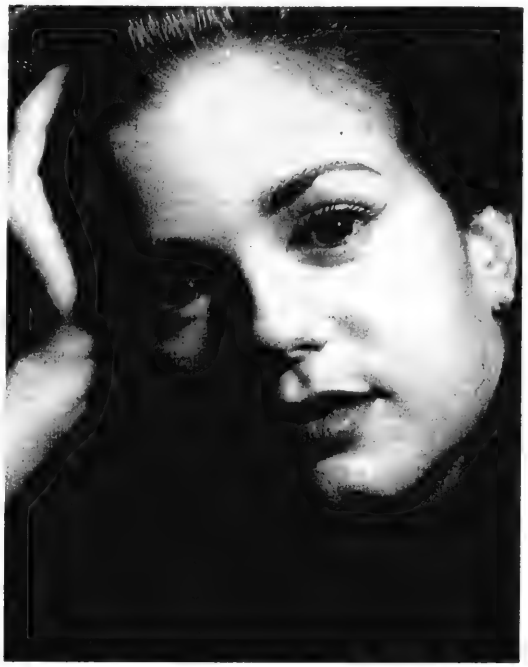
"I always wanted to be an actress," Kirshner says in her demure voice that yet has an imperial-like quality. "In my wildest dreams, I did imagine myself in a Hollywood film, but I never thought it would be real."

If anything, the shy, soft-spoken, actress seems almost the antithesis of a Hollywood star. I get the impression she is actually enjoying the limelight of her first press tour across several cities in the United States and Canada.

"It's very strange for me to be here," she says. "When I was little, I used to watch actors and actresses being interviewed and I used to pretend it was me. Now I find I'm mentioned in the same film encyclopedias I used to love to read."

A major press tour such as the one she's on is a very gruelling task. Yet Kirshner takes it all in stride.

"You have to be grateful for every opportunity given to you. I know there are many girls who would love to be here doing what I'm doing, so I can't complain."



Mia Kirshner starts in *Mad City* opposite Dustin Hoffman.

Kirshner's big career break came in two successive provocative roles that received much critical attention. The first was playing a dominatrix in Denys Arcand's *Love and Human Remains* and the second was her role as a stripper in Atom Egoyan's *Exotica*.

She then landed parts in various Hollywood projects opposite Christian Slater, Jack Lemmon, Walter Matthau and Sissy Spacek.

But even with all this experience, it was difficult for the Toronto-born actress to act with professional decorum opposite such giants as Hoffman and Travolta.

"I was absolutely starstruck and completely in awe," she says of her first days on the set of *Mad City*. "I would turn into putty around John Travolta."

Kirshner plays Laurie Callahan a young, idealistic and impressionable intern reporter at a small town television station. Working on a routine budget story at a museum, with a seasoned investigative reporter (Hoffman) whose career has been going downhill since his clash with a veteran network anchor (Alan Alda), she ends up in the middle of the hottest story in the country.

A disgruntled laid-off security guard (Travolta) returns to the museum demanding his job back, and takes a group of visiting school kids hostage.

Although Kirshner is on the periphery of much of the action, she perhaps plays one of the most important characters, as she's bounced off the conflicting personalities of Hoffman and Alda. Her shocking statements at the end of the movie will catch many moviegoers by surprise.

"There's such a subtle change in her character, she herself doesn't see it happening," Kirshner says of Laurie, and almost begs forgiveness for her sudden shift. "She's just doing what she was told to do."

Despite Kirshner's busy acting schedule, she still wants to finish her course at McGill, where she's specializing in Russian literature.

"When I'm at school, I'm at school, and when I work, my focus is my career," she says. "I like school and like to be with people my own age, but my career is really taking a shape of its own."

Although she wants to finish school, she admits it may take her awhile. "I have to take every acting opportunity I can get. It's so expensive to go to school these days and I like the fact that I'm able to pay my own way."

Although Mia Kirshner is not a household name, she's already developing a fan base. There are a number of Web pages dedicated to her on the Internet.

"That's a really strange feeling," she says. "I don't think of myself [as a star]. I consider myself very normal and down to earth."

At a recent premiere screening of *The Devil's Advocate*, one devotee came up to her brandishing her first publicity photo from many years ago.

"I mean where did he get it from? I don't even have one!"

Maybe not, but here at *The CJN* offices, her father, veteran reporter Sheldon Kirshner, has that picture proudly framed above his desk.

Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

CBC'S MICHAEL ENRIGHT HOSTS SYNAGOGUE TALKS

Michael Enright, celebrated co-host of *This Morning* on CBC Radio 1, applies his superlative interviewing skills to a trio of distinguished personalities at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, 3080 Bayview Ave., North York.

"We consider ourselves very lucky to have him – he's terrific," says **Stephen Albert**, chair of the shul's adult education program.

On Nov. 13, 8 p.m., in a program called Search For Spirituality, Enright interviews **Eva Goldfinger**, spiritual leader of the Toronto congregation Oraynu for Secular Humanist Judaism, on her approach to Judaism and Jewish life.

On Nov. 20, 8 p.m. Enright interviews **Dr. Elliott Malamet**, Jewish educator and CHAT faculty member. On Nov. 27, 8 p.m., Enright speaks with **Simcha Jacobovici**, award-winning filmmaker and founder of Toronto's east-end Beth Joseph Congregation. Admission to all events is free.

* * *

Congratulations: Mordecai Richler became the fourth recipient of the $25,000 Giller Prize for his latest novel *Barney's Version*.

Richler beat out other finalists **Michael Helm**, **Shani Mootoo**, **Nino Ricci** and **Carol Shields**.

***

Centre Spotlight: November's evening of Yiddish and Jewish performance spotlights comedian **Eddie Rice**, tenor **Alan Reid**, pianist **Paul Hickey**, humorist **Jack Gelman**, singer **Fern Dworkin**, comedian **Ed Pollak** and guest **Helena Fine** with select songs from Brundibar, the children's opera from the Terezin Ghetto. **Gloria Valentine** is artistic director. Nov. 15, 8:30 p.m. Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. (5 blocks north of Lawrence, just east of Bathurst), North York. First time supporters $10. 416-789-5502.

Also at the Winchevsky Centre, the Cranbrooke Friendship Club of the United Jewish People's Order presents Press Clippings, an afternoon discussion of current events with Eileen Chud and David Abramowitz. Mon. Nov. 17, 12:30 p.m. $4.

* * *

Storytelling: Jewish Storytelling Arts presents *The Interrupted Life of Etty Hillesum*, based on the recently discovered diaries and letters of an extraordinary woman's exploration of the meaning of life in Nazi-occupied Holland. Starring and adapted by **Leslie Robbins**, the production runs Dec. 10 to 21 at the Ford Centre, Studio Theatre, North York. 416-872-2222.

* * *

Literary Calendar: At Chapters Bookstore, 7040 Yonge St. & Steeles, editor **Ruth Panofsky** reads from *Selected Letters of Margaret Laurence and* **Adele Wiseman** Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m.; **Rabbi Chezi Nejar** of the Kabbalah Centre speaks on Codes of the Bible & Kabbalah Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m.; author Nancy **Gay Rotstein** reads from **Shattering Glass** Nov. 28, 7:30 p.m.; and author-survivor **Vera Shiff** reads from Theresienstadt Nov. 30, 2 p.m. 905-881-2846.

* * *

Arts Briefs: Bella! Did Ya Eat? authentic Jewish Sunday brunch presents **Lenka Lichtenberg** with **Jonno Lightstone** and **Michael Rumack** doing Yiddish cabaret on Nov. 16. **Martin Van de Ven** and **Brian Katz** performs klezmer classics on Nov. 23; **Ronnie Wiseman** delivers klezmer reggae Nov. 30. Brunch runs 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with seatings for performances at 12 and 1:30 p.m. 320 College St. ...

The Toronto Jewish Film Festival has become a third partner in the gala launch of **Simcha Jacobovici**'s *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies & The American Dream* at the Princess of Wales Theatre on Nov. 24. Support the TJFF and be among the first to see this important new film. 416-324-8600 ...

Jason Schwartz's The Ghosts That Haunt Us -- Portraits of Holocaust Survivors opened recently at the Koffler Gallery, Bathurst Jewish Centre, and runs through Dec. 1– as does the show *Chorus*, by **Mindy Yan Miller** ...

An Exhibition of Judaica in Contemporary Craft opens Nov. 13, 5:30 to 9 p.m. at A Show of Hands Contemporary Craft Gallery, 1947 Avenue Rd. The exhibition is curated by **Sara Levine Petroff** and features works by **Judd Shemesh**, **Haya Nativ**, **Sheila Birenbaum**, **Yaya Padawer** and others ...

B.C. sculptor **Jeffrey Rubinoff** is among seven artists represented in the show Works In Steel at the Two Sculptors Gallery on 18th St. in Manhattan. Until Dec. 13....

Interested in being a contestant on TimeChase, the new quiz show on History Television? Call 416-595-4393. The phone number mysteriously dropped out of this column two weeks ago.

CORRECTION

The article that appeared last week about Bill Tepper incorrectly stated that he had directed *Shmulnik's Waltz*. It was directed by Gerry Babins.

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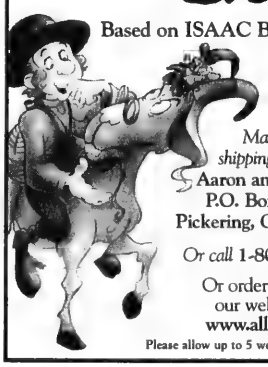

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Image: *Life of Prominent*, Fritta/Fritz Taussig

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BY BILL GLADSTONE

ISRAEL READIES TO CELEBRATE 50TH

Despite the difficulties on the peace road, Israel is planning major touristic events, beginning next month, to mark its 50th anniversary.

Official festivities begin on the evening of Dec. 23, when Jews around the world light the first candle of Chanukah. The theme of the year-long celebrations is hope, which is also the theme of Israel's national anthem, *Hatikvah* (The Hope).

Some planned events:

On Feb. 11, 1998, the Light of Peace, a sculpture designed by legendary surrealist Salvador Dali, will be installed at Ben Gurion airport to greet all visitors. Feb. 1 is Tu B'Shvat, known as the New Year for trees, and on this day the first seedlings for a new forest will be planted between Be'ersheva and Arad in the Negev desert.

In April, every segment of Israeli society and many foreign visitors will join in the Jubilee Jerusalem March, re-creating the biblical trek to Jerusalem. Also in April, an artistic festival in the Galilean town of Horpish will salute Israel's Arab, Christian, Druze and other minorities.

On April 30, 50,000 are expected for a birthday rally in a stadium in Ramat Gan, a Tel Aviv suburb.

The opening ceremony for this Israel Independence Day party will rival that of the Olympic games.

In April and May, more than 5,000 Gentiles who risked their lives to save Jews during WWII will be brought to Israel and honored at the Knesset. In May, the world's foremost fashion designers will salute Israel in style at a Fashion Festival in Eilat.

In June, a Masada Concert will feature international singers, backed by the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, performing the ancient story of heroism and martyrdom from Roman oppression. And in July, several gourmet and culinary festivals will take place in Eilat, Herzliiya, Kiryat Shemona and Kiryat Malachi.

For more information, contact the Israel Government Tourist Office, 416-964- 3784 or email igto@idirect.com or 800-669-2369.

* * *

Jewish Postcards in N.Y.: Some 200 turn-of-the-century postcards from the permanent collection of the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary are on display in the exhibition Past Perfect: Jewish Experience in Early 20th Century Postcards.

Many cards are devoted to the Jewish New Year, and run the gamut from whimsical to mystical. Some cards celebrate America's growing love affair with transportation, women in airplanes, couples in canoes and children on trains. Some cards carry Zionist messages and others depict families at traditional festive meals. 3080 Broadway Ave., New York. Until Dec. 30. 212-678-8975.

* * *

Hotel Happenings: Orient-Express Hotels recently opened the Westcliff, a luxury hotel in Johannesburg, with rates from US $200. Situated near the Johannesburg zoo, it may be the only hotel in Johannesburg where guests may see an elephant from their rooms and be lulled to sleep by the gentle roars of neighboring lions. 800-237-1236.

* * *

Senior Tours: Established in 1975, Senior Tours (formerly Senior Citizens Tour and Travel) offers escorted group tours worldwide. The all-inclusive packages are priced in Canadian dollars, and some feature value-added extras such as parties and outings.

The company has offices in Toronto, Hamilton, London, Ottawa and Montreal, and plans to open an office in Vancouver in 1998. For information on its large variety of tours, call 800-268-3492.

* * *

Travel Books: It's been 25 years since Australians Maureen and Tony Wheeler home- published *Across Asia On The Cheap*. Since then the company they formed, Lonely Planet, has become synonymous with first-rate travel guides covering an increasing number of destinations.

Today there are more than 180 Lonely Planet guides, most characterized by informative, balanced descriptions, interesting sidebars and plenty of maps and illustrations.

Titles of special interest to Jewish travelers cover Poland, Hungary, Portugal and Spain and the cities of Amsterdam and New York. Having walked around England's Peak district several times, I found Lonely Planet's recently-released **Walking in Britain** to be informative and useful.

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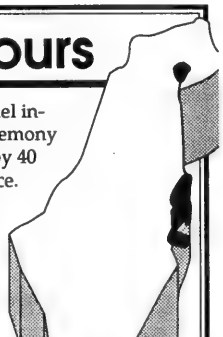

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Poet clings to love and compassion

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Honey Novick is a singer, composer and poet who is an atheist but says she clings to a Judaism which teaches love, compassion and tzedakah.

She attended Yom Kippur services this year, she says, partly to honor the memory of people who have touched her life and were the motivation for her latest album *In Tribute*.

The 48-year-old singer, a product of 1960s' "flower power" generation doesn't resent being reminded that she left home to run away to Hollywood when only 17, or that she still supports left-wing causes today.

She traces her independent spirit to her grandmother, the sixth child of a North African Jew who had three wives and 24 children. Her late mother, Yachevel, was a sabra; and her late father, David, the first milkman in Toronto to use a horse and cart, was brought to Palestine in 1912 at the age of three.

They met in Toronto at a meeting of the Palestine Canada Culture Club. The passage to Canada of Novick's mother and an uncle was paid by an aunt who read fortunes to raise the money.

An only child, she never moved with her parents from Palmerston Avenue to Reiner Road in North York, preferring to live downtown, but she kept in touch.

"My parents loved opera and often asked me to sing arias from Madame Butterfly. My father marvelled that I could earn more in a night than he did all week delivering milk."

As a youngster, she attended Camp Naivelt, and Camp Youngvelt and found a secular home in the United Jewish Peoples Order.

Long before becoming a performer and opening her Creative Vocalization Studio, Novick was an office temp, a waitress, a hat check girl and a "gofer" at the Theatre Workshop of George Luscombe.

She lived at Rochdale, the hangout for hippies of the day, and one of the songs in her new album is dedicated to Jane and Bob Jacobs, whose children she met there.

Whenever she can, she attends the monthly meeting of the *Yiddish Vinkl* at Ed Mirvish's Warehouse restaurant.

Exodus was filmed at her uncle's place in Israel and as a brash teenager, she used that as a calling card to meet the late Sal Mineo, a star of *Exodus*, when he played Toronto. She left for Hollywood to be an assistant on one of his films, but came back to Toronto in three months because she had discovered her true love – music and the human voice.

Other songs in her new album are dedicated to artists Jorge Sala and Ron Gabe of General Idea, John Hirsch and Allen Ginsberg, poets Milton Acorn and Irving Layton, science fiction writer Judy Merril and jazz musician Wayne Shorter.

Call 416-782-7944 for information about her new album.

CBC documentary on wartime Berlin lovers

Love Story (CBC Newsworld, Nov. 16 at 8 p.m.) is an award-winning documentary based on the true-life love relationship between an ardent Nazi and a Jew in wartime Berlin.

Both the protagonists are women. One is Lilly Wust, 26, the wife of a German soldier and mother of four boys. For her child-bearing efforts, she was awarded a medal by the Nazis.

The other is Felice Schragenheim, 21, who avoids being transported to the camps by going underground. She meets Lilly at a cafe and the two fall in love right away.

The documentary mixes interviews with the survivors of this story with the usual archival wartime footage. It is a well-told story, part romance, part thriller and deeply-moving.

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CHAPLIN ESTATES - $379,000.
New Listing. Eglinton/Avenue Rd. 45 ft. frontage. 3 bdrms., family room + sun room. Main. Fireplace. Private drive & attached garage. *Elaine Pike & *Bernard Pike
SOLD

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CABBAGETOWN AREA - $235,000.
Outstanding townhome, 2 bdrms. Master w/ensuite + w/o to deck. CAC. Eat-in kitchen. Private drive/garage. *Donna Taylor & *Linda Rose.
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ROSEDALE SUITE - $219,000.
Stunning 2 bedrooms, 2 bath. White modern kitchen, working marble fireplace in living room. Call *Marlene Federman.
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CLARK-ATKINSON EXECUTIVE COURT!
4+ bdrms., main floor library & family rooms, huge white kit., finished basement, 2 fireplaces, jacuzzi + + *Becky Wener

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BAYVIEW-WILLOWBROOK – FAB RAVINE LOT!!
100 ft. front! Gorgeous home approx. 3000', prof. fin. lower level has w/o to garden, hdwd, ceramics, motivated! $449K *Helen Gould

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BATHURST & CLARK– EXQUISITE DECOR!
Executive 4 bdrm., cathedral ceiling, main floor family room & main flr. laundry, appls., air, loaded! $379,000. *Ted Waxman

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4 bdrm., main flr. powder rm., backs homes. $359,000. *B. Wener

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Large 3 bdrms., main floor den, finished basement, hardwood floors, extras galore! $349,000. *Ted Waxman

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"ROSEDALE NORTH" - BATHURST & CENTRE
Best value in the area! 4 bdrm., main flr. family room, quiet court, steps to schools & all amenities. *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

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Stunning 3 bdrm., ceramic floors, newer windows, close to everything. Call *Carey Rosenzweig

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Executive 3 bdrm. condo, 2 balconies, 2 parking, appls., hardwood, marble. About 2,600 sq. ft. Value + + *Ted Waxman

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BATHURST & CENTRE CONDO – $174,900!
Immediate poss., 2 bdrms., solarium, faces West! *Helen Gould

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MUST SACRIFICE LG. HOUSE – SPRING GATE AREA
Great 4 bdrms., 3 baths, lg. fam. rm., w/fpl. & bar. Huge kit w/walk-out to garden. Formal din. rm., 2 car gar., det. on quiet street. Only $286,000.

THORNHILL BEAUTY – 2,450 SQ. FT.
Fabulous 4 bdrms., huge family room with fireplace, 3 baths, huge master bdrm., cathedral ceiling. Professionally finished basement, sky-lite, gleaming dark stain parquet, 2 car garage + + + more. Only $325,900.

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AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE – JUST $779K
Stone masterpiece to be built. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

BATHURST/LAWRENCE – NEW HOME
Fin. to suit, dbl.gar., fin. bsmt. 4 br., den. P. Mack* 226-1987

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Centre hall, special home on 132' south lot. G. Mitchell** 488-2875

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2+1 bdrm., 2 baths. Sho[illegible]. Susan Smith* 488-2875
SOLD

BATHURST/EGLINTON - HURRY!
Charming 2 bdrm. bungalow. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

CONDOMINIUMS

FOREST HILL CONDO GARDEN SUITE!
Lower Village Gate, 2 bdrm. + den. $489K. Beth Sokol* 488-2875

BATHURST/LAWRENCE – $259K
3 br., low floor, b/ins., Indy ens., well mtnd. Lil Cooper* 488-2875

BATHURST/LAWRENCE – $249K
2 br.+den, move-in, lux. co[illegible]-mirr'd b/ins. Call Lil Cooper* 488-2875
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BATHURST/LAWRENCE – $239K
2 br.+den, low flr., excel. value! Don't miss this one! Lil Cooper* 488-2875

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AURORA GOLF COURSE – $399K
4 bdrm., 4 bath, fam. rm., built by Cairns. Gary Mitchell** 488-2875

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LEASE! BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS – $1950/MO.
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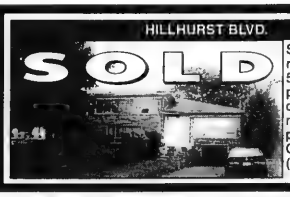

Spacious 5 bedroom side-split on 59 x 128 ft. lot, prestigious location clos[illegible] Viewmount Park, large principal rooms. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.
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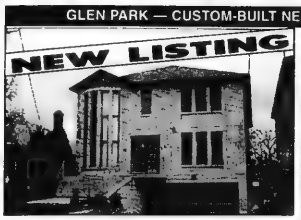

Luxurious upgrades throughout, hardwood floors in bedrooms, European kitchen, oak trims + baseboards, approx. 3,400 sq. ft. + bsmt., fabulous location, asking $629,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Charming 3 bdrm. on 50 x 150 ft. lot, close to shuls, park, highly desirable location, family values. Great buy at only $279,000! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Spacious 5 bedroom executive home, main floor family room, hardwood floors, 50 x 135 ft. lot, approx. 3,700 sq. ft. + finished basement, only $399,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

PALM DRIVE AREA
Spacious side-split, family room, large principal rooms, 3 + 1 bedrooms, priced to sell at only $289,000. Call Esther Rubenstein or Michael Klugman (416) 787-1712.

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Custom built, stunning quality craftsmanship + finishes. 4200 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. 9 1/2 ft. ceilings on main floor, Neff designer kitchen. Live your dreams NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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Detached bungalow! Renovated + decorated! Gleaming hardwood, new eat-in kitchen, finished floors, basement, a great deal at only $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

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109 York Downs $338K! Updated 3+1 br., mn. fam. & lau.

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Executive! Totally renovated w/flair. Fam. & lib. rms., inground pool, marble foyer, Shows "10". Frances Novack"

1ST ADS! SANDON SCHWARTZBEN, V.P.**
22 Old Colony $1,499K Fab. 5+1 br., 7 bth, 103'x290'
14 Blaine Dr. $848K! Orig. Farmhouse + add'n on 97' lot.
8 Hearthstone $424,900! Super 4+1 br., mn.fam. & lau.

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2600 Bayview $1,395K! 4+2 br., 6 bth., priv. ravine lot.
36 Prue $899K! Exec. 5+2 br., 6 bth., rare 62'x123' lot.

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$427,900 – Atkinson & Centre
4+2 br., approx. 3100', fam. rm., den, 2 kit., walk to synagogue, huge white kit. w/island

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BAYVIEW/YORKMILLS Just listed, 4 bdr., totally renov. townhouse with double garage. $379,900.

RIDELLE/MARLEE 1 bdr. condo, close to all amenities. Occupancy Dec. 1st. $105,000.

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Spacious + very well-maintained 4 bedroom backsplit on generous 51' x 154' lot, central air, hardwood floors, huge private backyard, quiet street.
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2 bdrm. condo, good size liv. & din. rm., parquet floors, mod. kit. w/appls., bath ensuite, w/o to 2 balconies. Don't miss!

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Buy or rent store + apt. in strip plaza. Ideal for many uses.

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BATHURST VILLAGE
4 bdrm. bung., mod, kitch. w/skylite., sep. liv./din., 3 baths, fin. w/o bsmnt., dbl. drive garage.

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BLUE FOREST AREA
5 bdrm. spit. lvl., L-shaped liv./din., w/o to deck, fam. rm., 4 baths, fin. bsmnt., dbl. drive garage.

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Bath./Lawr,55',spac lrg 3 bdrm bung,bright,upgrades,new deck & kit,fin bsmt. **Private**. 782-1984

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Bath./Shepp., large 3 bdrm. house, fam. rm., jacuzzi, bidet, exclusive n/pets, n/smkr,$1400/mo. +. Call 631-6885.

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30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

30 CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

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1520 SF Corner Suite
$249K Incred. space & light in quiet, lux. upgr. condo, ovrlks. prk. 2 baths, jacuzzi, eat-in kit., mrbl. firs. etc. in prime bldg., steps to subway, shops, restaurants, etc. Beautiful suite! Amazing value! Call now.
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$799,000 Custom built 4 bdrm. home, over 3300 sq. ft. of luxury.

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$285,000 Immaculate 3 bdrm. bungalow, finished basement.

Glencairn W. Subway
$129,000-$155,000 2-3 bdrm. condo's, fab. view, pool, sauna, shabat elev.

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Bath./Finch, Savoy, comr, 21st flr, approx. 2600',3 bdrms, whirlpl, marble,extras galore! 736-8007

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35 yr. old female looking to share my 2 bdrm lux condo at **Bath./Steeles,** immed., $675. inclusive. Call 416-661-1051.

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3 bdrms., corner unit, 2 full baths, facing beautiful park, quiet neighbourhood, 5 appl's., approx. 1500 sq. ft.
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Bath./Lawr, nice furn bsmt apt. full kit, lndry, pkg, sep entr, ladies or couple. 783-8007.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

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A partner in Palm Aire, Pompano, 2 bdrms, 2 bths, recently furn, $13K U.S. Call 222-9757.

Deerfield Beach, Century Village, furn, 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bth, encl patio,cmnr unit, grnd lvl, opp pool, walk to synagogue. Call 410-828-8292.

Hallandale, 3 Island, magnif. view on inter-coastal, 2 bdrms conv, sliding door to lge. balc, 2 full bths, all amen., 1600', 24 hr. live secur. Call 416-484-1903.

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Hallandale, Jan. 5 - Mar. 12, $1500./mo. Call 905-737-6200.

Hallandale, Parker Plaza, on the ocean, 1 bdrm conv, 2 bth, min. 3 mos. 416-488-9819.

Lovely 2 bdrm, 2 bth, across from ocean, tennis, full secur, club, **163rd & Collins.** $7000. US for 4 mos. or $3900. US for 2 mos. 416-252-2521.

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Miami, Hallandale, 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bth, ocean view, $1800./mo. US. 416-638-7257.

N. Miami, Coastal Towers, 1 bdrm, 1 bth., 3-4 mos., $1200.-$1300./mo. U.S. 305-940-6911, fax:305-944-3703, Kelleher Rlty

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140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

In 3 islands area of Miami Beach, 1 bdrm for 6 wks. (Feb.-Mar.). Call 416-733-1209.

143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

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150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION

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Resp. couple will drive your car from S.E.Fla.,Feb.'ish.650-1564

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196 VACATION PROP.- EXCH./SHARE

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305 ARTICLES WANTED

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330 OBITUARIES

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PUSTIL, Judy - on Oct. 22, 1997, late of 450 Blythe Ave.
STERN, Lillian - on Oct. 23, 1997, late of 292 Main St.
WEIL, Edward - on Oct. 23, 1997, late of 27 Anderson Ave.
BIRSTEIN, Benjamin - on Oct. 24, 1997, late of 135 Antibes Dr., #1602.
FREEDMAN, Frances - on Oct. 24, 1997, late of 3000 Dufferin St., #1608.
GOLD, Joe - on Oct. 24, 1997, late of 100 Canyon Ave., #302.
MILLER, Harry - on Oct. 24, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave., #403.
DURBIN, Vernon - on Oct. 25, 1997, late of 163 Erskine Ave., #1902.
KRANE, Jack - on Oct. 25, 1997, late of 2201 Margot St.
KRUMHOLTZ, Marcel - on Oct. 26, 1997, late of 175 Cummer Ave., #305.
MANDOWSKY, Janina - on Oct. 26, 1997, late of 500 Glencairn Ave., #308.
CAPPEL, Morris - on Oct. 27, 1997, late of 1555 Finch Ave. E., #603.
ERICKSON, Harry - on Oct. 27, 1997, late of 14 Lauder Ave.
COWAN, Jack - on Oct. 28, 1997, late of 122 Tyndall Ave.
HARRISON, Samuel - on Oct. 28, 1997, late of 316 Betty Ann Dr.
LASKY, Irving - on Oct. 28, 1997, late of 515 Chaplin Cres., #212.
PILTZ, Jennifer - on Oct. 28, 1997, late of 143 McMorran Cres.
RUBINOFF, Philip - on Oct. 29, 1997, late of 623 Lonsdale Rd.
STEINBERG, Fanny - on Oct. 29, 1997, late of 3000 Bathurst St., #1010.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

REZMOVITZ, Leiba - on Oct. 2, 1997.
SILVERBERG, Beulah - on Oct. 15, 1997.
BORNSTEIN (Stern), Pearl - on Oct. 22, 1997.
GARFINKEL, Lily - on Oct. 24, 1997.

The Simple Alternative

CLAUSNER, Albert - on Oct. 26, 1997, late of 20 Parkland Crt.
MANN, Robert - on Oct. 27, 1997, late of 3000 Bathurst St.
ORFUS, Howard L. - on Oct. 27, 1997, late of 16 Forest Heights Blvd.
ZICHERMAN, Jozsua - on Oct. 27, 1997.
JOCHNOWICZ, Regina - on Oct. 28, 1997, late of 87 Alexis Blvd.
TCHIPROUT, Simone - on Oct. 28, 1997, late of 11 Townsgate Dr.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

330 OBITUARIES

It is with much sadness, that the Druckman family announces the passing of Jaffa, beloved wife of Meshulam, mother of Tzafi, Roni, and Nimrod. Burial took place on Friday, October 17, 1997, in Israel. Unveiling will take place on Sunday, November 16, 1997. For further information, please call Charles or Ruthie Zalonz at 905-731-6905.

AIKEŃ, Max - on Oct. 29, 1997, late of 30 Kimloch Cres.
BLANK, Miriam - on Oct. 30, 1997, late of 6250 Bathurst St.
GINSBERG, Louis - on Oct. 30, 1997.
KLOMPAS, Esther - on Oct. 30, 1997, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
WOLMAN, Irving - on Oct. 30, 1997, late of 202 Carmichael Ave.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late **Sylvia Greenberg** will take place **Sunday, November, 16th, 11:00 am** at **Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park,** All for One Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

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Pardes Shalom
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Schneider chosen to U.S. Olympic team

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Mathieu Schneider's talent level is perhaps most evident in practice, where he's clearly the best defenceman on the ice. He can turn on a dime, skate effortlessly to gather up the puck in his own zone and fire it up to a winger, hitting him on the tape.

In game situations, he's just as good, staying calm under pressure and moving the puck quickly to a teammate while other Leaf rearguards are content to slam it around the boards and out.

In the first 14 games of the season, he was tied for second among Leaf scorers with one goal and seven assists, three points behind Leafs captain Mats Sundin. Last week, he was one of the first 17 players chosen to form the nucleus of the U.S. Olympic team, rejoining many of his teammates from last year's World Cup squad that beat Canada's best, two games to one.

So, with all that to his credit, why was he the subject of trade rumors all summer long? Why would the Leafs consider moving their best defenceman, who was called one of the league's 10 best by assistant GM Bill Watters when he was acquired in a trade from the New York Islanders?

Schneider, 28, believes a number of factors conspired to keep his name front and centre in trade talk. He was badly injured last season and missed about 50 games. On top of that, the Leafs had a terrible season, missed the playoffs and dumped longtime manager Cliff Fletcher along the way. Perhaps the new management team, unsure about his health, were looking to make some changes in the hope of improving the team, Schneider suggested.

Any way you cut it, the off-season rumors didn't affect him much. He spent much of the summer in California, working hard to rehabilitate his sore stomach and groin muscles and he says his pain-free play early in the season has put those concerns to rest.

On most nights, he's head and shoulders the best Leafs defenceman. Much of his success stems from his skating ability and he says that as one of the team's veterans, "I'm looked to for leadership on the club... You try to lead by example. There's not that much to say [in the dressing room] at this level."

Not too long ago, Schneider did have a lot to say about the team, but not to his teammates. He went on the record to suggest management should cut coach Mike Murphy some slack, stop interfering and let him run the team his own way.

Mathieu Schneider

"It was something I felt at the time and I stand by it," he said. "Things have been good around here since. I don't want to say anything to hurt the team, especially since we have such a young club."

The result of his outspoken remarks has been a management vote of confidence in Murphy, Schneider added.

At any rate, Schneider would much rather focus on the game of hockey than its off-ice issues. A day before the team faced off against the Montreal Canadiens, he was excited about the prospects of playing his old team.

Games in Montreal are always exciting because of the atmosphere surrounding the team. There's usually electricity in the air and the team has a special aura because of its longstanding success, he said.

In both Toronto and Montreal, hockey is the number 1 sport and the players are celebrities. Teams coming in to play two of the original six are especially fired up and the games are more intense than those he experienced playing for the Islanders. A lot of teams have two or three players from the Toronto area and they want to play well in front of their friends and family, Schneider said.

While that may make home games tougher in Toronto than in most other NHL cities, Schneider believes it's important for the Leafs to "establish ourselves on home ice." But so far this season, the Leafs' road record of 3-3-2 far outshines its home record of 1-4-1.

During the summer, Schneider decided to stay close to home and pass up a visit to Israel for the Maccabiah Games. He made rehabilitating his injury his top priority but "something I always wanted to do was make a trip to Israel," he said.

In the run-up to the '97 Games, which featured hockey for the first time, Schneider helped Canadian organizers raise funds for the team. Although he couldn't make it to Israel, his brother, Jean-Alain, played defence for the team, which cruised to a gold medal victory over the United States.

Mathieu said he had hoped to go to Israel as a goodwill ambassador and he still hopes that he'll be able to perform that role in future Maccabiahs. While his brother played for Canada, Mathieu said he couldn't see himself playing against the United States.

As for his brother, "he loved it. It was a great experience and Canada really did a super job in organizing the team," Mathieu said.

Their father, Sam, was involved in an organizational role with the American team early on, but pulled out over disagreements with the team's management. Lack of good organization really hurt the U.S. squad, Mathieu said.

Meanwhile, Schneider is looking forward to his own taste of international competition next February at the Nagano Olympics, where the United States, along with Canada and Sweden, should be a gold medal contender.

In the meantime, Schneider expects to continue the fairly low community profile he's maintained since moving to Toronto. Unlike his experiences in Montreal or New York, where he was available for Jewish community events, "it's been a pretty tough one-and-a-half years for me in Toronto, with my injury and with the overall play of the team," he said. "I don't enjoy going out [and answering fans' questions]. I kind of seclude myself when things aren't going well.

"I realize that in the Jewish community I'm looked up to as a role model as something [young people] can attain to," he added.

Correction

In our story last week, "Book recounts the time boxing was a Jewish sport," we incorrectly referred to Benny Leonard as a light heavyweight champion. In fact, he was world lightweight champion from 1917-25.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

O	M	E	N		M	I	I		D	A	G	O	N
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O	P	E	R	A		C	C	A	R		G	U	N	S
W	A	L	T	Z		H	E	S	S		E	L	A	H

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The Inside Back

Snow White and the Seven Directors

By JORDAN MAX

It was yet another long, raucous shul board meeting. The seven men, who were also the only remaining paid members, were at it again, trying to figure out what to do for the upcoming High Holy Days, only 10 months away. Should they hire a professional chazzan, or let Beryl lead the davening again? The debate was getting heated, with the usual factions, led by Beryl and Moishe (whose cousin Motti was, coincidentally, a retired chazzan) making their usual arguments.

Stan, the current president, was the deciding vote. He was just about to break the tie when there was a gentle but firm knock at the door. The directors turned to see a beautiful young woman standing at the door, holding a newspaper.

"Is this the place advertising for a secretary?" she asked.

"Yes, you saw our ad?" Stan answered excitedly. "You're hired. When can you start? What's your name?'

"My name is Snow White," she replied softly. "I can start immediately. What are the responsibilities and benefits?" She had been desperately looking for work, and was intrigued by the ad, which offered generous pay plus benefits.

Stan told her that the job paid 300 a week, entailed general secretarial and bookkeeping work, a little cleaning and a bissel kosher cooking, while the benefits were all the herring and sponge cake she could eat.

Snow White, looking puzzled, then asked, "What's a bissel kosher?"

There was stunned silence in the room, relieved only by the sound of mouths hitting the floor. Stan, sensing the delicacy of the issue, asked Snow White to wait outside a minute while they discussed the terms of her contract.

Behind the door, she could hear table pounding and furious yelling in a strange language she had never heard before. After an hour, Stan emerged "Congratulations, Miss White, you got the job by a vote of four to two, with one abstention. You can start right away. Now let me introduce you to the board. I'm Stan, and this is Beryl, Moishe, Dovid, Yankl, Itzik and Shmuel. First, you'll need to take minutes from this directors meeting and distribute copies to all the directors in time for our next meeting tomorrow."

Snow White accepted and took her new job in earnest, cleaning, vacuuming, replacing burnt-out light bulbs in the sanctuary, setting up a proper office, and even adding a photocopier, a computer and a fax machine. In no time, the little shul began to sparkle and shine. The directors could hardly believe their good luck in finding such a secretary.

Over time, even the Beryl faction began to accept her, and taught her how to cook kosher. Although Shabbat morning services were the same as they had always been, they now looked forward to Miss White's delicious cholent.

Everything was going fine, until one day, a Revenue Canada official showed up and began asking Snow White a lot of questions about the shul finances and why a tax return hadn't been filed in 10 years.

Beryl, who was practising his chazzanut, heard the commotion and came running to the office. He immediately phoned his nephew Harold the accountant, who would know what to do.

Meanwhile, the auditor's questions had so mesmerized Snow White that she fell into a deep sleep.When Harold the accountant arrived, he bravely lunged at the auditor with his business card and firmly stated that he was now representing the shul, and that any further questions should go to him.

With that, the auditor packed up his briefcase and left. Beryl brought Slivovitz for Snow White, but to no avail. Harold knelt down and took her hand. Snow White awoke groggily and gazed into Harold's nearsighted eyes.

The rest, as they say, is history. Harold hired Snow White to work for him at a better salary, although she did miss the limitless herring and sponge cake. The seven directors were sad to see her leave, but they had learned some valuable lessons. And Beryl even agreed to have the shul hire a professional chazzan for the next High Holy Days.

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1 cup flaked salmon (canned or cooked)
1 tblsp onion, minced
1 garlic clove, crushed & minced
1 pkg won ton wrappers

Sauce:
1 cup chili sauce
2 tblsp horseradish
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce

Mix cream cheese, salmon, onion, and garlic together. Lay out won ton wrappers, and place 1 tsp. of the mixture in the centre of each. Moisten edges of each with water. Fold over and pinch edges well to seal. Deep fry the won tons or bake at 375°F. until golden brown. Drain well on absorbent paper. Serve hot with a sauce.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

My 69-year-old father was just diagnosed with a neurological illness that causes muscular atrophy. As a result, he is suffering from urgency and incontinence of urine. When at home, he can usually make it to the bathroom in time. When he goes out, he carries a container. Is there a better solution?

Bashful Daughter

Dear Bashful Daughter,

Thank you so much for bringing this matter to our attention. Statistics show that more than 1.5 million Canadian men experience some form of urinary incontinence (urine leakage). I suggest that you and your father first speak to your father's family practitioner in order to explore potential treatments and/or behavior modification. In the meantime, you may want to try one of the several methods of managing different types of incontinence. For example, he may use an external catheter system, which is convenient, clean and comfortable and will help in alleviating existing physical, social and psychological distress, or try a male absorbent pouch. Both are available by calling your local pharmacy. For general information and a list of specialists in your area, you can call the Canadian Continence Foundation at 1-800-265-9575 or 514-932-3535.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

YOU CAN NOW SEND YOUR LETTERS BY E-MAIL
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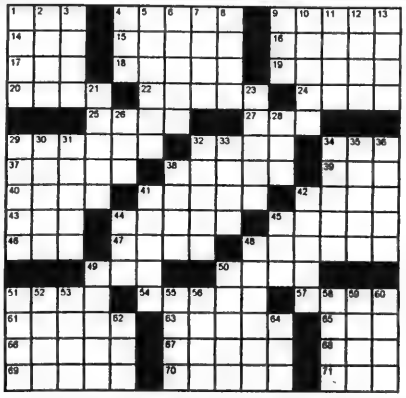
The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Alphabet run
4. Eilat gulf
9. Merman
14. __Maris, Jerusalem
15. Say Kaddish
16. Imitated Mauri Rose
17. Literary initials
18. Bandleader Shaw
19. Shofar blast
20. Need at Ellis Isle
22. Bilhah to Dan
24. Mizrach location?
25. Political party
27. Koppel
29. __ Birnbaum, George Burns
32. Schlump (Eng)
34. Capable
37. Desert cool spots
38. K'Tonton's size
39. Sid Gordon's stat
40. Gershwin and Morris
41. Orgs. for Koufax
42. Grape plant
43. Grass
44. Like Mohel's tool
45. Dreidel letter
46. Tel-Aviv to Bet She'an (dir)
47. Identical
48. Biblical outcasts
49. Oakland A's Holtzman
50. Eighth day gift?
51. King of Judah
54. Make Challah
57. Many-colored coat
61. Dung and Jaffa
63. Singer Cantor
65. Chadash (Eng)
66. Lauder
67. Meshugge (Eng)
68. Alphabet run
69. Broke the eighth
70. Gompers' cause
71. Eat (Yid)

Down

1. Spring (Heb)
2. Netenyahu nickname
3. Mama __ Elliott
4. Jonas Salk's Org.?
5. Comedian Harvey
6. Mauri Rose milieu
7. Streiml border
8. Issachar city
9. Cantor and Goldman
10. Acted the judge
11. Dance
12. Erevs (Eng)
13. Acted the usurer?
21. Sacrifice residue
23. Research for Niels Bohr
26. Owns
28. Recede
29. Purim must
30. Ithamar's Dad
31. Hebrew letter
32. Tzedakah
33. Wart
34. Idolatry
35. Capp's creation
36. Bohr
38. Koufax club
41. Bevakasha (Eng)
42. Asp
44. Ashdod to Be'er Sheba (dir)
45. Netanya specialty
48. Sephardic language
49. Imitate Jolson
50. Aaron's oldest son
51. "Rock of __"
52. Spar
53. Anne Frank's pop
55. Diamond or Simon
56. Writer Ferber
58. One time
59. Gomorrah torture devices
60. Source for Seder shanks
62. Prophesy
64. Ever to Bialik

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 46.)

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish war veterans honor comrades for their bravery in a Remembrance Day ceremony. *Page 5*

Ambassador from Hungary will return home Nov.20. *Page 6*

Spielberg project pays tribute to local survivors. *Page 22*

National

IRB no longer denying asylum to Jewish refugee claimants because they can get automatic citizenship in Israel. *Page 26*

CJC-Q approves moves to new Campus building. *Page 31*

Arts

Ben Wicks releases book on the creation of Israel. *Page 40*

Index

Coast to Coast 3
GTA 4
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
On Campus 23
Yiddish Corner 27
What's New 28
International 33
Health 37
Travel, Arts & Business 38
Classified 42
Sports 46
Crossword 47
Dear Susan 47

Shabbat: Chaye Sarah
Candlelighting: 4:29
Cheshvan 21, 5758
Havdalah: 5:34

PM offers message of hope

By MORDECHAI BEN-DAT
Editor

INDIANAPOLIS — Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivered a message of conciliation and hope here last Sunday to approximately 4,000 delegates, nearly 100 of whom were from Canada, at the 66th General Assembly (GA) of the Council of Jewish Federations.

The vast majority of delegates were anxious to hear Netanyahu articulate his government's policy on what has become known as the "unity" issue.

He did not keep them waiting long. After a brief introductory allusion to the current United Nations (UN) crisis with Iraq, Netanyahu cut right to the matter.

"There can be no such thing as a second class Jew," Netanyahu asserted to the sustained applause of the delegates.

"We are determined to reach a consensus between us. It will have to be a creative solution, a Jewish solution, allowing at once continuity and change, involvement and inclusion, alongside stability and purposeful evolution.

"You are not a third party looking in. You are partners at the table, partners in the common cause of Jewish unity."

At the heart of the controversy are two bills pending in the Knesset. One would bar non-Orthodox representatives on local religious councils in Israel. The other would codify Orthodox control over religious conversions performed in Israel.

Reform and Conservative Jews, who comprise approximately three-quarters of North American affiliated Jewry, are up in arms at the prospect of the bills becoming law. They view the measures as an attempt to preclude them from organized, religious involvement in Israel and as an affront to their religious legitimacy.

To resolve the matter, Netanyahu appointed a seven member panel, five of whom are Orthodox, two non-Orthodox, with Ya'acov Ne'eman as chair. The panel is attempting to find a solution acceptable to all streams. It is the first time in Israel's history that all three major streams of Jewish observance have officially sat at the same table.

Ne'eman was scheduled to address the GA on Monday.

Netanyahu reminded the audience that they would have the opportunity to present their views directly to Ne'eman. As if seeming to foreshadow a positive outcome to the controversy, Netanyahu offered that he believed he "will be coming here soon with Ya'acov Ne'eman with a solution."

Continued on page 36

DANCING FOR RACHEL

Israelis dance in the street in front of newly renovated Rachel's Tomb. The Tomb is under Israel's authority even though it is situated in Bethlehem. It re-opened last week. Construction work adding a security wall fronting the main street into Bethlehem cost nearly $2 million and took 18 months to complete. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Mayor Mel says thanks

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — To Metro's Jewish voters, some heartfelt gratitude from Toronto's megamayor-elect, via *The CJN*.

"What I can really say is thank-you," sighs a tired Mel Lastman. "They came out like you wouldn't believe, everywhere. The Jewish community...they were jammed. They were lined up waiting to vote.

"The Jewish community was unbelievable, particularly the Orthodox. They came out from everywhere!"

Indeed, several bearded, kippah-wearing men appeared on stage with Lastman, his wife Marilyn and other jubilant supporters on the night of his stunning victory over Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall.

By most accounts, Lastman was put over the top by winning 80 percent of the vote in North York, home to a sizeable portion of Metro's Jewish community. "That's unheard of," he enthuses. "I couldn't believe it."

He now joins former mayors Nathan Phillips and Phil Givens as top Jewish powers in Toronto's municipal government, and is arguably the second most influential Jewish elected official in Canada, after Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray.

Lastman, North York's Yiddish-spouting favorite son for 25 years, is still walking on clouds. On the night of his win, he seemed stunned, despite his respectable 4-3 margin of victory.

"I couldn't believe I even won," he explains. "I was shocked at the amount I won by. Everybody was down my back. Polls indicated I was way ahead. [And] the press was killing me. Constantly. They were all trying to knock me down, every one of them."

Continued on page 25

INSIDE

Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy meets with his Israeli counterpart, David Levy. Please see page 33.

Don't miss an issue. Call 416-391-1836 today to have The Canadian Jewish News delivered to your door every week.

CJC Pacific region reacts to ruling on Collins — please see page 3

The News in Brief

CANADA

Supreme Court Ruling

OTTAWA — The Supreme Court of Canada ruled last week that a parent cannot prevent a former spouse from taking their child to religious activities.

The decision struck down a Quebec Court of Appeal ruling that prevented a Jehovah's Witness from exposing her child to the religion.

The Supreme Court said religious activities do not expose a child to harm.

Saskatoon Jews

SASKATOON — The Saskatoon Jewish community invites all former members to a 40/50-year weekend celebration, Aug. 28 to 30. For more information, call 306-343-7023.

Religion in Life Award

TORONTO — The Girl Guides of Canada and Scouts Canada's national Jewish advisory committee on scouting and guiding has announced the launch of its revised Religion in Life Award Program of activities suggested for Jewish scouts and guides. For more information call 490-6364, ext. 246.

Bonds-BB Breakfast

HAMILTON — Judy Feld Carr recently addressed the State of Israel Bonds-Hamilton B'nai Brith breakfast here, telling close to 200 guests about the rescue of Syrian Jews and her role in the process.

The breakfast honored Harold Goldblatt, Howard Katz and Jay State.

ISRAEL

Israel, Vatican Sign Deal

JERUSALEM — Israel and the Vatican have signed an accord formally recognizing the legal status of Roman Catholic Church institutions in Israel.

The accord, which requires the Knesset's approval, would give the church judicial standing similar to foreign non-profit organizations and corporations. It would also enable the church to handle internal issues independently.

Withdrawal Movement

JERUSALEM — A group of Israeli lawmakers have given their support to a new movement that will lobby for an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

The movement merged with "Four Mothers," a grassroots group of mothers of Israeli soldiers who are demanding that the army pull out of the security zone.

Land Mines Conference

JERUSALEM — Israel plans to participate in a conference on banning land mines, scheduled to take place next month in Ottawa. Foreign Minister David Levy recently confirmed that Israel would be present at the international conference.

More than 100 countries are expected to sign an international treaty at the conference banning the use of land mines.

Edelstein To See Pollard

JERUSALEM — Israeli absorption minister Yuli Edelstein intends to visit convicted spy Jonathan Pollard when he visits the United States next week.

If the visit takes place, Edelstein would be the second – and the highest-ranking – Israeli official to meet with the former U.S. Navy intelligence analyst during the 12 years he has been imprisoned.

Onassis Kidnapping

JERUSALEM — An Israeli man has been detained in Europe on suspicion of plotting to kidnap the granddaughter of the late shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis.

The arrest in Milan came just days after the Israeli police dropped their investigation into an alleged plot to kidnap Athena Roussel, the 12-year-old heiress to the Onassis fortune.

But Swiss officials still believe that at least six Israelis conspired to kidnap her while she was vacationing with her father in St. Moritz, Switzerland, earlier this year.

WORLD

Holocaust Museum Exhibit

WASHINGTON — on Nov. 21, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum will launch an exhibition dedicated to the ghetto in Kovno, Lithuania.

The Hidden History of the Kovno Ghetto brings together for the first time a wealth of materials that, since the end of World War II, have been scattered throughout the world. It will contain over 275 objects and nearly 225 images gathered from Canada, the United States, Lithuania, Latvia, Russia, Germany and Israel.

Creative Writing Contest

NEW YORK — Three prizes will be given by the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE) for the best original short stories on a Jewish theme or topic in the eighth annual David Dornstein Memorial Creative Writing Contest for Young Adult Writers.

The contest is open to writers between the ages of 18 and 35. Deadline is Dec. 31, 1997. For more information call 212-268-4210; fax 212-268-4214 or e-mail [500-8447@MCIMAIL.COM].

Miracle Mission

NEW YORK — To honor Israel's 50th anniversary, Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, has organized a unique mission to Israel. The megamission, from March 8 to 18, 1998, is dubbed Miracle Mission and will feature 18 separate, especially tailored tracks and itineraries.

The Miracle Mission is open to all. For more information contact the Hadassah Travel Department at 1-800-363-2373.

200,000 Israelis Rally in Rabin's Memory

JERUSALEM — An estimated 200,000 people attended a memorial rally Nov. 8 in Tel Aviv to mark the second anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

Police estimated that the crowd, which spilled over into the side streets surrounding the square where Rabin was slain, represented one of the largest gatherings ever in Israeli history.

The rally was held against the backdrop of a deeply divided nation, whose political leaders have in recent days been exchanging barbs over the events surrounding the murder and its commemoration.

While rally organizers stressed that the demonstration was apolitical, the demonstration had a clear anti-government tone.

The only member of the government to address the crowd was Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, who was heckled by some in the crowd when he took the podium.

B'H

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We are appealing to the members of our community to help a family facing tragically difficult challenges at this time. Dov, his wife and their eight children moved to Jerusalem a number of years ago. There, he became a successful sofer (scribe) and teacher.

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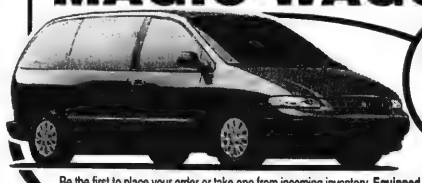

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Anti-Semitic column doesn't promote hate: tribunal

By: DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — The Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Pacific region, had a mixed reaction to the B.C. Human Rights Tribunal's recent ruling regarding controversial *North Shore News* columnist Doug Collins.

The tribunal, chaired by Nitya Iyer, coordinated public hearings over the summer. It upheld the constitutionality of B.C.'s legislation against hate speech and concluded that Collins' column, *Hollywood Propaganda*, which was about Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List*, was anti-Semitic "and likely to make it more acceptable for others to express hatred or contempt against Jewish people."

But despite the fact that Iyer characterized Collins' column as "nasty, insulting, smug and anti-Semitic," she concluded that it was not hateful enough to warrant action under section 2 of the B.C. Human Rights Act, which allows citizens to seek a "remedy" for material that would expose them to hatred.

Michael Elterman, chair of the CJC Pacific region, had mixed feelings about the ruling. On the one hand, Elterman pointed out that Congress "was disappointed that the tribunal did not feel that there was sufficient severity of hatred to require a remedy, but on the other hand, he said, part of our goal was accomplished.

"Collins' writing has been described as anti-Semitic, hateful and offensive by the ruling and we're also pleased that the constitutionality of the Human Rights Act was upheld, because it will be useful for our and other ethnic religious groups in the future should they encounter similar types of vitriolic writing," he explained.

Doug Collins

But Elterman was puzzled by the mixed message of the tribunal's findings. According to Elterman, although the tribunal found that the article would likely cause anti-Semitism and hatred in those who read it, they didn't they feel that it was sufficiently hateful " to be considered in breach of the Human Rights Act and that it required a remedy."

Congress, which initiated the action against Collins and the *North Shore News*, is at this time, considering further judicial action against Collins and the *North Shore News*.

Elterman, who notes that Collins was upset that the law was upheld, suspects that the *North Shore News* and the B.C. Civil Liberties Action will take the case to the Supreme Court to challenge the constitutionality of the legislation. If that occurs, he said he hopes the CJC will intervene.

Museum's Holocaust wing opposed by some veterans

CJN Staff

OTTAWA — Plans for a Holocaust memorial and gallery at the Canadian War Museum were defended last week, amid some opposition from veterans' groups.

Adrienne Clarkson, board chair of the Canadian Museum of Civilization, held a news conference to defuse criticism that the Holocaust gallery would be out of place at the war museum.

Clarkson said the Holocaust addition is appropriate because Canada fought against fascism and Nazism during World War II.

Jewish groups, particularly the Jewish War Veterans of Canada, have long supported the idea.

But Clifford Chadderton, head of the War Amps and the National Council of Veterans Associations, is opposed, saying that while a Holocaust memorial is a good idea, it commemorates an event that is not part of Canada's war history.

Other veterans' groups, including the Royal Canadian Legion, said they weren't consulted about the plans, adding the memorial should be in the Museum of Civilization in Hull or in a separate building.

But retired colonel Murray Johnson, head of the Passing the Torch fundraising campaign for the addition, defended the Holocaust wing, saying it was the Allies who defeated the "barbarism" of the Nazis.

The memorial and wing devoted to the Holocaust are part of a $12 million renovation at the Canadian War Museum. The expansion is to be completed by 2000.

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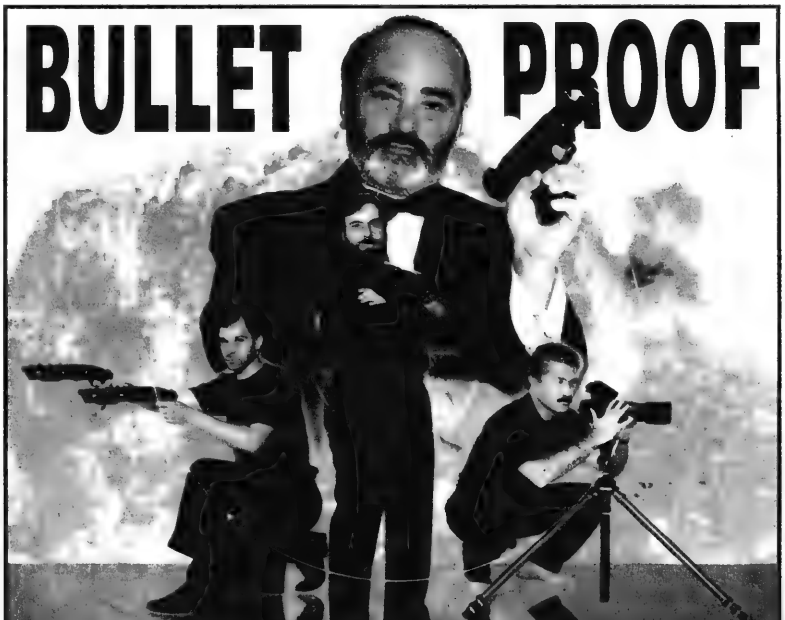
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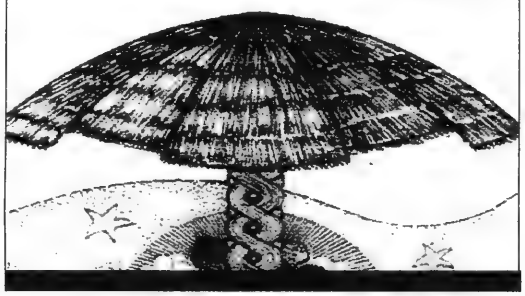

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Toronto megacity mayor-elect Mel Lastman waves to supporters following his victory in the historic Nov. 10 vote. Lastman has made the homeless a priority. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

New Toronto mega-council includes five Jewish members

TORONTO — Jewish candidates did well in the megacity election. Toronto's first unified council will have five Jewish members, while the cities of Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill will also enjoy representation from the community.

As expected, both Metro Councillor **Howard Moscoe**, longtime adversary of mayor-elect Mel Lastman, and North York Councillor **Mike Feldman** won in Ward 8. They combined to take 70 percent of the ward's vote, beating out Frank Di Giorgio, a North York councillor since 1985. The two veteran winners say their biggest challenge is to get the new megacity to work.

Political veterans also prevailed in Ward 9, where North York councillors **Milton Berger** and Joanne Flint won 70 percent of ballots. Berger, who has served as Lastman's deputy mayor in North York, has been on council for 20 years. He said transportation and social services will be his priorities. Stuart Weinstein polled nearly 4,000 votes, or nine percent of the total.

Norm Gardner, another longtime Metro councillor and active member of the Jewish community, easily won his seat in Ward 10. He'll represent the area along with North York Councillor John Filion. Gardner campaigned to maintain North York's twice-weekly garbage collection and envied snow removal system.

David Shiner, who's served on North York council for six years, handily won his seat in Ward 12, along with Joan King, who has served the area for 17 years. Lawyer Joel Ginsberg, who has sought election in previous municipal and provincial campaigns, lost badly, picking up just seven percent of votes cast. Shiner said serving on the new council will be "challenging."

Susan Kadis wins in Vaughan

In Ward 23, former Toronto councillor Howard Levine lost to veterans Ila Bossons and John Adams, who in turn beat Councillor Howard Joy. And in Ward 24, candidate Rosie Schwartz was trounced by high-profile winners Olivia Chow and Kyle Rae.

In races for Toronto public school trustees, newcomer **Shelley Laskin**, a cartographer and education activist, won in Ward 14 with 42 percent of the vote, after an aggressive campaign. In Ward 18, **Sheine Mankovsky** polled 43 percent of ballots, defeating Arnold Goodman and Lorne Berg, who placed second and third, respectively. And in Ward 20, longtime North York Board of Education trustee **Gerri Gershon** won easily, with 69 percent of the vote.

One of the bigger upsets in the 905 area came in Vaughan's Ward 5, where longtime Councillor Bernie Green lost to former York Region school trustee **Susan Kadis**. Kadis narrowly lost to Green in 1994, and this time, squeaked by with a 200-vote plurality. Bandleader Rick Levine polled just seven percent of the votes.

Next door in Vaughan's Ward 4, former school trustee Ted Berger, in a comeback bid, lost to Councillor Mario Racco by over 2,000 votes.

Veteran Markham politician **Bill Fisch** was successful in his quest to become a regional councillor from the town. In Ward 2, Harvey Goodman, a past president of Shaar Shalom Synagogue, narrowly lost to Councillor Randy Barber.

In Richmond Hill's Ward 3, Councillor **David Cohen** went unchallenged, while in Ward 6, candidates Richard Sadowski and Cheryl Richman placed respectably, but not enough to defeat Joe DiPaola.

In races for York Region public school trustee, incumbent **Harvey Nightingale** defeated his nearest rival, Brian Shatsky in Vaughan's wards 4 and 5, while local political activist **Howard Shore** won in Markham's wards 1 and 2. In Markham's wards 3 and 6, businesswoman Janice Shachter placed third, with 16 percent of the vote.

— Ron Csillag

ADDENDUM

TORONTO — Heini Bornstein, who spoke recently in Toronto at Holocaust Education Week on Switzerland's policy on Jewish refugees during World War II, was brought to Toronto by the Canadian Friends of Givat Haviva, on behalf of the Moreshet Center for Holocaust Studies at Givat Haviva.

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From the editor's desk
WILL RETURN
NEXT WEEK

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish War Veterans honor past bravery

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — A Remembrance Day ceremony at Beth Tzedec Congregation was marked by the march of the Color Guard, the wail of bagpipes, the call of a bugler playing *The Last Post* and the trumpeting of the shofar.

About 200 people, mostly seniors, attended the Remembrance Day program honoring veterans for their bravery and the fallen soldiers who gave their lives.

Many veterans, some in full military dress with their medals pinned to their uniforms, were in attendance at the event sponsored by Beth Tzedec Men's Club, the Jewish War Veterans of Canada and the General Wingate Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Keynote speaker Sam Pasternack, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada, spoke passionately about the Jews' exceptional contribution in World War II.

During ceremonies honoring the memory of the six million Holocaust victims, Pasternack called upon the Jewish community to recognize the sacrifices of the Jewish servicemen and women who died.

Veterans go overseas

see page 20

He said he felt compelled to dispel the myth that Jews did not enlist in World War II, noting that more than 1.5 million Jews of all military ranks "served with distinction" in the Allied armed forces. He stressed that Jews were involved in every type of military operation, from bombing missions to intelligence work.

Pasternack paid tribute to the late Jack Nissen, a war hero who died earlier this month in Toronto. He said Nissen, a British-born radar expert, worked behind enemy lines and made a major contribution to the Allied war effort.

Pasternack cited the efforts of Russian and Polish Jews. He said some 500,000 Jews served in the Soviet forces, where Jewish generals played an important role in defeating the Nazis; an estimated 175,000 Polish Jews defended Poland and/or fought in the Polish army in exile; and 20 Polish Jewish fighter pilots sacrificed their lives in the Battle of Britain.

According to Pasternack, some 500,000 American Jews, 60,000 Jews from the United Kingdom and 33,000 Jews from what was then Palestine were in active service.

He said the percentage of Canadian Jews who enlisted in the military during World War II was higher than the national average. At the time, there were approximately 160,000 Canadian Jews, 17,456 of them, or more than 10 percent of the community, enlisted, he noted.

He said there were 776 casualties; among them, 421 servicemen and women were killed in active service and Canadian Jewish servicemen and women took almost 200 awards for acts of heroism.

The program also included the screening of *The 43 Group: The Secret Battle of Britain*, a documentary film about the fight against fascism and anti-Semitism in post-war England. The film documents the resistance of a group of English Jews and their gentile friend, led by 43 Jewish ex-servicemen.

Gerry Lambert, one of those ex-servicemen, made a special trip to Toronto to relate his experience.

Rabbi Barry Schneider of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation, who is also chaplain at the Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, urged the Jewish community not to forget the 36 Jewish veterans who are permanent residents at Sunnybrook. He praised the General Wingate Branch for their contribution to Sunnybrook's Jewish veterans.

Other Jewish clergy at the Remembrance Day ceremony were Rabbi Cantor David Bagley, Cantor Paul Kowarsky and Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum.

From left: David Morris, Armin Konn and Jeff Ostroff observe Remembrance Day at Beth Tzedec. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

CJC issues warning over flyers

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) is warning Jews and non-Jews alike of flyers claiming that tax deductions may be claimed if kosher products are purchased.

CJC's Ontario region says the flyers pop up every year and are produced by an anti-Semitic group.

The flyers claim that every time a kosher product is bought, a consumer makes a donation "to a Jewish fund."

Because of this "built-in donation," consumers can claim a $500 income tax deduction per year, or $1,500 retroactively over the past three years.

The flyer has a photograph of dozens of kosher products and is headed, "If you buy these products, claim $500 on your income tax."

It is signed by the "United Jewish Welfare Fund of Toronto," with an address on Beverley Street. The Jewish community's central organizations moved from Beverley Street some 20 years ago.

Another flyer lists all the symbols for kashrut a consumer should look for.

CJC's Bernie Farber says the flyers are meant to stir up confusion when it comes to the purchase of kosher products.

Last March, Revenue Canada issued a statement that the deduction described in the flyers does not exist, and it urged Canadians to ignore them.

The flyers' intent and message was "deeply offensive to the Jewish community and indeed, to all Canadians," Revenue Canada said.

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Branson may close earlier than planned

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Branson will have to close its general hospital facilities before the end of 1999 when it is due to become a walk-in medical centre.

Staffing problems are the cause of the early closure, the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) Ontario Region executive was told at its recent meeting.

At the same time, Harold Brief said the positive side of the situation is that regional officers have a pledge from North York General Hospital to have language interpreters on every shift and to train its staff to look after the expected increase in elderly Jewish patients from the Branson area.

The executive also heard reports on the thorny issue of the CJC Quebec region's plan to move into a new Jewish community campus in Montreal.

The CJC national officers voted 15 to 4 on Nov. 2 to approve the move in principle.

But Ontario chair Moshe Ronen told *The CJN* that at the national officers' meeting in Ottawa, an earlier motion to delay the move pending further information was defeated 13 to 10 and he and some others decided for the sake of national unity to approve it in principle.

There is still no decision on whether the national CJC office will move from Montreal to Ottawa, Ronen said.

The motion to delay the move had the support of three former CJC presidents from Ontario, he said.

Jack Silverstone, CJC national executive director, denied in an interview that the Quebec region move is a fait accompli, claiming that there are details about budget, staffing and the national office which must be settled first under the motion approved.

"From our perspective the national organization (I'm not blaming the national officers) did not pay much attention to our concerns," Ronen told the executive.

Silverstone said the Quebec move did not come formally to CJC's attention in time for it to be given full consideration.

"What is disturbing is not so much the insufficient time to consult, but that there was not enough concern for other viewpoints. You cannot hive off the Quebec region from the national office. The CJC is more than just the sum of its parts."

The national CJC position today is "unclear," Silverstone said. "We hope we can strike a deal to please everybody."

At a public meeting which followed, Eli Rosenbaum, head of the war crimes unit for the U.S. government, presented a dramatic account of how his office tracks down Nazi war criminals.

Ronen responded, "I wish we had an Eli Rosenbaum in our justice department."

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Hungary's ambassador set to return home

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Hungary's ambassador to Canada, Karoly Gedai, will return to Hungary on Nov. 20, about one month after he resigned his posting. Gedai landed in hot water after his letter of congratulations to Imre Finta on his 85th birthday was published in *Kanadai Magyarsag*, a Hungarian language newspaper based in Toronto.

Details of his letter were quickly picked up in the Hungarian newspaper *Kurir,* which was followed by a number of Hungarian newspapers publishing descriptions of Finta's activities during World War II, said Istvan Torzsa, minister with the Hungarian Embassy in Ottawa.

Following reports of Gedai's letter, the Hungarian foreign minister instructed the ambassador to apologize, Torzsa said.

Finta was convicted in absentia by a Hungarian court in 1948 of forcibly confining Jewish residents of the city of Szeged in 1944. The detainees were held in squalid conditions before being deported to Auschwitz and forced labor camps in crammed cattle cars, where many died.

Finta faced charges of robbery, forcible confinement, kidnapping and manslaughter in Canada in connection with the events but a jury acquitted him on all counts.

The ambassador sent a letter of apology to Finta, *Kanadai Magyarsag, Menorah* (a newspaper serving the Hungarian Jewish population in Canada) and to Canadian Jewish Congress explaining that his letter of congratulations to Finta was completed as a routine office matter. The ambassador received a letter from Finta inviting him to attend a birthday party and literary evening organized by a Toronto church in Finta's honor. The ambassador receives from 10 to 15 similar requests every day and his response, congratulating Finta on reaching a milestone event, was also routine, Torzsa said.

"I have committed the mistake not to pay special attention to Mr. Finta's invitation and I let it go through the daily routine," Gedai stated in his letter of apology. "I knew that Finta's past is disputed...but I was unaware of the details and the evidence.

"I would like to underline that I deeply condemn the shameful period of persecution of Jews in Hungarian and world history. I have never maintained relations with those who participated in it and I fully agree with the position of the Hungarian government based on the recognition of the historic grievances and equality of Jewish people."

Jack Silverstone, national executive director of Congress, said "we accept his explanation and...we commend the ambassador for taking responsibility for his actions and doing the honorable thing."

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Education Conference: Israel at 50

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

THORNHILL — "There's no way you can understand Israel if you don't try to find out what you mean when you say a Jewish state," said the founder and president of the Jerusalem-based Melitz Centres for Jewish-Zionist Education in a keynote address here last week.

Avraham Infeld was speaking to Jewish day school teachers as part of Israel at 50!, a two-day conference for day school and supplementary school teachers sponsored by the Toronto Board of Jewish Education (BJE) of UJA Federation.

The event, attended by a total of about 1,300 teachers, some from smaller communities in Ontario, was held at Associated Hebrew School's Kamin branch. Infeld, a native of South Africa who made aliyah in 1959, spoke on Israel: A Jewish State or a State for the Jews?

One of the craziest things in Israel, he noted, is that whatever side people take in a debate – whether they're for or against giving up land, or for or against opening theatres on Shabbat – they justify their arguments by saying, "We are in a Jewish state."

To have meaning as a Jewish state, Israel has to know "how to find its roots in the past, but at the same time it has to be a home to different types of Jews."

Teaching about Israel, said Infeld, is "so complicated and so difficult that we usually allow it to be taught by Chief Rabbi CNN."

Among Israel's roles has been the saving of Jewish refugees and being "a warehouse of memories," as well as a source of pride for Jews "in being a people, not only a religion."

The teacher's job is "not to teach kids that Israel is our favorite charity, but to teach the importance and the centrality of Israel to Jewish life – and all its problems," said Infeld. "You cannot teach identity today without a relationship to ...Israel, and Israel is not going to help you teach a simplistic, childish [way of] being Jewish."

Life in Israel can be "both magnificent and hell," he noted.

Political issues such as whether Israel will "become an integral part of a new Middle East," are among the issues facing the country.

Most of Infeld's own Jewish teachers were "lousy," he recalled. "They stood up in front of me and gave me answers to questions I never asked. Education is not only supplying answers, it's knowing how to provoke questions."

By provoking questions, teachers will make their answers relevant, he explained. Israel provokes questions of Jewish identity, morality, and values, he noted.

Israel has to be "for all Jews at the same time, a reflection of their dreams and an answer to their identity.

"I turn to the Jewish people around the world and say, 'Understand the struggle Israel's going through.'"

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

THORNHILL — One of the great tragedies in Jewish education is that educators have not used Israel as a greater resource, says a professor of education at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

"The gift of Israel exists, but the Jewish people have not dealt with it. We have not made the idea of going to Israel the centrepoint of our lives," Barry Chazan, currently a visiting professor at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America told supplementary Hebrew school teachers at a recent professional development day affiliated with Toronto Board of Jewish Education of UJA Federation. The workshops formed part of a two-day conference on Israel at 50.

Chazan, who opened the day-long workshop, said one of several reasons it is important to teach Israel is that it is the place where Jews and their religion were born. "Israel is the cradle of our civilization. There is only one country that can be considered our homeland."

As well, he said, Israel is related to the notion of a better world. "Israel symbolizes the idea that we can improve the world and the lives of Jews...It is about the struggle to survive after the Holocaust and about the fact that we have succeeded. Israel is an achievement in technology, culture, medicine and Jewish studies. It [is a symbol] of the renaissance of the Jewish people."

Israel, said Chazan, is not only a contemporary modern society, but also a place "where the air over Jerusalem is saturated with prayers and dreams. It is a complicated country with diverse views, whose life since 1948 has been shaped by wars."

Some of the goals in teaching Israel, Chazan told teachers, should be to instil a curiosity in students. "They are curious about a place where dogs and cats speak Hebrew and where kids go into the army. We also have to try and project a nurturing and caring for Zion. We need to create a caring for Zion gene."

He said it is important to emphasize contemporary Israel. "We need to teach students that Israel is alive, modern and real. It is about people – a country of human beings. Meeting people is a critical dimension of teaching Israel."

Israel also has to be connected to the Hebrew language, said Chazan. "We should be making Hebrew a living thing. Now is the time to link Hebrew and Israel. It is time to reunite the two partners that go together. Hebrew and Israel deserve to be man and wife.

"Israel is about issues such as pluralism, politics, making peace and about Arabs. These issues as well, are part of what we should be [talking about.] We should also be talking about miracles and dreams. Israel's political parties are rooted in great dreams."

When studying Israel, he said, teachers should be making use of poetry, current newspapers and novels. "It is not a textbook subject – it is a non-ending story."

Chazan stressed that a critical aspect of an educator's role is to "turn around the sad fact that young people do not see going to Israel as an exciting fact. Going to Israel is the most powerful experience a young person has by the time they are 19 or 20."

Workshops offered to the teachers included Ten Easy Steps to Teaching Israel, Rabbinic Commentaries on Israel, Torah Text on Israel, Wake up and Experience Israel and Teaching Hebrew Mechanical Reading in the Supplementary School: Pros and Cons.

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Deja vu

The despot in Baghdad has once again set a vainglorious course toward a possibly deadly brink. Last week, he expelled all American weapons inspectors serving in Iraq as part of the United Nations-directed special commission charged with overseeing the destruction of Iraq's biological, chemical and nuclear weaponry. In response, the leader of the inspection team immediately announced that the entire group would be leaving Iraq.

Saddam's plan is not complicated. He is exploiting the apparent diminished resolve among Security Council members for continued forceful pressure against his country, as well as the increased resolve among fellow Arab states to once again wave pan-Arab colors. He aims to embarrass the United States, loosen the grip of the western embargo on his economy and keep Israelis nervous.

As of this writing, the United Nations has not yet reacted to Saddam's latest provocation, but "serious consequences" were promised in response to his flagrant violations of the inspection agreement.

Saddam Hussein is evil. He flouts international law. He holds in mocking contempt the rules of civility and civilization. He holds in utter disdain the value of human life. Human beings are but an instrument he plays to achieve his own ruthless, detestable aims. Even now he has moved scores of Iraqi families, men, women and children, into his palace to act as de facto shields against the possibility of United Nations sanctioned air strikes.

The CJN urges the government of Canada to support the strongest measures possible against the government of Iraq. He no longer makes any pretense to hide the fact that he is building new weapons of mass destruction for imminent use against his "enemies." Canada should be part of the effort to stop him in his tracks.

More deja vu

Throughout the Arab world, the "street' has rallied in support of Saddam Hussein. The Gulf War coalition of Arab states, which was bound by nothing stronger than the twine of expediency, has quickly unravelled. There have been demonstrations supportive of Iraq in Cairo and in other Arab countries.

There were also demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza. In an eerie, eye-opening but stomach-turning repeat of their rooftop exhortations during the Gulf War, many Palestinians shrieked their support of Iraq's belligerency. As if the clock had been turned back to the heart-stopping nights of the scud missiles some six years ago, the demonstrators in Ramallah shouted: "Oh Saddam my dear, drop your bombs on Tel Aviv."

After seeing the images of the frenzied mass of demonstrators burning flags, marching and chanting in unison their death wish for the people of Israel, it is hard to imagine any Israeli feeling kindly disposed toward his Palestinian neighbors. It is harder still to imagine any Israeli whose confidence in the peace process is not quickly eroding as a result of this latest Palestinian dance of death,

Good luck mayor

The CJN extends its congratulations to Mel Lastman, the first mayor of new, (mega) Toronto. Last week, Lastman defeated Barbara Hall for the position. He will now preside over the fifth largest municipal government in North America. His council of 57 elected members will be, undoubtedly, at times an impossibly unruly group. He will therefore need strength, stamina, patience, wisdom, initiative, compassion and a sense of humor to govern City Hall. May God grant it to him. Good luck, Mayor Mel.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"There is something higher than modernity; that is eternity."
Solomon Schecter

Dry Bones
WOW! WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
ROAR!!
THAT?... IT'S ONLY THE BEAST OF BAGHDAD.
GRRR!
EVERY NOW AND THEN HE THROWS A FIT AND RATTLES THE BARS OF HIS CAGE.
BUT HE HASN'T BROKEN FREE YET!
YET?

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Nov. 19, 1925 the Jewish section of the cemetery on Partridge Island, N.B., was consecrated by Rev. A.B. Babb of Saint John. (Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Absil did not speak for board on Gedenkdienst

You recently published a letter from Walter Absil (*CJN*, Nov. 6) concerning the project known as Gedenkdienst at the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre. Absil is certainly entitled to his opinion regarding this controversial matter. However, his comments do not represent the official position of the Board of Governors and he had no right to sign his letter in this misleading manner.

Ellen Pesner
Member, Board of Governors
Montreal

What is a Jew – the crucial point

The current crisis surrounding the Netanyahu government's proposed legislation that would grant exclusive conversion powers to Israel's Orthodox rabbinate is about more than who is a Jew. Partisan name calling and finger pointing, such as Richie Cohen's letter "Israel has right to say who is a Jew" (*CJN*, Nov. 6), persist, as if pluralism and diversity were someone's fault. According to Cohen, the Conservative and Reform "movements are responsible for creating the crisis. They have to pay the consequences."

Sadly, this type of thinking, which characterizes fundamentalist thought in all corners of the Jewish world, only violates and weakens the soul of the Jewish people by confusing tradition for truth, and by perpetuating the myth that the State of Israel and Judaism are one and the same.

Writes Cohen: "Israel has every right to define who, and how one is a Jew, since they [sic] are the Jewish state." I assume, therefore, that were a democratically elected Knesset to decide in future that the only "real" Jews were those of white Ashkenazi origin or those who "believe in God," that Cohen would unequivocally accept such a decision as both binding and halachically valid.

The point is not *who* is a Jew but *what* is a Jew. Those on all sides of the spectrum who refuse to unconditionally recognize and dialogue with their fellow Jews have forgotten that individual differences of opinion or ideology notwithstanding, we remain one people, bound together by a shared and complex history, religion, culture and destiny. Perhaps those, such as Cohen, who feel compelled to attack the legitimacy of their fellow Jews, might devote some of their energy to learning more about the roots and purposes of different schools of thought, with the aim of building more trust and understanding in our fragile Jewish world.

Ultimately, our task as Jews is not to judge the legitimacy of others, but to focus our precious energy on what, as Jews, is expected of us now as human beings and members of the Jewish people, including our obligation to look after each other.

David Steinberg
Toronto

Being a Jew is both national and spiritual

The New Israel Fund confuses democracy with "free will" and with the values which truly unite all Jews as one people.

Israel allows *all* Jews to practise their Judaism as they choose. They may observe (or not observe) Shabbat, holidays, kashrut, according to their own beliefs. They may pray and learn in a variety of synagogues in Israel. What the government is concerned with is the delegation of authority of determining *who* is a Jew. Such decisions may not be made by a "democratic" vote as if we are running a social club to which we wish to admit our friends.

G-d chose the Jews to be His people to fulfil the commandments of the Torah and to be a light unto the nations. As King, He gave each of us "free will" to decide how we may or may not fulfil these commands. He did not give us a free vote to decide who will be a part of the Jewish people.

Being Jewish is a "national" definition, *as well as a spiritual one*. A person is a Jew by being born to a Jewish mother. We are a part of the Jewish people because we have been given a Jewish neshamah (soul). Whether or not, or how, one chooses to observe Jewish laws and customs does not determine one's status as a Jew. A Jew is always a part of the Jewish people.

We may become a part of the Jewish people by accepting our spiritual heritage, through the process of conversion. In order to become a part of G-d's chosen people, we must follow His definitions and standards as given to us in the Torah (both written and oral). That is why only halachically acceptable conversions can be accepted by Israel.

As Jews we may choose how we practise our Judaism. We may not vote on *who* is a Jew.

Dr. Avraham Zimberg
Toronto

Israeli resident searches for aunt

Margalit Rosenblat, a resident of Ramat Ishay, a small town in northern Israel is searching for her aunt, Miriam, the only remaining sibling of her father, Menachem Mendel Kirshenbaum. Both managed to escape from the Nazis, but were separated following their liberation in Poland.

Yad Vashem was able to find a record of Miriam stating that she moved to Canada in October 1948, where it is believed she lived with an uncle, possibly in Toronto or Montreal. The uncle, apparently the owner of a large chain of clothing stores, may have changed his name to Kirsch or Karsh. He moved to Canada before 1920 from Kielce, Poland.

Eli Lubenstein
United Israel Appeal of Canada
4600 Bathurst St.
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Perspectives

Isadore Twersky combined tradition, modernity

Other-worldly figure was a Harvard institution

By GIL TROY

Isadore Twersky, Harvard professor and chassidic rebbe, died on Oct. 12, the day after Yom Kippur. It is fitting to record the death of Harvard University's Nathan Littauer Professor of Hebrew Literature and Philosophy in both secular time and Jewish time, for the life of this rationalist medieval scholar and mystical Talner Rebbe combined great secular achievements with a dynamic commitment to Jewish tradition.

Twersky was a mythical figure to generations of Harvard's Jewish students. An otherworldly figure with a long flowing beard and piercing eyes, he was a Harvard institution. This class of 1952 graduate and 1956 PhD spent his entire career in the most hallowed halls of academe without going native. He taught hundreds of students a popular core course in medieval philosophy centred on Maimonides. Yet he was not your typical professor. The impressive careers of his many assimilated Jewish colleagues showed just how far modern American Jews could go in becoming one of "them." His career showed just how impressively a Jew could succeed while remaining one of us.

As an undergraduate, I was terrified of Twersky. Once during the two-week "shopping period" at the start of a semester, when students sampled various courses, I attended one of his lectures. A required course being given at the same time would prevent me from taking the class, but I wanted to see the great man up close. I marvelled as the famous rabbi-professor floated into the room, and in one all-but-invisible fluid motion whisked off his fedora and placed a plain black kippah on his head. Dispensing with the usual pleasantries modern professors use to entice and entertain their students-cum-consumers, trusting us to figure out the mechanics by consulting his syllabus, Twersky began lecturing in a low, somewhat muffled voice. Surprisingly, his native New England "ahhrrs" and perfect diction made him sound more like Jack Kennedy than Jackie Mason.

About 10 minutes into the lecture, as so often happened during shopping period, a student entered the room. The door creaked loudly as it swung shut; Twersky stopped his lecture, looked up and stared at the door with his piercing eyes. I thought the door was going to wilt.

Two years later, as a graduate student preparing for oral examinations in four different historical fields, I found myself in Twersky's office. I wanted to prepare a field in modern Jewish history, but Harvard's two modern Jewish historians were on leave. I asked Twersky, as chair of the department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations – Harvard's code word for Jewish studies – what he suggested I do.

"Do you have any background for studying modern Jewish history," he asked.

Feeling extraordinarily inadequate, I explained that I had taken a few courses as an undergraduate but had read extensively on my own.

"Do you have any languages," he asked.

Stretching only a bit, I replied "Hebrew."

What about German or Yiddish, he asked.

When I said no, he nodded gravely. "Historians need to read things in the original."

Twersky was famous for imposing years of preparation on his graduate students, only allowing them to begin their PhD once they had mastered Hebrew, Aramaic, Yiddish and/or German, depending on their particular fields.

I was sure that I was about to get the brush-off, when he muttered, "This is highly irregular, and not my field, but graduate training is important." He paused for a long time. "You can read scholarly work in Hebrew?" he asked again.

"Yes," I insisted.

"Then I'll take you on."

I left the meeting shell-shocked. This was more than I had bargained for. Besides, what did he know about modern Jewish history? He was a medievalist.

My friends were equally surprised when I told them about the meeting. "Did you wear a kippah when you met with him?" one friend asked.

"Did you tell him, the Talner Rebbe, that your grandfather was a Talner Chassid?" another wondered.

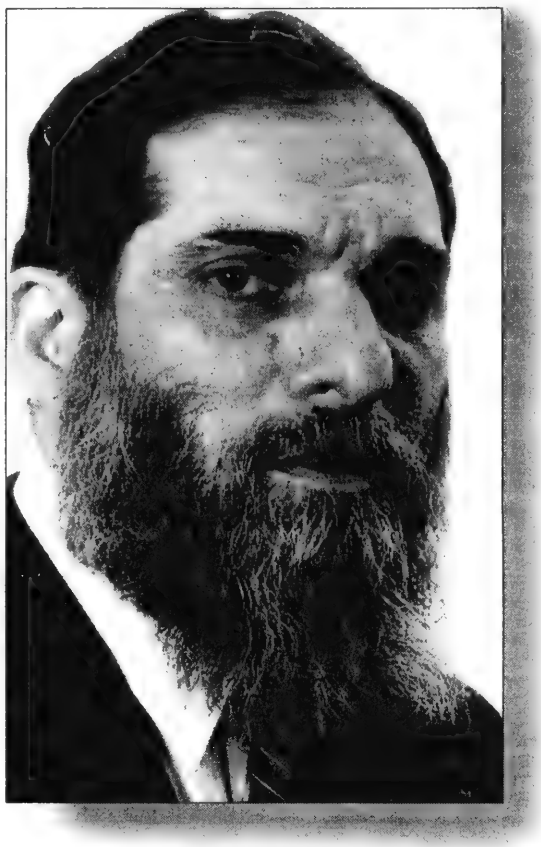
I explained that our relationship was a secular one, and strictly business. I was approaching him as a scholar not a rabbi, as my professor not my rebbe.

Preparation for orals entailed monthly meetings and a reading list of approximately 100 books in each field, all culminating in a two-hour exam where each of four professors had a half-hour to grill you about any aspect of their particular field.

During the meetings, one professor expected you to come in, ask whatever questions you had, then leave. Another subjected you to a barrage of historiographical questions similar to what he would ask during the exam. Twersky was more subtle – and more involved. He helped set my intellectual agenda by suggesting one book here, another book there, always offhandedly but never gratuitously. He would pose broad yet incisive questions that made the material come alive in ways I never expected.

Looking back on my notes, I am struck by how much he shaped my understanding of the period without ever lecturing me. And I learned early on that this medievalist had a strong – and quite convincing – interpretation of modern Jewish history.

Most scholars treat modern Jewish history as a series of intellectual and ideological clashes: between Chassidim and Mitnagdim, between the Reform and the Orthodox, between Zionists and anti-Zionists. Twersky felt that this approach overemphasized fights between the intellectuals and ignored the more integrated lives of the overwhelmingly traditional masses. Just as his life was a series of "ands" rather than "either/ors," so too his scholarship emphasized continuities, points of contact, areas of overlap, rather than viewing modernity and tradition as being inherently opposed to one another. Twersky alerted me to the ways in which tradition and modernity interacted, cross-fertilized, thrived together.



Isadore Twersky

Twersky certainly harbored strong feelings about the secularist and anti-religious bias of most modern scholars, but he never harangued. He preferred to rely on an aside here, a bibliographic suggestion there, all of which gave me the joy of discovery. Responding to his cues, I reinvented his wheel, I discovered his world view and considered it my own – with modifications and my own variations,of course.

During the pleasantries we always exchanged at the start of our meetings, I gradually worked up the courage to wish him a Shanah Tovah or a Chag Samayach, as the occasion warranted. Still, I could never bring myself to tell him about our shared Talner connection. First, I feared I would ruin our scholarly distance. Next, I felt inadequate, fearing that he would disapprove of my great distance from his way of life. By the time I discovered how open, how tolerant, how gracious he was, I had missed my chance. I had gone so long without sharing the information, I could see no smooth way to bring it up. As a result, I never shared a Shabbat with him at his table. I never allowed myself to risk our established relationship by creating a newer and fuller one.

During our second meeting, I made a little joke and got him to laugh. As his face dissolved into a smile his formidable eyes lit up. I felt good and realized that he was not so intimidating, but rather that I was intimidated. I, like so many students, was the one making the interaction stiff and formal.

As we progressed through the modern era, I also gained some insight into his four decades as Harvard's most Jewishly flamboyant Jew. While becoming an essential part of the institution, he always remained an outsider. He noted that even his most scrupulous colleagues often consulted him about any number of biblical, Hebraic or Judaic questions rather than looking things up themselves, treating Jewish concerns as trivial arcana rather than scholarly matters worth mastering on their own.

When I finally had my oral exam, Twersky met two of my professors for the first time – despite the fact that one had spent his entire career at Harvard and the other had been there for 20 years. And he counselled me to avoid being an American Jewish historian: "Don't adulterate yourself," he said. "If you want to be an American historian, don't tackle any Jewish topics early in your career; otherwise you'll be ghettoized by them as a Jewish scholar, rather than as an American scholar."

In his advice, I felt I could hear the disdain his own work had suffered from more "worldly" colleagues.

Clearly, Twersky had been marginalized at times during his career. Still, all in all, his was a remarkable feat. In an age of polarization, his life was a monument to integration. He could be a Maimonidean rationalist and a chassidic mystic; a critical scholar and a deep believer, a Harvard man and a man of the cloth.

Twersky sought to integrate and unite rather than to polarize and divide our Jewish community. He was no religious zealot shutting out the world – or the heathens – surrounding him. He was no political propagandist haranguing his students to accept his ideas. Rather, he was a great teacher, a balanced individual and a thoroughly modern traditional Jew, who mastered the secular and the religious, showing that we do not always have to choose between the two worlds, but can take the best from each of them.

Gil Troy is chair of the History Department at McGill University.

Opinions

Travel agents a tough sell

I surf the Internet daily looking for Jewish and Israeli news. Every week, I come across three or four articles dealing with tourism in Israel.

By Viva Press in Halifax

Many hotels and tourist agencies promote discounted fares and trips. While the travel agencies may make such offers, how many travel agents themselves have actually visited Israel? How much do they know about the land of milk and honey? Not as much as they should.

Despite the easy border crossings available between Israel and Jordan or Egypt, press releases in Israel suggest there has been a significant drop in tourism in Israel.

Recently, I was at a travel show in Halifax helping Toronto-based Israel Government Tourist Office director Arie Shevy-Shibi promote Tel Aviv as the location for a conference to take place in June 1998.

Many of the travel agents were interested in visiting Israel. Most of them wanted to float in the Dead Sea. They wanted to visit Jesus's birthplace and see all the Christian sites. They wanted to visit this historical land. They wanted to visit this small country that has made big news.

But a number of them were scared off by some of the big news out of Israel.

Flipping through a pamphlet on the Dead Sea, one woman told me she really wanted to go there, but was too afraid because of the "unstable situation" in Israel. I told her I had been to Israel a number of times. I told her Israel is a safe place to visit. I told her the likelihood of being caught in a terrorist attack is very small. I told her more than three million tourists visit Israel each year and about 40 percent of them are returnees.

Then she told me she was afraid because of what she'd read and heard in the media. She said the media always show how scary it is to be in Israel.

As a journalist, I know the media can blow things out of proportion.

I explained to her how a minor incident in Israel becomes a major happening when it is reported from an outside perspective. She was skeptical. After all, I was at this travel show to promote Israel, why would I say negative things about it?

So I asked if she had ever been to Italy. She had. We talked about the moped drivers there and how crazy they are. I told her I thought I stood a better chance of getting hit by a moped in Italy than of being in a terrorist attack in Israel.

After all, misfortunes can happen wherever you are.

The woman as well as other fearful travel agents asked me what it was like in Israel. I told them Israel is a unique place. No matter where you travel, you'll never find a place quite like it. It's a place that has to be visited in person, I explained, which is probably the reason so many people return to visit again and again.

At the end of the day, we had spoken to many people. We had given out maps of Israel as well as pamphlets on Tel Aviv and the Dead Sea. I don't think all the agents will go to the conference in Israel.

However, I do think they left with a new perspective of Israel. And, they left with Dead Sea mud caked on their hands from the sample bucket Shevy-Shibi brought with him.

U2 gets fans thinking

As the winter season began to wind down last March, the legendary Irish rock band U2 announced the dates for their world Pop Mart tour. To my great pleasure, this tour was to include a stop at the Olympic Stadium in Montreal. When the tickets went on sale, several friends and I got together to spend the night in front of the box office in anticipation.

By Justin Korda in Montreal

Once I had the tickets, I had to wait eight months before I could see the band perform. For 32 weeks, a day did not go by without my anxiously looking forward to Nov. 2, the night scheduled for the concert at the Big O.

Well Nov. 2 has since come and gone and it was a brilliant show. We saw and felt the power of music, with its correlative emotions, motivation and enthusiasm.

The show was not just a simple concert. It was an extravagant, commercially-oriented spectacle of technology, modern art, sound and lights.

At one point during the show, my friend turned to me and said "I have never felt music like this before." That, I suppose, would be the most accurate description of the U2 Pop Mart tour.

After the show, some pressing questions came to mind. How could a band like U2, traditionally known for its deep commitment to social causes such as the environment and human rights, be capable of creating such an extravagant, materialistic, superficial and profit-guzzling tour? On the surface, it seemed hypocritical. However, upon closer examination, I believe there was a deeper message.

The Pop Mart tour includes many elements that can be found in our modern society. Our culture has a tremendous fixation on superficiality and materialism. The widespread use of media and marketing emphasize our "more is better" philosophy. The U2 production used the materialistic elements in such an exaggerated manner that the spectator was almost forced to question the legitimacy of the underlying message. By numbing their audience with an all-out attack on the senses, the band prompted us to ponder the implications of the superficiality of American pop culture, a phenomenon that has taken over our society.

As a fan, I would like to believe that it was the band's intention to exaggerate the cruel, materialistic elements of society, in an effort to cause us to think about how ridiculous and out-of-whack our priorities are. I realize that many people would reject this argument, but for me that is the essence of the band's brilliance. They send a potent message that delineates the absurdities in our society, make huge profits on their music and merchandise, yet still ensure that every person leaves the show feeling completely satisfied.

For us "idealistic" students who rant and rage about changing the system and bringing about justice, U2 offers some advice.

Today's "establishment" or mainstream has a very strong structure. Those who are intent on changing this system from the outside might be destined for failure. On the other hand, trying to change the "establishment" from within might be a more successful route.

U2 chose to exaggerate and over-emphasize the ludicrous values of our society in order to get people to realize its ridiculousness. In essence, they used the system to suggest that its very foundations should be changed. In the same way, we have to learn what makes our society tick in order to make changes.

There is much meaning to be found in those who travel in *Mysterious Ways* to attain their goals.

Dry Bones
TALL AND THIN
SHORT AND FAT
YOUNG AND OLD
MALE AND FEMALE
THE PREVIOUS WAS A DISPLAY OF RELIGIOUS PLURALISM IN ISRAEL.

A New Lexicon of Hate

Anti-Semitism is not a subject that is high on the list of Canadian Jews. Once upon a time, we were literally consumed with it. It was natural when Nazism was in full bloom and, for a while, threatened to engulf the western world. But since then, anti-Semitism has been in steady decline. The majority of people in North America say that they would not be unhappy if their children married Jews (a sentiment which, in reverse, seems to be embraced by more and more Jewish people as well).

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

As for Jews, therefore, anti-Semitism has moved off the main agenda of their lives, and that is a blessing. But it hasn't gone away and has become – as its nature seems to demand – a gentile problem. I say this, not because gentiles are more prone to meshugas than Jews, but because this particular affliction appears as a recurring sore on the body politic of the general population.

This was brought to my attention recently and most cogently when I was sent a fascinating pamphlet entitled *A New Lexicon of Hate*, with the subtitle "Changing Tactics, Language and Symbols of America's Extremists." It is published by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles and contains primarily American facts. Canadians should not feel badly about this, because on the whole, the impact of such extremist groups is smaller in Canada than the United States.

It has been known for a long time that extremism and violence germinate and surface more easily in the United States than here. There are more people there, and the tradition of being able to bear arms has a kind of sacred character which, on the whole, I find blessedly absent in Canada.

What follows is a very small excerpt from the Wiesenthal pamphlet, which brought me many facts and figures with which hitherto I had been unfamiliar.

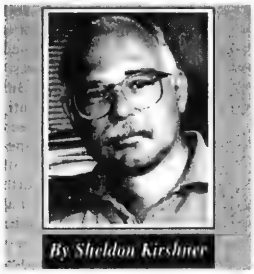
For instance, there is such a thing as a "racist code." Jews familiar with their own tradition know that the Hebrew alphabet is also used for numerical purposes – aleph standing for 1, beit for 2. Apparently, gentile racists have been attracted by this system and I learned that in it, a equals 1, b equals 2, and so on; 8 equals h. Therefore, 88 equals HH and this number now stands amongst the racist for "Heil Hitler," used as a greeting for nearly all racists. AI is represented by 19, and 19 represents "Aryan identity," and so on.

The racists also have their own calendar with preferred dates on which they urge their own supporters to attend public gatherings, protest rallies and the like. Chief amongst these dates is of course Adolf Hitler's birthday (April 20), and "a perfect day" for protest is the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. – for its own obvious reason, but also because a former U.S. Nazi leader, Robert J. Mathews, was born on the same day.

This is a small selection from the 30-page pamphlet, which is brilliantly illustrated and thoroughly convincing. Copies may be obtained from headquarters of the centre: 9760 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90035, or from the Simon Wiesenthal branch in Canada: 8 King St. E., Suite 710, Toronto M5C 1B5.

The Kirshner File

The extraordinary story of Shlomo Perel



By Sheldon Kirshner

Shlomo Perel, alias Josef Perjell, professes to be amazed himself. "It seems like a dream, four years to have lived among Nazi enemies without documents and papers," he said with a touch of incredulity. "But when I meet my former comrades from the Hitler Youth and the Wehrmacht, it is proof it was reality."

Perel, a 72-year-old retired Israeli businessman, was once a poseur par excellence, a Jew who masqueraded as a German in the interests of self-preservation. By all accounts, Perel, who had once dreamed of being an actor, performed brilliantly. He was the ideal Aryan poster boy.

Perel's story, told in the 1990 award-winning film *Europa, Europa*, is so extraordinary that it had to be verified by two mass-circulation German magazines, *Stern* and *Der Spiegel*.

Born in Peine, a town near Hannover, he was the son of Azriel and Rifka Perel, east European Jews who had settled in Germany after World War I.

In 1935, two years after Hitler's accession to power, the Perels fled to Poland. With the outbreak of World War II, they presciently sent their sons, Shlomo and David, eastward. The siblings were separated, and Perel, perhaps like Jerzy Kosinski in the surrealistic novel *The Painted Bird*, was forced to fend for himself as a displaced person in Soviet-occupied Poland, the birthplace of his father.

As related in his memoirs, upon which *Europa, Europa* is based, Perel enrolled in a Young Communist school cum-orphanage in Grodno. With Germany's invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941, the orphanage was bombed, and Perel was on the road again.

Falling into the hands of the victorious Wehrmacht, Perel, perfectly fluent in German, convinced the company commander that he was Josef Perjell, an ethnic German from Lithuania, where his mother had been born. Charmed by the boy, the troops adopted him as a mascot and Russian-language interpreter. He served for a year, and during this period he helped to interrogate a captured Soviet soldier named Jacob Djugashvilli, Josef Stalin's older son, and survived a battle in which he was mistakenly celebrated as a hero.

Impressed by him, the company commander, Joachim von Munchow, an ardent Nazi, adopted Perel as a son, and placed him in an elite Hitler Youth academy in Brunswick, close to Peine.

"I had to adjust myself very quickly to this dangerous environment," said Perel, who was recently in Toronto for Holocaust Education Week as a guest of Canadian Young Judaea. "I had to forget Shloimeleh to survive. I had to go as far away as possible from Shloilmeleh."

At the academy, a training centre for future Nazi leaders, Perel was subjected to a barrage of ideological indoctrination which turned on virulent anti-Semitism and the claim that Germans formed a master race. "The hatred against Jews was deeply internalized," recalled Perel, a slight, balding, kindly figure with sallow skin whose halting English resonates of German and Hebrew.

Although, as a Jew, he never felt self-loathing, Perel was mesmerized by the atmosphere. "I was sure Germany would win the war. We were totally brainwashed. We stood in awe of the fuhrer. Hitler was a god. I lived a classic schizophrenic existence."

Being circumcised, Perel went to great lengths to conceal his private parts, cowering in the shower and even refusing to sleep with a girlfriend who wanted to have babies for the fuhrer.

Despite his efforts at obliterating his real identity, he was unmasked by two German acquaintances, but they did not betray him. "They gave me human life," said Perel.

There were also moments when he almost succumbed to despair. One such crisis occurred when he visited the Lodz ghetto, where his parents were imprisoned. Perel had convinced the academy that his imaginary Christian parents, with whom he had supposedly lost touch, might still be alive in Grodno. Slipping out of Grodno, he went to Lodz, spending 12 days there at the end of 1943 and at the beginning of 1944 without ever tracking down Azriel and Rifka. As it happened, they died in the summer of 1944, he in the ghetto and she in a concentration camp.

During his darkest days in the ghetto, Perel never forgot his mother's last words in Yiddish, "Shloimeleh, live." She uttered this admonition just before her sons fled into the Soviet zone in Poland. "Whenever I was in trouble, I heard these words in my mind's eye. They shaped my will to live."

When the war ended, Perel was reunited with his brother. They never had any intention of rebuilding their lives in Germany. "When I read that the War of Independence had begun, I decided to go to Israel."

Perel arrived in July 1948, in time to fight with the Haganah in Jerusalem under the command of a young officer, Moshe Dayan. After being demobilized, he settled down, married and earned a living as a metal worker. In 1970, he and David opened a zipper factory in Tel Aviv. They sold the plant in 1984, following Perel's heart bypass surgery.

While recuperating, Perel, the father of two sons and a grandfather twice over, wrote his memoirs in Hebrew. The publication of the French version coincided with the premiere of *Europa, Europa* in Paris. The film, directed by Agnieszka Holland, won the Golden Globe prize for best foreign language movie at the Berlin Film Festival and was an Oscar nominee for best adapted screenplay. Perel, who co-wrote the script with Holland, claims that *Europa, Europa* has had a greater impact on German youth than Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List*.

Despite, or because of, his experiences, Perel visits Germany on student lecture tours quite regularly. He is not anti-German, steadfastly rejecting the notion of collective guilt. As he put it, "The young generation is not responsible for the Holocaust." Nevertheless, he subscribes to American scholar Daniel Goldhagen's thesis, in *Hitler's Willing Executioners*, that the German people, inculcated by centuries of anti-Semitism, participated as faceless bureaucrats and as brutal killers in the Final Solution. "It's a serious, authoritative work about the German national character," he observed, referring to Goldhagen's controversial book.

Intriguingly enough, Perel maintains a relationship, albeit an ambivalent one, with about a dozen of the Germans he befriended in the Wehrmacht and in the Hitler Youth school. One of them still harbors Nazi sympathies.

It's plain that the subject unsettles Perel. "They are not my friends," he said, "but they shared my destiny for four years. Maybe they are a little angry that they never knew I was Jewish. It was too fantastic that, in such a clear Aryan place, there could have been a Jew."

Von Munchow, the Wehrmacht commander who took a shine to Perel, died in 1987 without ever realizing that his protege was Jewish. "Had he known, he would have executed me."

As a survivor, Perel, a soft-spoken man, displays a surprising lack of bitterness. He cannot accept the eye-for-an-eye philosophy of vengeance which animates some survivors. "I learned from Martin Buber that we have no right to be inhuman because we were persecuted."

Perel, who embraces values of peace, brotherly love and tolerance, was shocked when he heard a lecture at Holocaust Education Week in which a speaker vented animosity toward all gentiles.

"This is irresponsible. Holocaust Education Week can't be a stage for chauvinism."

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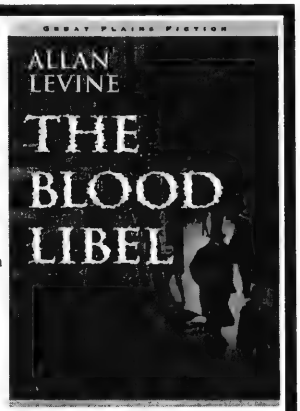

Meet author Allan Levine *who appears at*
The Sleuth of Baker Street *bookstore on*
Saturday, November 22 at 5 p.m.
1600 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, Ontario

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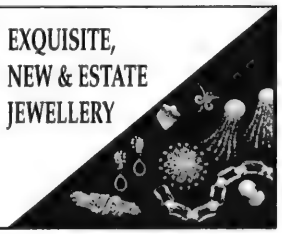

הכנסת ספר תורה
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בה

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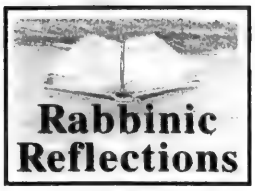


Discovering one's identity

By RABBI LAWRENCE ENGLANDER

It is commonplace these days to say that "every Jew is a Jew by choice." Growing up in an open society, being born Jewish is no guarantee that one will continue to live as a Jew or raise Jewish children. It is our choice whether or not to do so. Is there any secret ingredient that may help to tip the balance toward Jewish identity?

This week's Torah portion, Chayey Sarah, may shed some light on this question. Abraham sends his servant to find a wife for Isaac. When the servant returns with Rebecca, Isaac sees them from afar. "Isaac was meditating in the field at evening time and, looking up, he saw camels approaching" (Gen. 24:63). This is the first mention of Isaac in the Torah since he had been offered up as a sacrifice on Mount Moriah (in Gen. 22). Where had he been since that time?

According to one midrash, Abraham actually went through with the slaughter of his son. Isaac's soul ascended to heaven, where it lingered for three years until Rebecca was chosen for his wife; then God restored Isaac's soul to him and placed him on the path to meet his intended wife.

The text itself suggests another possibility. In the verse before the one quoted above, we learn that Isaac was coming from the direction of Be'er Lachai Ro'i, a settlement in the Negev region. This place name is mentioned only once before in Torah (Gen. 16:14); it is the place where Hagar and Ishmael went, after Abraham and Sarah expelled them from their home. Is it possible that Isaac spent the intervening three years with the brother from whom his parents took pains to shield him? Was his return home a sign that he was willing to make peace with his father, that he shared Abraham's desire to continue the covenant with God into future generations?

We return to our original question about Jewish identity. I have met many individuals (usually male) who tell me, "Everything I hate about Judaism I learned in Hebrew school." In their adult years, they are still wondering if there is anything worthwhile in Jewish tradition for them to return to.

Like Isaac, these people have come into conflict with a parent figure — or a tradition — whom they perceive as authoritarian and out of touch. As soon as they are able to escape, perhaps after their bar/bat mitzvah, they seek refuge in the tents of their gentile neighbors to broaden their cultural horizons. As the years pass, their Jewish education fades in their memory so that they become more fluent in the Anglo-Saxon language and heritage than they are in their own. Is there any route back from the Moriah of their Jewish alienation?

Abraham provides half the answer: He seeks a wife for his son and beckons Isaac to return home to develop a new, adult relationship with his father and his tradition. This opportunity is available to our ambivalent people today, in several forms. Find a community where you feel at home — there are enough synagogues, minyanim and chavurot to offer a wide range of choice. Take one of the many courses in Judaism offered in your neighborhood. Lend a hand toward the many endeavors of charity and social justice in which Jewish communities are engaged.

But even this is only half the answer. The rest must come from Isaac himself. Seeking a fulfilling relationship with the Jewish people is certainly one route to strengthening our Jewish identity. But for those of you who are seeking the way back for your children, or for yourself, perhaps you might also consider the journey within, the journey that leads us toward God.

In the solitude of the desert, Isaac probed the depth of his soul to discover the eternal flame that burns within the Jewish people. Only then was he able to look ahead and perceive his destiny. We become the heirs of Isaac's quest. In order to inherit its treasure, we must repeat it in our own lifetime.

Rabbi Englander is the spiritual leader of Solel Congregation of Mississauga.

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Observers of the Jewish world sometimes hypothesize that the current popularity of Jewish genealogy reflects a widespread need among Jews to discover not only their ancestral roots, but their religious roots as well.

Tracing one's family tree, the sociologically minded might suggest, is merely a secular aspect of the religious baal tshuvah movement. The object of both, supposedly, is a reconciliation and a return to knowledge that had been forgotten, abandoned or lost.

Twenty years ago last month, a group of Jewish genealogists in the New York City area established the first Jewish genealogical society in the post-Holocaust era. Participants of that first historic meeting, which took place in the Elizabeth, N.J. home of Dr. Neil Rosenstein, reads like a Who's Who of Jewish Genealogy. Besides Rosenstein, attendees included Arthur Kurzweil, Dan Rottenberg, Steven Siegel and Rabbi Malcolm Stern – each of whom has contributed a major book or treatise to the field.

The seeds sown by these pioneers found fertile ground. Today more than 60 Jewish genealogical societies are active around the world, with new societies emerging regularly in remote places like Vilnius and Kazakhstan.

It was a drawing of an outspread majestic tree, neatly adorned with crests of the 12 tribes of Israel, that was the logo of the Gesellshaft für Jüdische Familien-Forschung, the only notable pre-war society devoted to the serious study of Jewish family history. Headquartered in Berlin, the society published a scholarly German-language bulletin, the *Jüdische Familien-Forschung*, from December 1924 to September 1938. In November 1938, the shattered glass of Kristallnacht likely jammed the presses, and no further editions ever appeared.

An early precursor of this ill-fated Gesellshaft and of the modern Jewish genealogical movement was the Society for Jewish Culture and Learning that Yomtov Lipmann (Leopold) Zunz established in 1819.

The first breezes of the Jewish Enlightenment had blown across Europe in the 1780s. In the early 1800s, Napoleon was eager to export his nation's cherished ideals of liberty, equality and brotherhood across Europe, even if it meant including the Jews and other traditional outsiders in this grand egalitarian scheme.

Napoleon was not averse to the idea, but wondered whether the Jews would make loyal citizens. To answer that question, he reconvened the Sanhedrin, the ancient Jewish high court that had not been in session since the destruction of the Second Temple. At his behest, 112 Jewish notables, including powerful businessmen, financiers, rabbis and scholars, convened a congress in Paris in 1806.

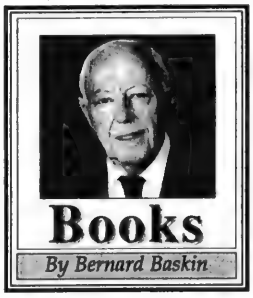
Their pledges of unwavering loyalty to France satisfied the emperor.

Consequently, the Jews were accorded vastly expanded civil rights and the privilege of assimilating into Christian society. In jurisdiction after jurisdiction, they were permitted to own land, join the military, vote and otherwise take part as citizens in the affairs of state.

The first Jewish civil records of births, marriages and deaths date from precisely that era (1808) in many towns in Prussian-Poland, Galicia and Russian-Poland. The notion of social equality was so pervasive that Jewish, Catholic, Evangelical and other records were often transcribed side by side in the same ledgerbooks until about 1825.

For Ashkenazi Jews, this era marked the passage from medievalism to modernity, collectivism to individualism; it also gave rise to the Conservative and Reform movements. Distanced from their own Orthodox traditions, the intellectuals sought to understand Jewish society and preserve its past through scientific studies of folklore, literature, culture, religion – and genealogy.

Those interested in reading more on this complex and fascinating subject are encouraged to consult *The Course of Modern Jewish History*, Howard M. Sachar's classic history of the Jewish people from the 18th century to the present day.



Swiss banks explored

***Hitler's Silent Partners* by Isabel Vincent (Knopf Can, $32.95).**
***Nazi Gold* by Tom Bower (Harper Collins, $35.50).**

By now the grim and terrible story is well-known. During World War II, Swiss banks and the government were not neutral. Unimpeded, German troop trains and military supplies used Swiss rail lines en route to Italy to fight the Allies. Swiss heavy industries manufactured and sold military equipment to the German war machine at a substantial profit. Banks provided the Nazis with needed foreign currency for gold bullion stolen from the central banks of conquered countries, and for bars refined from the gold gathered from the rings and teeth of millions of slaughtered Jews.

Money deposited in Swiss banks by desperate Jews and others, seeking to assure the financial survival of their families, was made unavailable after the war to relatives and heirs through a callous process of vacillation, mendacity and sheer theft. An amount approaching six billion (in current dollars) may have been involved.

Although the Swiss allowed more than 25,000 Jewish refugees into the country during the war, as many as 30,000 more were ruthlessly turned away. The police stamped the passports of Jewish refugees with a large red J. In 1942, a regulation aimed at Jews forbade political asylum to persons who became "refugees only on racial grounds."

Only under intense international pressure, generated at first by the World Jewish Congress, have the Swiss with great reluctance agreed to open their bank records for discovering and rendering proper and long withheld compensation.

The World Jewish Congress invited the assistance of Republican Senator Alfonse D'Amato, a powerful U.S. legislator, who focused the international spotlight on Switzerland by convening a series of senate hearings in Washington. In response, the Swiss government finally acknowledged the moral bankruptcy of its own institutions during the war and proposed a $4.7 billion fund for the victims of the Holocaust and others who suffered human rights abuses.

The fund proposal, subject to the approval of the Swiss electorate, has led to widespread differences of opinion, bitter acrimony and an anti-Semitic outcry.

Hitler's Silent Partners is the first Canadian book on the subject, and the author, a prize-winning journalist with the *Globe and Mail*, draws on a number of poignant and telling interviews. She dwells especially on the survivors of Abraham Hammersmith, a Viennese textile exporter, whose family is a kind of record in miniature of Jewish suffering and Swiss perfidy. She also includes the disclosure of Stuart Eisenstat — until recently an American undersecretary of state — on Swiss crimes.

The two books under review complement each other. In *Nazi Gold*, Tom Bower, a well-known British investigator and historian, covers much of the material in the Vincent account, but draws on previously unpublished source material and archives in Paris, London, New York, Washington and Bern.

He concludes that his book is an indictment of a country, "whose citizens, over the past half-century, boasted to their neighbors about their enviable wealth, quite knowingly profiting from blood money."

Both of these books are well-researched, lucid, revealing, and disturbing. The authors insist, with Edgar Bronfman of the World Jewish Congress, that what is involved in the entire Swiss conspiracy is not just a matter of money. The issue is truth. The issue is morality.

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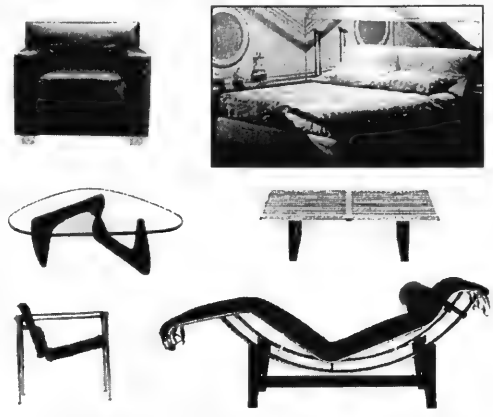
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It's all in the genes

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Last week we began our look at the information about Jewish genetic disorders on the Internet and at the scientific and religious consequences of genetic testing. Today, more of the vast resources available on the Jewish Highway. Once again, a caution that the Internet should *not* be considered a substitute for trusted medical or rabbinic advice.

Perhaps the best known genetic disease to affect Jews is Tay-Sachs. The National Tay-Sachs & Allied Diseases Association **[http://mcrcr4.med.nyu.edu/~murphp01/taysachs.htm]** is working to defeat Tay-Sachs and over 40 other fatal degenerative disorders.

According to the National Foundation for Jewish Genetic Diseases **[http://www.stepstn.com/nord/org_sum/118.htm]**, two other genetic diseases which are more common among Jews are Gaucher disease **[http://www.gaucherdisease.org/]** and Niemann Pick disease **[http://www.nnpdf.org/]**.

Less well known is a connection between Schizophrenia in the Jewish Community **[http://www.med.jhu.edu/schizophrenia/jewish.htm]**. The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine wants to identify the susceptibility to schizophrenia among Ashkenazi Jews and develop new treatment.

I was particularly interested in an article on Montreal's Stanley Diamond, titled Genetic Detective **[http://www.jewishaz.com/jewishnews/970207/genetic.html]**. Diamond carries a rare form of the thalassemia gene which causes severe anemia. After repeated transfusions, red blood cells die and cause large iron deposits in the liver and other organs **[http://www.thalassemia.org/]**. An estimated 500 million people around the world carry the genetic trait that leads to the disease including Sephardic Jews whose ancestry is traced to medieval Spain and Portugal. Stanley Diamond is using all means including the Internet to trace his family tree in order to make relatives aware of the rare disease.

In addition to the many Jewish genetic Web sites, there are several e-mail lists you can join to share your own story and advice. The Genetic Disease Mailing List is found at **[http://www.gaucherdisease.org/list.htm]**; the genetic-disease listserv at **[http://sargon.mmu.ac.uk/genetic.htm]**; GENDIS-J: the Jewish Genetic Diseases Discussion area **[http://tile.net/lists/gendisj.html]** and Mordechai Brown operates the genetic-disease list **[http://mofet.macam98.ac.il/~dovw/jw/l/sha0285.html]**. An archive of older messages can be found at **[http://shamash.org/listarchives/genetic-disease/]**.

Finally, I'd like to conclude a remarkable Jewish genetic story that you may have caught earlier this year that does not include any illness. A team of researchers from Israel, England, Canada and the United States studied both Ashkenazi and Sephardi kohanim (priests who are descendants of Aaron) **[http://www.jcn18.com/scripts/jcn18/paper/Article.asp?ArticleID=593]** and **[http://www.direct.ca/trinity/aaron.html]**. They were able to trace Y chromosomes among kohanim that were much different among other "Israelite" Jews. They were dubbed the "priestly genes" passed from father to son for generations.

So at the conclusion of these columns dealing with genetic illness and disease, I'd like to quote the famous priestly blessing found in the Book of Numbers **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/numbers/torah/06230624.htm]**:

"May G-d bless you and keep watch over you.

"May G-d make His presence enlighten you and grant you grace.

"May G-d direct His providence toward you and grant you peace".

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Mount Sinai Hospital

Bernard I. Ghert

Mount Sinai Hospital is pleased to announce the election of Bernard I. Ghert as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Ghert is a supporter of the Hospital, has been an active member of its Board of Directors for over 23 years, and has served on the Hospital's Executive Committee for 21 years. He held the office of Vice Chairman for the past six years, and served as Treasurer for over five years.

Mr. Ghert is the immediate past Chairman of Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation, and was a member of the Campaign Cabinet during the "Friends for Life" campaign. He is a member of the Foundation's Resource Development Council, and an active canvasser for the Cornerstone, Special Gifts and Corporate divisions.

Mr. Ghert is a former President and CEO of Cadillac Fairview Corporation, Director of CT Financial Services, and Director of Wellington Insurance. He is an active member of the Jewish community, and has served in positions such as Co Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, President of Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto, and President and Chairman of the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. He currently holds directorship positions in many organizations, including the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews and Canadian Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Mount Sinai Hospital is an acute care and teaching hospital located in downtown Toronto that provides an array of health care services and specializes in several multidisciplinary areas including perinatology, surgical oncology, musculoskeletal disease, GI disease and molecular and sub-specialty medicine. In 1985, the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute was established which has formed unique and vital linkages between clinicians and basic scientists in the study of a wide range of common diseases as well as molecular biology and cancer, fetal health, epidemiology (the study of the incidence and distribution of disease, their control and prevention) and biostatistics, and clinical investigative studies.

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL

Russian Jews in Toronto

Rekindling the flame

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Approximately 30,000 Russian Jews live in the Greater Toronto Area. In the second of a two-part report, Bill Gladstone looks at that dynamic and growing community. Part 1 was published last week.

TORONTO — Prodded by an international campaign to free Soviet Jews (Let My People Go, the placards demanded), the Kremlin permitted the first "refuseniks" to leave in the early 1970s. The first representatives of this wave reached Toronto about 1973.

This initial influx, which reached its height in 1979, brought about 10,000 to 12,000 ex-Russian Jews here. The gates closed again in 1981 and remained shut until the collapse of the Soviet empire in 1987. Then a second, even larger wave of Jews chose to leave what many feared was becoming an increasingly anti-Semitic society seeking scapegoats for worsening economic conditions.

"We're now 10 years into the renewed migration," says Perry Romberg, director of the Toronto office of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Society of Canada (JIAS). "The rescue is not the same as it was in '87 or '88. Back then, no one knew how long the doors would be open. Now we have a regularized movement. It's easy to get out of the former Soviet Union these days and it's harder to get into Canada."

While an estimated 750,000 Russian Jews have gone to Israel, thousands have preferred cities like New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Toronto – the four top destinations for Russian-Jews in North America. Toronto's vibrant Russian-Jewish community of about 30,000 is concentrated along the north Bathurst Street corridor between Sheppard and Steeles avenues.

Besides offering the newcomers a variety of essential resettlement services, JIAS hosts classes in Jewish learning and parties on Jewish holidays. Part of the organization's mandate, Romberg says, is to attempt to bring the Russians back into the Jewish fold.

"We're dealing with families that have lost contact with Judaism. Perhaps they had some contact with Jewish tradition as practised by their grandparents, but in most cases their parents had already lost the connection. We're trying to find new and creative ways to help them reconnect to their roots," he says.

Igor Korenzvit, president of IKOR Integrated Facilities Inc., came here from Kiev in 1973, was successful in business and now serves on the boards of various local Jewish organizations, including JIAS, Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, Jewish Vocational Services and UJA Federation.

"Many Russian Jews don't feel Jewish," he acknowledges. "They know they're Jewish because it's written in their passports, but they don't know anything about the religion. In Russia they couldn't practise it because the government wouldn't allow them and they were afraid. Here they don't do it because they've forgotten the traditions."

A high proportion of the newcomers are intelligent, skilled, well-educated and highly cultured, Korenzvit says. But they don't identify as Jews and few send their children to Jewish schools.

"These are people who can inject fresh blood into our institutions. The Canadians don't know what they're missing.

"In Israel, out of five million people, nearly one million are Russians. Look what they did for Israel. The economy is booming and the country is on the way up. The same thing could happen in the Jewish community here if it would absorb the Russians instead of keeping them isolated."

Like many, Korenzvit is impressed that the Jewish Russian Community Centre attracts so many thousands to High Holy Day services each year. He is not alone in asserting that the centre's spiritual leader, Rabbi Yoseph Zaltzman, knows the community better than anyone. "Rabbi Zaltzman does more singlehandedly than the rest of the Jewish organizations put together," Korenzvit says. "He holds the strings to the whole 30,000, and I bet he knows 10,000 of them by name. He's a very remarkable human being."

Rabbi Zaltzman holds court in a plain, florescent-lit suite of offices that the centre rents in the basement of a strip mall on Bathurst Street. The walls are adorned with photographs and portraits of the late Lubavitcher Rebbe Menachem Mendel Schneerson, who dispatched Rabbi Zaltzman to Toronto in 1981 to rekindle a spiritual flame in the hearts of Toronto's Russian Jews. Other photographs show homegrown politicos, such as Mel Lastman, David Peterson and Bob Rae, hobnobbing with bearded Lubavitchers in black hats.

Evenings are when Rabbi Zaltzman usually makes himself available to the stream of people who come to see him. His appointment book, which a secretary maintains, fills up quickly. The appointments frequently run until 10 p.m. and sometimes past midnight. He confers with each visitor behind a closed door while the outer office fills with callers.

Rabbi Zaltzman is a personable man with dark eyes, a black-gray beard and a lively sense of humor. In Russia, he explains, his family was one of the relatively few who never abandoned the religion. His grandparents practised it underground and in secret when it became a serious crime to do so in public.

He left Moscow in 1971, went to Vienna, then Israel, where he met his wife. Their first child, a daughter, was born in New York.

"Since we came to Canada, my wife and I have made 10 Canadians. We have five girls and six boys. I think 11 is a good beginning, don't you? Some people say we could form our own baseball team.

"I'm a big supporter of Mount Sinai hospital," he adds.

The rabbi has also instigated an impressive institutional growth. The Jewish Russian Community Centre, founded in 1985, holds religious services in its own Rockford Boulevard synagogue and in two remote locations (near Sheppard and Bathurst and in the Promenade Mall). Today it is a non-profit organization with a board of directors, a staff of 35 and a $1.5-million annual budget that comes entirely from private donations.

The centre operates afternoon Hebrew schools in three locations with a present enrolment of 135 children. In September it opened a full-time Hebrew day school, the Or Menachem Academy, beginning at the Grade 1 level. It also runs a government-licensed day care facility and publishes a monthly newspaper, *Exodus*.

Rabbi Zaltzman officiates at religious services on Rockford and teaches several classes in Jewish subjects in both Russian and English.

"Our mandate is to help Russian Jews get back to their roots, to recover what the former Soviet Union so skillfully took away from them," he says. "We're trying to undo the damage that was done over 70 years. It's a monumental responsibility."

While many religious leaders would regard a congregation of up to 5,000 as a triumph, he prefers to downplay the accomplishment. "It's only 5,000 out of 30,000," he says. "That's the way I look at it."

[Cont'd. on page 16]

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Until recently, the State of Israel was moving towards this accommodation. The Supreme Court ruled that people converted under non-Orthodox auspices in Israel could not be denied registration as Jews. Provisions were being made for non-Orthodox burials. Women and non-Orthodox Jews were granted the right to serve on municipal religious councils. And the government had begun to allocate funds for non-Orthodox seminaries.

What we are seeing now is a backlash by the ultra-Orthodox. Their goal is to turn back the clock on Israel's recent gains for religious pluralism. But we have come too far, and made too much progress, to let this happen.

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Russian Reform rabbi impressed with Toronto

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The high number of college-educated women and men in Toronto's Russian Jewish community impressed and pleased the first Russian-born Reform rabbi in North America.

During his recent visit here, Rabbi Victor Rashkovsky, 57, also said he was surprised at the number of Russian Jews now in Canada who first went to Israel and said they were confused and frustrated by their experiences in Israel.

About 60 people attended the rabbi's weekend lectures at the first Taste of Judaism course given in Russian, sponsored by Kolel, a centre for liberal Jewish learning, at the Bathurst Jewish Centre.

Though a Reform graduate of the Hebrew Union College, Rabbi Rashkovsky is the leader of a 110-family Conservative congregation in Oak Ridge, Tenn. That atomic energy centre has a total of 7,500 PhDs in a population of 28,000. It includes one Canadian and four Russian Jewish families.

The bill that would legalize only Orthodox conversions in Israel threatens the Jewish status of 200,000 Russian Jews in that country, many of whom are the result of mixed marriages, Rabbi Rashkovsky told *The CJN*. "It [Israel] is not in a position to reject such a large number of Jews."

These Jews left the former Soviet Union because they suffered discrimination as Jews and they are being treated unjustly, he said.

"The legislation would completely delegitimize the Reform and Conservative rabbis in Israel. They would have no legal status. Its chief result will be the alienation of the North American Jews from Israel."

There is no disagreement on the process of conversion among all of Israel's religious factions, he said, but the problem arises because the government wants a commitment to practise an Orthodox lifestyle. This is opposed by the 200,000 Russian Jews in question "and a majority of Israelis," he said.

The rabbi said some of the professionals attending his course told him there are 30,000 in the Toronto Russian Jewish community. In the United States there are from 300,000 to 500,000 according to different estimates, including 20 percent of the Jewish population in New York City.

While in Toronto, Rabbi Rashkovsky met two of his former classmates at Hebrew Union College, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein, Kolel director, and Rabbi Edward Goldfarb of Sharei Beth El in Oakville.

Jewish surgeon awaits trial

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A Jewish surgeon is awaiting his trial in Minsk, Belarus, Nov. 24, as the result of what the Committee for Soviet Jewry of Beth Tzedec Congregation says is "vile anti-Semitism."

Dr. Albert Lavrenev, 41, an orthopedic surgeon at the Minsk City Clinical Hospital for Emergency Treatment, has been charged in the death of a neighbor, Olga Vasilieva.

Committee chair Genya Intrator, who has talked to Lavrenev and others, told *The CJN* that the charges are false and arose out of anti-Semitic actions by Nikolai Polaznic, the son of Vasilieva.

Polaznic claims that before his mother died, she told him that Lavrenev was with two men who beat her up. Intrator says that evidence later proved that Vasilieva's injuries were so serious following the attack that she could not have told her son anything.

There is a long history of Polaznic's harrasment of Lavrenev and his physician wife, Irina, who lived in a flat above Vasilieva, Intrator said.

It started after the Lavrenev family (they have a daughter, Victoria) applied to emigrate to the United States in 1995.

The committee has asked Canadian MPs to intercede on behalf of Lavrenev.

Russian Jews in Toronto

[Cont'd. from page 14]

By his own yardstick, are his efforts to rekindle a Jewish flame in Russian-Jewish hearts paying off? "The question is one of continuity. What percentage of today's Russian-Jewish community will stay part of the Jewish community 25 years from now? To give an honest answer, the percentage is not high because less than 10 per cent get any Jewish education."

While many Russian newcomers acknowledge that they see themselves as ethnically Russian rather than Jewish, Rabbi Zaltzman and other local communal figures remain intent on bringing them back inside the Jewish fold. They admit it is a difficult task. How successful they will be, only time will tell.

In the meantime, Rabbi Zaltzman finds guidance and inspiration for his open-ended mission in the teachings of Rabbi Schneerson, who sent him here 17 years ago. Every now and again, he says, he writes a report of his activities and sends it to Brooklyn, where it is read at the revered Rebbe's grave.

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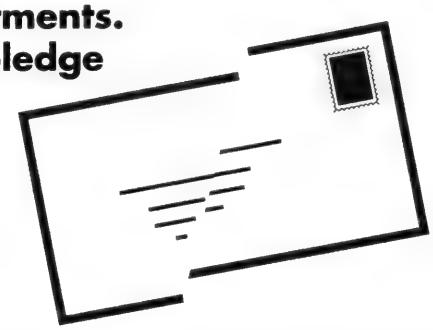

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Decline of Jewish Vilna rued by YIVO librarian

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Vilna, once the Jerusalem of Poland, is now so bereft of Jewish life that 15 elderly Jewish men have to be paid to make up a minyan at the only synagogue in a city that once had 100.

JEWISH BOOK FAIR

"There are about 2,000 Jews in Vilna and they are not involved in religious life. Being Jewish is not part of how they live," Zachary Baker, head librarian, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York, told an audience at the Jewish Book Fair.

The ownership of about 50,000 volumes, two-thirds in Hebrew and one-third in Yiddish, discovered in a former Catholic church in Vilna, is still under question, Baker said.

The Telz Yeshiva in Cleveland, Ohio claims thousands of volumes. YIVO itself and the State Jewish Museum in Vilna are other claimants. The National Library of Lithuania is hoping to retain non-duplicate books about Lithuania, printed in that country.

In the discussion period, a questioner objected to the books staying there but Baker said, "there is some intellectual justification for keeping the books in Lithuania."

YIVO has been given the right to catalogue and reproduce some of the books and other material, but must return them to Lithuania. However, YIVO's own archival material discovered in Vilna after the war has been returned to its owner.

A hush fell on the audience when Baker showed slides of what were once thriving streets of Jewish residents and culture. "It's sad to see the emptiness of the Yiddish streets," said Gerry Kane, former chair, UJA Federation Yiddish committee.

(A report in The *New York Jewish Week* said nearly 100 Torah scrolls found in an old Catholic church have disappeared, and a coalition of Jewish agencies is trying to find them and sort out ownership claims for the volumes.)

The Vilna material turned over to YIVO for copying includes some important material, but also a lot that is uninteresting, Baker said. Included are some ads for machine-made, cheap matzot.

The YIVO librarian agreed with a questioner who said it is important to classify and microfilm the thousands of Vilna and provincial newspapers still stored in the former church.

The three-member committee, including Baker, found that the largest single number of Hebrew and Yiddish books came from the library of Hevrah Meftse Haskalah, which before World War II was the largest library operating under Jewish community auspices. A second, the Strashun Library, was the largest Hebrew and Yiddish library in Vilna and most of the 15,000 Hebrew and Yiddish books they had which survived, ended up in the former church.

The lecture was jointly sponsored by Friends of Yiddish, the Committee for Yiddish of UJA Federation, the Leybl Basman Fund and the Shlomo Steinhart Memorial Fund.

Kabbalist rabbi to appear

TORONTO — Kabbalist Rabbi Michel Abehsera will be the featured attraction at the Mystic and Music Melave Malka party, to be held Nov. 22 at the Sephardic Kehilla Centre, 7026 Bathurst St. in Thornhill, at 8 p.m.

Rabbi Abehsera is a Sephardi mystic, naturopath and storyteller. He will speak on the inner dimensions of Judaism and the powers of mysticism.

Also on the program will be Ronnie Wiseman, and his five-piece band Kedusha, playing Jewish reggae.

The evening is sponsored by the Jewish Youth Learning Centre, a new non-profit organization for Jewish youth, Moan Noam, and the Tikun Centre for Natural Health.

The cost is $18 ($10 for students), and includes a buffet meal. For more information, call Rabbi Bahar, 416-633-5722.

Ceramic artist Reches dies at 86

TORONTO — Ceramic artist Herman Reches died recently following a bout with cancer. He was 86.

A Polish-born Holocaust survivor who took great pleasure in sharing his love for Jewish history and literature through his work, Reches began to sculpt after retiring to Israel, where he and his wife spent five years. Previously he had been a cake decorator in New York.

Earlier this year, Reches donated three pieces to the Bathurst Jewish Centre, where he was artist in residence at the Koffler School of Visual Art.

He is survived by his wife Malka, daughter Frieda Wishinsky and two grandchildren.

Greater Toronto Area

Israeli author, peace activist challenges status quo

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Oslo accords were not based on an illusion, maintains David Grossman.

The 43-year-old Israeli author and peace activist, best known for his controversial 1988 non-fiction book *The Yellow Wind,* spoke on Imagining Peace at Toronto's 21st annual Jewish Book Fair, held at the Leah Posluns Theatre. Grossman, whose newest book is *The ZigZag Kid,* was the opening night speaker, at a program sponsored by Canadian Friends of Peace Now.

JEWISH BOOK FAIR

"Illusion it is to believe that Israel can dictate its interests. Illusion it is to believe Israel will enjoy the unlimited support of the United States for everything it is doing. Illusion it is to believe that we can continue [as we have been] without it affecting our lives," he said, his strong words contrasting with his understated speaking manner.

David Grossman

Oslo was a dream rather than an illusion, Grossman believes. "Many important things start as a dream – Zionism, the State of Israel. We had no illusions [but] we had hope."

"No sane Israeli will say, 'These are my plans for 10 years from now,'" said Grossman. Oslo hinted at the possibility of a different life, he explained.

"What does it mean to live life not affected so heavily by animosity and violence? How can you just live your life without the very concrete fear of death? It's not easy even for me to do it as a mental exercise. I feel I'm not free to venture into such imaginings."

Functioning as an enemy "kills things inside your soul," said Grossman.

He was horrified to hear a young newlywed on Israeli television a couple of years ago say she wanted to have three children, so there would still be two if one got killed in the army. He recalled "that matter-of-fact voice she used, as if we are doomed to kill the Arabs and they are doomed to kill us, and there's no way out."

Grossman lamented the contradiction between "our deep values as Jews and Israelis and what we have to do in everyday life."

He fears that Israel is heading toward despotism. Among the indications he cited is the refusal of the religious parties "to obey the laws and [their effort] to defy democracy."

Despite the problems, he believes that Israel is "the only place we can practise our values and traditions and heritage, and try to see if we can create this miracle [of] a sovereign, normal Israeli state."

Journalists and artists must "do their jobs and show by the diversity of art they create that there is nothing like the status quo."

Grossman said he regrets the dearth of right-wing artists in Israel, as their presence could "enhance so much the debate."

As a writer, he has always felt "claustrophobic" about being confined to the words that others use.

"If you do not describe reality [using] the right names...and try to imagine it with all its harshness, one day you will wake up to a reality that is indescribable."

He warned that, even now, Israel's leadership is unaware of the explosiveness of the Palestinian situation.

"If you declare, as [Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu did, that you will not give the Palestinians a state, if you suffocate their very few hopes for a better future, there will be an inevitable explosion, because that's how people act when they're frustrated, when they have no hope.

"Our real and authentic interest is to live a normal life. This is what Israel was created for."

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Greater Toronto Area

JWV delegation pay homage to fallen comrades

By LOU VANDELMAN
Special to The CJN

On July 6, the Jewish War Veterans of Canada sent a delegation of veterans, their wives and children to Poland, Belarus and Lithuania to pay homage to their fallen comrades and to "pass the torch of remembrance" to their children, the second generation.

After arriving in Krakow, we were hosted at a reception by the ambassador from Canada, Serge April.

The following day, a remembrance ceremony took place in Auschwitz and at Birkenau. This was the first time the Polish government played a part in honoring Jews who fought the Nazis.

The cities, towns and shtetlach we visited included Krakow, Warsaw, Brest, Gluboke, Szarkowzcyzna, Postavy, Miory, Vidze, Braslav, Koziany, Drujsk, Pohost, Minsk, Chatine, Slobodka, Disna, Druya, Jody, Fonary, Vilna, Kaunas and Ostrow Mazowiecka.

The story was always the same. The Jews of the town had been the storekeepers, tailors and seamstresses.

We often asked the local townspeople, "Are you now better off without the Jews?"

One replied: "When the Jews were here, you could go to the store and buy what you needed, even if you did not have any money. Today, if you do not have the money don't bother going to the store. When the Jews were here, neighbors talked to each other and were close. Today, you cannot trust anyone."

We heard very few expressions of sorrow at what happened. "We could not do anything or help in any way," was the standard response.

In Vilna we visited the two ghettos. It was there that the first Jews were sent to Ponary, where 70,000 were shot and buried (many alive).

When they were retreating from Russia, the Nazis did not want the story of Ponary to become public. This would be one of the first mass graves the Russians would find in their drive to Germany, and the Nazis feared reprisals. Using Jewish slave labor, they unearthed and burned the bodies.

We also visited Kaunas, a city in the western part of Lithuania where we stopped at the "wall of death" at which countless victims waited for the inevitable, sometimes minutes, sometimes hours, sometimes days, many holding children in their arms.

Our mission for the trip was to pass the torch of remembrance to the next generation. We hope we did.

Lou VanDelman is the executive director of Jewish War Veterans of Canada.

Sam Pasternack (centre), National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada, salutes before a memorial in Poland. Joining him were (from left), Canadian ambassador Serge April, military attache Col. Al Stryadka and Jewish war veteran Joseph Riwash.

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Beit Halochem launches new national office

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The new national office of Beit Halochem, Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel (Canada), at Bathurst and Lawrence, was officially opened at a recent cocktail reception for community leaders and supporters.

Rabbi Joseph Kelman affixed the mezuzah and the guest speaker was Col. Ilan Egozi, executive director of Zahal Disabled Veterans Fund in Israel.

Egozi said he speaks for the 47,000 disabled Israeli soldiers (3,000 are female) who are members of Beit Halochem.

Beit Halochem operates four sports, rehabilitation and social centres for Zahal veterans and their families in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jerusalem and Naharia. A Zahal War Disabled Park 40 miles south of Tel Aviv has numerous special devices and recreational equipment, including games for the blind.

In an interview with *The CJN*, Egozi spoke of his long service in the navy and his war injuries.

"Only when I started to come to Beit Halochem did I find out how important it is to disabled soldiers. Very often it becomes their first home. They get motivation, culture, and most important, they can start a new life."

Egozi joined the navy in 1962 and served until 1986 in the Frogman Unit. He was seriously injured by a hand grenade during a commando attack on the PLO headquarters in Tripoli. He lost his right arm and his right eye and sustained injuries to his legs and body, but after being fitted with a prosthetic arm, he returned to his unit.

He was captured in the Six Day War and remained a prisoner of war in Egypt for nine months. In the Yom Kippur War, he was again injured and remained unconscious for a week. On his return to the navy, he taught and participated in operations in Lebanon. In 1981, he took a post at navy headquarters with the rank of colonel.

Egozi says Beit Halochem has embarked on a project to establish a Senior Citizens Centre.

"Some 4,000 disabled veterans of the War of Independence are seniors and we are building a facility in Beit Halochem Tel Aviv for them, with special programs, a social club, a library and meeting rooms."

Iris Britan, executive director of the Canadian organization said that to commemorate Israel's 50th anniversary and Beit Halochem Canada's 20th year of operation, "it is most important to honor the soldiers who fought in 1948 and were injured for the rest of their lives."

National president Ralph Snow chaired the program. Ruthie Kinar, wife of the consul general, brought greetings. A plaque was presented to Berny Weinstein, who brought the first group of disabled soldiers to Toronto for a vacation 20 years ago and became the founding president.

A citation was presented to Toby and Saul Feldberg for their contribution of furnishings for the new offices and "for their ongoing dedication to disabled veterans."

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And those whose photos were not available:

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Greater Toronto Area

Spielberg project pays tribute to local survivors

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Author Ibi Grossman, a Hungarian-born Holocaust survivor, said dredging up the gruesome details of the war years was a painful ordeal, but recording her story on videotape for the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation was something she felt she had to do for her son and grandchildren, and for the members of her family who perished.

Originally from Poland, Helen Icyk said she put off giving her testimony about the war because she dreaded rekindling the misery of those years. But now that her story is on record with the foundation, she said she is pleased there will be a permanent record of her experience for her offspring.

The two women were among the hundreds of survivors who recently attended an Afternoon of Tribute at the Hummingbird Centre, attended by some 1,800 people. It was presented by the Toronto interviewers for the Los Angeles-based Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation.

The 3-year-old foundation, started by film mogul Steven Spielberg, has been videotaping eyewitness accounts of the Holocaust to create a comprehensive multi-media archive of survivor testimonies.

Survivors and their family members, interviewers and videographers attended the special tribute, where they were honored for their contribution by Janet Klein Slavin, Canadian coordinator of the foundation; foundation president Michael Berenbaum; and event co-chairs Myrna Riback and Sheila Frohlich.

Spielberg expressed his gratitude in a videotaped greeting. "You should be proud of what has been accomplished because each one of you has given so much," he said.

"To the extraordinary and dedicated interviewers, videographers, staff and volunteers, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. And to the survivors, you have taught all of us so much about courage and faith. You remind us all what a precious gift this life is."

Berenbaum, who was instrumental in setting up the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., was the keynote speaker.

"We are most grateful for your trust, your investment in our collective future, your willingness to share, your capacity to probe the darkness, to return to those places and to bequeath your experience," he told the survivors.

According to Berenbaum Holocaust history was repressed for years in North American culture, but with the passage of time, the events of the Holocaust have grown in importance for society.

Now, the Holocaust in North American culture has come to represent "absolute evil," something that was unimaginable 30 to 40 years ago when Holocaust survivors came here as refugees, he noted.

"You were told, 'Keep quiet about the past. Build a future. Get on with your life.' But you have moved from refugee to survivor, to become the bearers of a particular vision."

He praised the survivors for their courage and optimism. "You made the greatest decision. You brought children into this world. It was an incredible expression of the triumph of hope over the reality of experience. To raise them as Jews was a mitzvah."

Berenbaum said the foundation plans to record 50,000 testimonies and is close to achieving its goal with more than 36,000 testimonies from survivors in more than 50 countries already compiled.

Slavin said November marks the third anniversary of the opening of the Canadian office, which to date has recorded some 2,500 testimonies.

Zionism has put power in Jewish hands: rabbi

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — One of the most towering achievements of Zionism is that it put power in Jewish hands says Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, a professor of history at Columbia University.

"No longer do we stand as the poor man at the door asking for favors," he said in his recent talk at the second of four lectures in the Gerald Schwartz/Heather Reisman lecture series at Holy Blossom Temple.

The holiest place in the world, said Rabbi Hertzberg, is not the Kotel, but the customs desk at the Israeli airport.

"I get tearful every time I walk off the plane in Israel and present my passport at the desk. That is the only place in the world where [we can't hear] that there are already enough Jews [as was the case in Canada and the United States]. That desk is Herzl's memorial."

He said, "Herzl knew that we can't leave the lives of Jews in the hands of [non-Jews]. It is at the customs shed that I cry for all the millions of Jews who were not destined to [survive]."

Zionism attempted to put an end "to the otherness of Jews. Herzl had a dream that we would become like everyone else. That was the great dream of Jewish modernity. On the other hand, however, we keep writing of our contribution to western culture. The truth of the matter is that we are not like everyone else. The fact that we have a country makes us political others," he told the capacity crowd.

Jews may not agree on everything, he said, but we are united about defending Israel. "That is one issue that our community and the rest of the world knows about. More importantly, we have decided that we will not disappear. It is the main concern of Jews in the Diaspora. The attempt of Zionism to end the otherness of Jews failed, as it should have."

Early Zionists, said Rabbi Hertzberg, imagined that Israel would become a secular nation.

To be pious or not is our own business, said Rabbi Hertzberg, but "not to be ignorant is all of our business. If we spend 100 years creating Jewish pride, we must spend the next century [concentrating] on Jewish learning and traditions. These things are not modern – they are eternity."

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On Campus

'Yale Four' living off campus as suit continues

By MARA DRESNER
Connecticut Jewish Ledger

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — In many ways, Elisha Hack is a typical Yale University freshman. He rides his bicycle around campus, threading his way through crowded city streets. He talks about the workload in his Level III and Level IV math and science courses and jokes about how great e-mail is as a tool for procrastination. And he's hoping to take fencing lessons in the spring.

But most Yale freshmen don't appear on CNN and ABC *World News Tonight*. As one of the self-named "Yale Four," Hack's freshman year has been anything but ordinary.

The Yale Four (Hack, freshman Batsheva Greer of New Haven, and sophomores Jeremy Hershman of Cedarhurst, N.Y., and Lisa Friedman of Lawrence, N.Y.) filed suit against the school Oct. 15, alleging that living on campus, as is required by Yale for freshmen and sophomores, violates their freedom to observe the tenets of Orthodox Judaism.

As far as the housing requirement, Hack says he didn't know anything about it. "I can't say I memorized every piece of information [from Yale]. I don't remember seeing anything about it."

When he found out about the housing requirement, Hack and four others (freshman Rachel Wohlgelernter of Los Angeles, one of the original "Yale Five," is now exempt from the housing requirement after she married in a civil ceremony in September) contacted the school to ask for a waiver that would allow each to live off campus and be exempt from paying the housing fees. The four knew each other through Greer's father, Rabbi Daniel Greer of The Gan School (a yeshivah in New Haven).

"We wrote letters and had a lot of meetings," Hack recalls. "The university was not forthcoming. That's when we started going to the media."

The students also went to attorney Nathan Lewin, a Washington, D.C. lawyer known for defending religious rights cases, who also knows Rabbi Greer.

As the Yale Four have gathered momentum with their struggle, the story has been picked up by media outlets throughout North America and Europe, generating a stream of letters and e-mail to the four students. Hack says that most of the feedback has been positive.

While the case continues to draw considerable attention, interest has died down on campus. "As time goes by, people are less willing to talk [about it]," notes Evan Farber, an Orthodox student from New Rochelle, who is co-president of the Young Israel house at Yale.

Hack is concerned that the lawsuit may give the wrong impression.

"There's a general perception that we're trying to avoid living on campus. We would love to live on campus if Yale would make changes," Hack says. The four students have paid room and board fees of $6,850, even though none of them are living on campus. Hack and Greer are living at home in New Haven, while Hershman and Friedman are both living in apartments off campus.

"There's a little piece of reality that's been brushed under the carpet by Yale," says Hack angrily. "My parents pay the $6,850 and as far as Yale's concerned, they're happy. I can flout the regulations. How important could it be if [paying the money] gets you off?" Hack adds that the money was "paid under protest."

To live on campus, the four say they would need to reside in a single-sex suite with an internal bathroom, suites that Hack says exist on campus. In addition, all the students living in the suite would be asked to commit to having no visits from the opposite sex and no sexual activity.

Hack says that students would choose specifically to live in one of the suites. The university is being asked to enforce the policies for such suites, which they have refused to do.

About 60 Orthodox Jewish students attend Yale, including a number who live on campus. Kosher dining is available and the university has made various accommodations for Orthodox students.

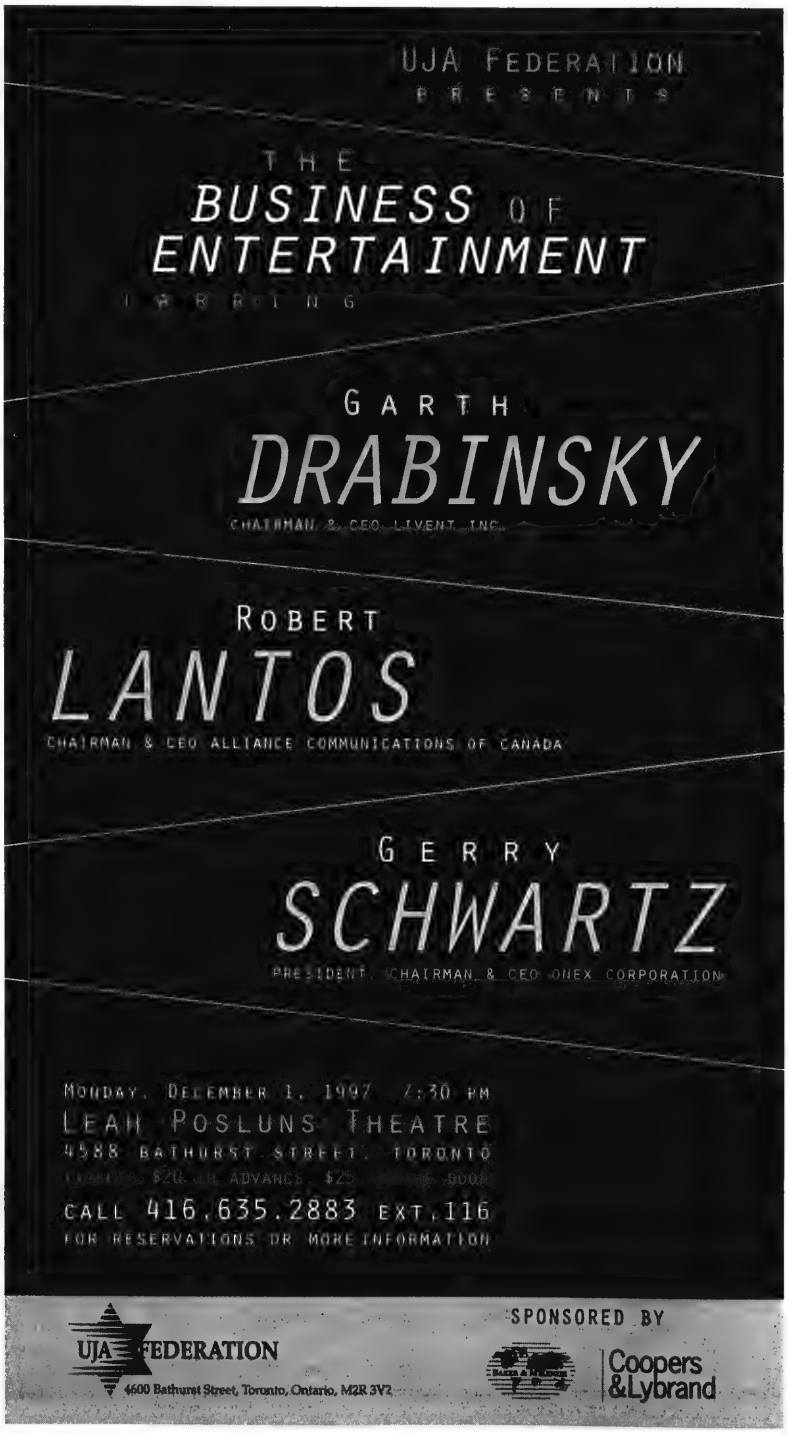
"There are a lot of Orthodox students on campus. I have a lot of [Orthodox] friends in the dorms," admits Hack. "People have different comfort levels. For me, this is where I am, this is what I feel."

Farber is concerned that the lawsuit misrepresents Orthodox Jewish life on campus. "If the lawsuit boils down to [the idea] that it's impossible to live on campus and remain Orthodox, I would certainly take issue with it. It's a big misperception.

"Orthodox students on campus should be respected. Orthodox students who don't want to live on campus also should be respected for their beliefs," Farber continues, adding that there's no consensus among Jewish students about the issue.

The lawsuit has had one unexpected benefit. "It makes us more aware of Jewish life on campus and how great it is to be a Jew at Yale," notes Margot Meitner, a sophomore from Great Neck, N.Y.

"I feel like this whole situation makes us realize how strong and vibrant the Jewish community is here," she adds.



From coast to coast

Scene in Ottawa

By STEPHEN BINDMAN

Calgary Jew is Manning's new assistant

OTTAWA — Meet Ezra Levant, devout Reform Jew. No, not the kind of Reform as in Orthodox, Conservative and Reform.

Reform as in Preston Manning, Reform as in Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, Reform as in home of right-wing ideologies.

In fact, this 25-year-old Jewish boy from Calgary is as close to Manning as just about anyone.

As Manning's special assistant, Levant gets to put words in the mouth of the newly redesigned leader of the Opposition, helping to craft his lines for the daily 45-minute exercise in television theatrics called Question Period.

During the last three weeks of the recent federal election campaign, he was the designated warm-up speaker to whip up the crowds at Reform rallies into a right-wing frenzy before Manning took to the stage.

So what's a nice Jewish boy, who went to Yiddish school as a kid, who taught bar mitzvah lessons for a year, whose brother is studying to be an Orthodox rabbi at Yeshiva University, doing at the heart of a party with a public image like Reform?

"Jews are not monolithic politically. You know the old saying, 'two Jews, three opinions,'" says Levant.

"Jews love to debate, they love to argue, sometimes to be the devil's advocate. What I like about Reform is the fact that it was in so many ways a party for people who love policy. There's the old joke that Tories go to conventions to get drunk, Liberals go to get a date. Well Reformers go to debate policy.

"In so many things Reformers stood up and said, 'Hey the emperor has no clothes.' Being Jewish there's a tradition of going out on the leading edge. Jews are never half way.

"Was it Freud who said being Jewish taught me that even if the whole world tells you you're wrong, you can still be right. That's sometimes what it's like to be a Reformer – you believe in something and even if you are attacked or criticized all around, you still stick with it just because you believe in it."

Levant, who has degrees in business and law and wrote an always-controversial column for the Calgary and Edmonton *Suns* fighting the evils of political correctness while in law school, doesn't speak as much as he gushes or preaches.

There's an evangelical fervor to every word that comes out of his mouth, as if Reform is a religious ideology – Judaism aside – as much as political philosophy.

A top Reform insider describes him as a "high testosterone guy who doesn't skip many debates."

For his part, Levant sees one of his roles as trying to build a bridge of sorts between Reform and the Jewish community.

At one time, he admits, there weren't a lot of Jewish Reformers like himself.

But he says that's changing – the top two Ontario organizers in the last campaign, for example, were Jews.

"There are more Jews in Reform than you might think. Now there are so many Jews in Reform that when I meet a Jew who's the president of a constituency association or who's on our executive council, it's no longer a surprise. I don't keep track any more because there are too many."

Levant is especially pleased with the warm reaction Reform is getting in Montreal, especially since the near disastrous 1995 sovereignty referendum.

"It's astounding considering how bedrock Trudeau Liberal that used to be.

"Especially since 1995, there's such a feeling of being abandoned by traditional federalists to the separatists that they are thinking, 'My god, who will stand up for us.' Jews who I think have always been Liberal have received Preston with a warmth that I found stunning."

He says some of the incidents of the early days when Reform was just a burgeoning grassroots movement, such as the expulsion of several members with ties to the neo-Nazi Heritage Front, are a thing of the past.

Despite its past and position on the political spectrum, Levant is emphatic that Jews have nothing to fear from Reform.

"Any party in this country, when you buy a membership all you need really is $5 or $10. They don't do a background search. There's 90,000 Reform party members. Every party will have a nut or two.

"Sometimes when Jews say I don't like Reform, I ask have you ever been to a Reform meeting? No. Have you ever read our policy book? No? Have you ever talked to a Reform MP? No. Well how do you know you don't like it then? Oh I've heard things.

"Let's just put the shoe on the other foot. Imagine if someone said I don't like the Jews. Have you ever met a Jew? No. Have you ever read the Jewish Bible? No. Well how do you know? Let us not prejudge."

So what of the future, will Levant continue to be just a Reform backroom boy, writing other people's words?

Don't count on it.

"I love it. I really love it," he gushes.

"Sometimes instead of writing the lines I wish I was delivering them. Maybe I'll take a crack at it [elected office]. Trouble is, coming from Alberta there's only a couple of Liberals left to knock off."

Some people just can't resist a political shot.

— *With files from Ron Csillag*

Stephen Bindman is national legal affairs correspondent for the Southam Newspapers, based in Ottawa.

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From coast to coast

Toronto's mayor-elect, Mel Lastman, says thanks

[Cont'd from page 1]

Makes homeless his top priority

Similarly, Lastman blasts the media for misrepresenting his views on the homeless, whom he's made his top priority.

He maintains that his oft-repeated quote, saying there are no homeless in North York, was taken out of context.

"I did not say what they had on TV. I was boxed into a corner. But you don't cry. You don't complain. Because if you do, you've got problems. They all jumped on that. They just kept printing it over and over."

It was the same thing, he notes, with one report saying Lastman favored a 10-year tax freeze. "I said, constantly, a three-year tax freeze. I *would like* to see it for 10 years."

Lastman says he's made the homeless his number one priority, partly because winter is setting in.

The United Way recently estimated that the number of people using emergency hostels in Metro every night will top 6,600 this winter, a jump of nearly 70 percent over a year ago. Well over half will be families with children.

"That's terrible," says Lastman. "They'll freeze to death if we don't do anything."

As for more charity casinos, on which many Jewish organizations rely for revenue, and which Metro voters rejected, the mayor-elect said they're nothing more than "a money grab" by the province.

"[The province] is using name charities in order to grab money. This is money in the province's pocket, and no one else's. It's a headache for the municipality.

"Not one charity has come to me and said they want charity casinos. Not one. You know why? Because there's nothing much in it for them. The province is grabbing it all. The charities aren't going to make any more money. They're all wise to it."

Besides, adds Lastman, thinking like a big-city mayor already, priorities should be elsewhere. "We need extra policing and traffic controls. I'm trying to get fences mended. I'm trying to get everybody together."

Mel Lastman

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Best wishes to Fanny and Ben Rose on their 50th wedding anniversary, Oct. 12 from Ruth & Terry, Ann & Henry and Jan & Paul.

Amanda Sky Belzowski was born July 16 to Lisa & Dan. Grandparents are Lou & Betsy Fruitman, Ed & Mona Belzowski; great-grandparents David & Mary Dale.

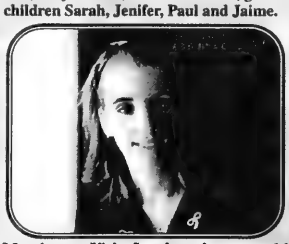
Hailey wishes her brother Joshua a happy fourth birthday. Love from parents Melanie & Mitchell, grandparents Marilyn & Stanley Beder and Marilyn & Albert Foreman.

Mazel tov to Rachel & Sid Posner on their 50th wedding anniversary, Nov. 23. With love, Toby & Yossi, Minne & Arthur, grandchildren Sarah, Jenifer, Paul and Jaime.

Rebecca Sherkey, daughter of Evelyn & Sheldon, recently celebrated her bat mitzvah. Proud grandmother is Rose Sherkey.

Mazel tov to Jeff Strebinger on your acceptance to law school. Love Myrna & Yossi, Elana & Ted, grandparents Max & Yetta Freedman and Freda Strebinger.

David Laszlo recently celebrated his bar mitzvah. Mazel tov from parents Agnes & Paul and grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Miklos Laszlo and Mrs. Miklos Molnar.



Mazel tov to Vicky Laszlo on her sweet 16 from parents Agnes & Paul and grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Miklos Laszlo and Mrs. Miklos Molnar.

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From coast to coast

Israel no longer factor in Jews' refugee claims

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Canada's Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) is no longer denying asylum to Jewish refugee claimants solely because they can get automatic citizenship in Israel, according to the IRB's deputy chair.

John Frecker says Jewish asylum-seekers in Canada are not being turned away any more just because, as Jews, they can go to Israel under the Law of Return.

Frecker told *The CJN* that over the past few months, the IRB's 170 members have arrived at a "consensus" on the thorny issue of Jews claiming refugee status in Canada.

Frecker said IRB panels are not dismissing claims from Jews just because they are eligible for Israel's automatic protection.

He said Jewish asylum-seekers are being judged purely on the merits of their claim.

That may sound like cold comfort, but it's really a breakthrough.

And the IRB's new policy should go a long way toward clearing up the confusion and anger in the Jewish community over the issue.

Over the past 2½ years, the matter of Jews claiming refugee status in Canada has split the IRB because of two contradictory court rulings.

In 1995, the Federal Court of Canada upheld an IRB panel's denial of refugee status to a Jewish woman fleeing anti-Semitism in Azerbaijan. The court agreed with the panel that because the claimant was Jewish, she was eligible for immediate citizenship in Israel under the Law of Return.

The judgment stated that Antonina Grygorian had "ready and automatic right to another country's nationality," and that Canada's protection was "not a quick fix."

The Grygorian decision, as it came to be known, outraged Jewish communal officials, who feared it would lead to a modern-day closed-door Canadian refugee policy aimed specifically at Jews.

Some IRB panels did use the ruling to deny asylum to Jews, who were told, in effect, to go to Israel, whether they wanted to or not.

But last spring, the Federal Court arrived at an opposite view. It found that Jewish refugee claimants cannot be denied asylum in Canada solely because, as Jews, they can go to Israel.

The court said even though the Law of Return gives every Jew the right to Israeli citizenship, with few exceptions, a clearly-expressed desire to settle in the Jewish state is first required.

The landmark ruling overturned a decision by the IRB, which denied refugee status to a Ukrainian Jewish woman, saying she should make a claim in Israel. The Katkova decision, as it is known, clearly stated that IRB panels are not bound by the Grygorian ruling.

And it seems few panels are relying on the first, more troubling ruling.

The Katkova ruling, which carried more weight because the court was asked to settle the question, "is the decision that is now being followed," Frecker stated. "Everybody is accepting it as the preferred decision."

Frecker said he's "unaware" of any panels still relying on the Grygorian ruling.

Following the Katkova ruling last May, the IRB said it would poll its members on developing a policy on Jewish refugee claimants.

Frecker said there was no need for a consultative process. Members simply arrived at a consensus.

"I think this issue is finally behind us," he said.

Ian Fine, an Ottawa immigration lawyer and board member of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (JIAS), told *The CJN* he's had "at least" 40 cases involving Jewish claimants, and "not once" has an IRB panel invoked the Grygorian ruling.

JNF honors Ottawa cantor

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — David Aptowitzer, who served as cantor at the Agudath Israel Synagogue for 42 years, was the honoree at this year's Negev Dinner.

Over 300 people attended the tribute evening at the synagogue to support both the Jewish National Fund (JNF) and the cantor, who is known and admired throughout the Ottawa Jewish community.

Rabbi Arnold Fine, a colleague and friend for many years, described Aptowitzer as "a wonderful bridge between people in various congregations. He is the cement that crosses all congregational boundaries."

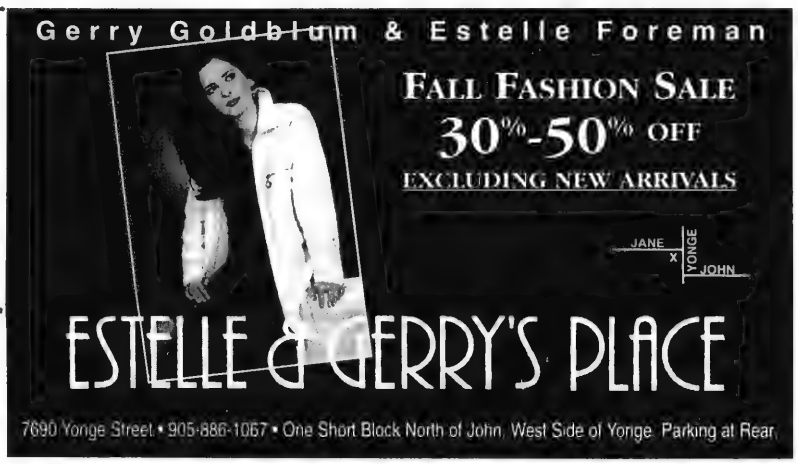
"Who among us has not been touched by Cantor David Aptowitzer?" asked Barbara Farber, president of the Jewish Community Council/Ottawa Vaad Ha'Ir.

Reflecting on his life, Aptowitzer used the word serendipity. "Who could ever have known," he asked, "that the young man who left Poland so many years ago would one day stand before you as a Negev Dinner honoree?"

The Aptowitzers' children were all present: Penina and Zvi Gross of Ottawa; Manny from Toronto; and Yitzchak and Iris, who came from Israel with five children and Iris' parents for the occasion.

Aptowitzer asked that funds raised be given to a JNF project to be developed in the Jubilee Forest at Yatir.

Dinner co-chairs were Marion Mayman and Rabbi Reuven Bulka, and the campaign chair was Jack Smith.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„ייִדישלאַנד קאַפּע" – אַ היים פֿאַר ייִדישן לעד

פֿון הענינ ריינהאַרץ

מיט אַן ערך צווי יאָר צוריק האָט דער קולטור־קאָמיטעט פֿון אַרבעטער־רינג אַרײַנגענעבן אַ בקשה צום קאָמיטעט פֿאַרן ייִדישן המשך בײ דער פֿעדעראַציע פֿון גרויס־סאָראָנטאָ וועגן אַ סטיפּענדיע פֿאַר אַ פּראָיעקט פֿון צען אוונטן פֿון ייִדישן לעד אין פֿאַרמאָס פֿון אַ קאָפּע — אינסים, בײַ אַ טעפּל קאָוועע (אָון קיכעלעך אויך). מיר האָבן פֿאַרגעלייגט צו רופֿן דעם פּראָיעקט „ייִדישלאַנד קאַפּע". פֿאַר אונדז זײַנען די צילן פֿון „ייִדישלאַנד קאַפּע" געווען קלאָר. מיר האָבן געוואָלט ברענגען פֿאַרן טאָראָנטער ייִדישן עולם פּראָגראַמען פֿון ייִדישע ליטעראַטור און פֿאָלקס־לידער, אויסגעפֿירט פֿון לאָקאַלע ארטיסטן. מיר האָבן אויך געהאַפֿט צוצוציען צו די אוונטן אַ יינגערן עולם. חוץ דעם, האָבן מיר געוואָלט אויסבאַליטערן די קולטור־טעטיקייטן אויף ייִדיש פֿון טאָראָנטער ארבעטער־רינג, כדי דער ארבעטער־רינג זאָל צוריק ווערן אײַנער פֿון די צענ־טערס פֿון ייִדישע קולטור דאָ אין שטאָט. קולטור־טעטיקייטן אויף ייִדיש זײַנען דאָך אַלע מאָל געווען אַ וויכטיקער באַשטאַנדטייל פֿון די טעטי־קייטן פֿון ארבעטער־רינג.

דעם אמת געזאָגט, האָבן מיר ניט געגלויבט, אַז די פּעדעראַציע וועט אונטערשטיצן אַזאַ פּראָיעקט. זײַנען מיר טאָקע געווען אַנגענעם איבער־ראַשט וועז מען האָט אונדז געלאָזט וויסן, סיי טעלעפֿאָניש, סיי דורך אַ בריוו, אַז מען איז נאָכגעקומען אונדזער בקשה און מיר וועלן באַקומען דאָס געלט. נו, האָט מען נעשאָפֿן אַ „ייִדישלאַנד קאַפּע" קאָמיטעט — כּמעט אויסשליסלעך מיטגלידער פֿון ארבעטער־רינג פֿון פֿאַרשידענעם עלטער — און מען האָט זיך געזעמען צו דער ארבעט. דעם 22־טן נאָוועמ־בער וועט טאָקע פֿאַרקומען דער צענטער אוונט פֿון „ייִדישלאַנד קאַפּע".

באַלד פֿון אָנהייב האָבן מיר באשלאָסן, אַז ווי וויט מעגלעך זאָל יעדער אוונט האָבן אַ טעמע, און לויט דער טעמע האָבן מיר אויסגעקליבן פֿאַסיקע לידער פֿאַרן פֿראָגראַם. אַזוי אַרום האָט מען געהאַט אַ געלעגן־הייט צו דערציילן דעם עולם אַ ביסל סיי ווען די מחברים פֿון די לידער, סיי ווען די לידער גופא. דער ערשטער אוונט איז געווען אַ יום־טוב־דיקער באַלאָ אוונט פֿון לית, המאַר און מחוק. די וויסערדיקע אוונטן זײַנען גע־ווען געוויידמעט מער ספּעציפֿישע טעמעס: ליבע לידער, לידער פֿון איציק מאַנגערן, פֿון מרדכי געבירטיקן, פֿון אַמעריקאַנער ייִדישע פּאָעטן. מיר האָבן געהאַט אַן אוונט פֿון ייִדישן הומאָר אָן אַן אוונט „לחיים" — לידער וואָס ווערן געזונגען בײ פֿרילעכע געלעגנהייטן. מיר האָבן געהאַט אַן אוונט פֿון ייִדישע פּאָלקס־לידער אויסגעפֿירט פֿון דער באַקאַנטער זינגערין קלער אַסיפֿאָוו פֿון וואַנקאָווער און אַן אוונט וועגן ייִדישן טעאַטער אין וואַרט אָון ליד אויסגעפֿירט פֿון באַקאַנטן לאָנדאָנער אַקטיאָר בערנאַרד מעזרעלאָוויטש — ער איז געקומען קיין מאָנטרעאָל אָנטיילצונעמען אין „קלעזקאָנדאָ", אָון האָט זיך אריבערגעכאפט צו אונדז אויפצופֿירן דעם אוונט. איצט גריטן מיר דעם צענטן אוונט, וואָס וועט זיין אויף דער טעמע „אמאל איז געווען. . ." — פּאָלקס־לידער פֿון טרוים, ליבע אָון האָפֿענונג.

אונדזערע ארטיסטן ביז אהער זיינען געווען בעט־טן קאָל, בת־שבע, סטעלאַ וואַקער, חיה טאַלענבערג, גלאָריאַ וואַלענטין, פּעי קעלערשטיין, מיקל מאַנדעל, אַלען פֿאַרקאָס, מיקל לעבאָוויץ, דוד וואָל און די מחיקער טן לעדערמאַן, סאַשאַ לומפּסקי, מאַרטש וואָן דע וועג און בראַיאַן קאָץ. צו יעדן אוונט וועלן צוגעגרייט אַ פֿראָגראַם אין וועלכן עס וועלן אויסגע־רעכנט דער סדר פון די לידער און אין קורצן, אויף ענגליש, זײַנער אינהאַלט פֿאַר די, וואָס זײַנען ניט זײַער פֿליסיק אין ייִדיש. די פערזיק שיינע העמד־לער מיטן אויפֿשריפֿט „ייִדישלאַנד קאַפּע", ספּעציעל באַשטעלט פֿאַר אונדזערע אוונטן, זײַנען שוין מיט א צייט צוריק געווארן אויספֿאַרקויפֿט.

אונדזערע אוונטן קומען אַלע מאָל פֿאַר אין זאל פון ארבעטער־רינג, און דער זאָל איז געפֿאַקט. עס קומען חסידים פון אונדזער קאַפּע, אַבער מען זעט אויך שטענדיק נייע, יונגע פנימער. אפֿט שטעקן אַריין די קעפ די יונגע בחורימלעך פון דער ישיבה אין שכנשן הויז. עס אינטריגירט זיי דער גאַנצער ענין, און זיי קומען געבן אַ קוק וואָס עס טוט זיך דאָ. די ארטיסטן האָבן ליב ארויסצוטרעטן בײ אונדז. זיי באַרייכערן זײער ייִדישן רעפּערטואַר און שפּאָרן ניט קיין מי צו פֿארבעסערן זײער ייִדישע אויס־שפּראַך און זײער אינטערפּרעטאַציע פון די לידער, וואָס מיר גרייטן צו פֿאַר זיי. זיי האָבן הנאה פון דער אינטימער שטימונג אין זאָל און פון אַנטיל פון עולם.

פֿאַר דעם דערפֿאָלג פון די אוונטן דאַרף מען דאַנקען דער קליינער, איבערגעגעבענער גרופּע מענטשן, אָלע פֿאָרליבטע אין ייִדיש, אָלע פֿריוויליקע, וואָס גיבן אַפֿ צייט און מי פֿאַרן „ייִדישלאַנד קאַפּע". דער „ייִדישלאַנד קאַפּע" אוונט דעם 22־טן נאָוועמבער וועט זיין פֿאַר אונדז אַ ספּעציעלע געשעענש, ווייל דאָס וועט זיין אונדזער צענטער אוונט. מיר האָפֿן וויסער אנצוגיין מיטן „ייִדישלאַנד קאַפּע" פּראָיעקט, און מיר וועלן זיך באַמיען, אַז „ייִדישלאַנד קאַפּע" זאָל זיין דאָס אָרט וואו א ייִדישער עולם זאָל קענען שפּעט פון די אוצרות פון דער ייִדישער קולטור.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Nov. 24, is deadline for Dec. 4 issue, and Monday, Dec. 1, is deadline for Dec. 11. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Nov. 20

THE WEST IS IN THE EAST

Downtown Jewish Learning Council second session of visual artist **Azriel Cohen's** discussion of his travels to Nepal and India to find out why thousands of Jews visit there annually. 7:30 p.m., Bloor JCC. 924-6211.

Friday, Nov. 21

YEDIDAY SHABBAT

Friends of Shabbat, traditional, humanistic approach to Shabbat, traditional melodies, discussion of Torah portion (from a contemporary perspective). 488-0688.

Saturday, Nov. 22

CURRENT EVENTS

Israel and the Jewish World, a current events discussion series, features **Mordechai Ben-Dat**, editor, *The Canadian Jewish News*, 7 p.m., Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

MYSTIC AND MUSIC

The Jewish Youth Learning Centre Mystic and Music Melavah Malka, **Rabbi Michel Abehsera**, Sephardic mystic naturopath/storyteller/author, and **Ronnie Weisman**, King of Jewish Reggae and his band Kedusha, 8 p.m., Or Haemet Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Bathurst St. $18, student $10. **Rabbi Danny Bahar** 633-5722.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Congregation Beth Haminyan presents **Hilda Weill** speaking on Jacob and Joseph — What Didn't They Know and When Did They Know It?, after services, West Prep Public School, 70 Ridge Hill Dr.

Sunday, Nov. 23

THE TORY AGENDA

In Search of Common Sense in the Common Sense Revolution: Debating the Tory Agenda, all-day conference at Temple Anshe Sholom, Hamilton, focuses on Jewish response, education, welfare reform, health. Speakers: **Rabbi Dow Marmur, Judge Marvin A. Zuker, Andrea Horwath, Dr. Susan Watt.** Coordinator is **Dr. Ronnie Miller.** 905-528-0121.

COMEDY EVENING

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood present An Hilarious Comedy Evening starring **Prof. Jack Siegel, Norm Winkler, Sam Rosen**, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Guests $2. Coordinators **Jerry and Sandra Genesove.**

OPEN AUCTION

Carmel Chapter of Hadassah WIZO auction, items include weekends, dinners, bridge lessons, merchandise. 8 p.m., Earl Bales Community Centre. $3. **Vera** 445-4616 or **Elva** 665-2096.

GIFT AND CRAFT SALE

Markham Unionville Chapter, Jewish Women International holiday sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Crosby Arena, Main St., Unionville. $2, children under 12 free. Accepting food bank donations.

RUMMAGE SALE

Aviva Branch, National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto Section, gigantic rummage sale, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Council House, 4700 Bathurst St.

Monday, Nov. 24

MEDICAL ETHOS

Care of the Medical Ethos: Reflections After the Holocaust, **Dr. Jeremiah A. Barondess**, New York Academy of Medicine, sponsored by History of Medicine Program, University of Toronto, 5 p.m., The Great Hall, 88 College St. 978-5256.

ABOUT DIAMONDS

Gemologist **Larry Cohen** discusses Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Diamonds, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Sisterhood meeting, 8 p.m. $3.

PILLAR OF FIRE

Documentary of the history of Israel's rebirth from 1898-1948,

[Cont'd. on page 29]

IGA Kosher
IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher
Centre Street
Clark Avenue West
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441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

Whole Chickens
Fresh! Kosher
4.61 kg
209 lb.

Mazola Corn Oil
2 L jug
299 each

Perl's Creamy Coleslaw
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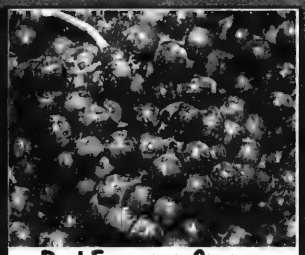
.39 /100 g
179 lb.


Red Emperor Grapes
Product of U.S.A.,
No. 1 Grade, 1.74 kg
.79 lb.

Chicken Breasts
Fresh! Kosher
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Liberty 2.5% Yogourt
Assorted Varieties,
175 g cups
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Astro Cream Cheese
From the Deli
1.10 /100 g
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Zucchini Squash
Product of Mexico
2.18 kg
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Fresh!
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Sealtest Parlour Ice Cream
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Rye Bread
From The Bakery
425 g loaf
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Chocolate Buns
From the Bakery
pkg. of 6
239

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, NOV. 16 UNTIL SATURDAY, NOV. 22, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 28]

Chapter X, introduction and commentary by **David Goldberg**, Foundation for Middle East Studies, 7:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. 633-5500.

Tuesday, Nov. 25

HEALTHY HEART

Building a Healthy Heart for Life, **Dr. Sherryn Levinoff Roth**, Scarborough General Hospital; **Dr. Terrence Kavanaugh**, Toronto Rehabilitation Centre, **Marsha Rosen**, dietician, presented by Toronto Hadassah-WIZO, 7:30 p.m., Columbus Centre, 901 Lawrence Ave. W. $5. Proceeds to Assaf Harofeh Hospital, Israel. Reserve 630-8373.

EXPERIENCES IN ISRAEL

At Beth Tzedec Sisterhood meeting, **Loretta Tanenbaum** talks about Personal Experiences in Israel Before and After the Six Day War, 8 p.m. $3. RSVP 781-3514, ext. 34.

ADULT EDUCATION

Rabbi Moshe Stern's series continues with The Torah Says "Thou Shalt Not Place a Stumbling Block Before the Blind." How can this prohibition affect daily life and the ability to earn a living?, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

SISTERHOOD LUNCHEON

Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood luncheon, guest speaker **Cynthia Gasner**, 12:30 p.m. **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660.

CONVENIENCE MEALS

Kashruth Council of Toronto Kosher Cooking School features Convenience Meals (Meat), 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation. $15. 635-9550.

Wednesday, Nov. 26

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

At Jewish Genealogical Society film researcher/producer **David Fleishman** presents A Man of Conscience, the saving of Miezrich Orphanage, video, slides, discussion, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Les Train** 484-9167.

COMPUTER RESOURCES

An Introduction to Personal Computer Resources for Seniors, sponsored by Baycrest Centre Wellness Education Group, guest speaker **Henry Campbell**, president, Perceptix. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Wagman Centre. $2. **Judy Chu** 785-2500, ext. 2340.

THE ABC'S OF FRAUD

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group, focuses on The ABC's of Fraud with **Detective Bill Whiteside**, Metro Toronto Police Fraud Squad, at noon. Bring lunch. $1.

EXPLORE SHABBAT

Rabbi Aaron Flanzraich discusses A Time to Rest. Explore Shabbat, 8 p.m., Pride of Israel Synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres.

Thursday, Nov. 27

HOW TO GET ALONG

Chai Shalom welcomes adult educator **Anne Balaban**, 7:30 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Topic: How to Get Along With Everybody...Almost. Members $5, non-members $7. **Mildred Persofsky** 633-2436, **Gail Roodyn** 635-1056, **Helen Schwartz** 633-4111.

CANTINA

Sephardic Educational Centre's Toronto Chapter, Cantina, The Left Bank, 567 Queen St. W. 9 p.m. (19 and over). $5 in advance, $10 at door. **Yael** 905-669-7652, ext. 225.

And What Else Is New

ABOUT ANTI-SEMITISM

Family Shabbat Lunch, Saturday, Nov. 29, at noon, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. **Karen Mock**, executive director, B'nai Brith League for Human Rights, speaks on Combating Anti-Semitism in Canada and Worldwide. What Is Your Response? $15 adults, $8 children 12 years and under. Tickets at synagogue office.

FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Ohr Somayach Toronto evening of fun and entertainment for women and girls at Wave Pool, 5 Hopkins St., Richmond Hill, swimming followed by pizza and a short Torah talk, Saturday, Nov. 29, 8-11 p.m. $8. Reserve. **Karen** 905-886-5730.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Congregation Solel, Mississauga: **Rabbi Lawrence Englander** speaks at Brotherhood breakfast Sunday, Nov. 23, 9:45 a.m.; Family service and Oneg Shabbat, Friday, Nov. 28, 7:30 p.m.; Regular services Friday, Nov. 21, 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 29, 10 a.m.; Family service Saturday, Nov. 22, 10 a.m. Tuesday morning minyan, 7 a.m. followed by breakfast. 905-820-5915.

BONDING GENERATIONS

Sunday, Nov. 30, Club Monaco hosts Bonding the Generations event for State of Israel Bonds. Fun for the whole family, brunch, entertainment, fashion show modeled by three generations. Admission US $100 State of Israel Bonds certificate per adult. Reserve. **Rose Shapiro,** 789-3351.

LONDON BOOK FAIR

London Jewish Book Fair: Saturday, Nov. 22, 6:15 p.m., **Ben Wicks** reads from his novel *Dawn of the Promised Land: The Creation of Israel* followed by **Rhea Tregebov** reading her poetry. Sunday, Nov. 23, interactive children's program with Rhea Tregebov 11 a.m., and Open Forum for Closet Poets in the afternoon. London JCC, 519-673-1730.

TORAH STUDY

At Beth Tzedec Congregation: Songs of the Heart: The Psalms **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl,** Lunch 'n' Learn, Tuesdays until Dec. 16, noon to 1:20 p.m., Register. **Lynn** 781-3514, ext. 27.

Hevruta: Discover the World of Talmud, Rabbi Frydman-Kohl, Tuesdays, 7:30-9:45 p.m., until Dec. 16, and Jan. 6-27.

Conservative Judaism Approaches Torah, **Rabbi Roy Tanenbaum**, Lunch 'n' Learn, Wednesdays, noon to 1:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion, **Prof. Arnold Ages**, Shabbat, 9:30 a.m.

ANNIVERSARY SALE

Media Encore celebrates its 1st anniversary, Israel's 50th anniversary and Project Renewal Program by donating 18 percent from its 30 percent off sale to the Ze'elim Library in Eilat. Nov. 20-23, Lawrence Plaza.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

Immortality, lecture and study of the writings of **Rabbi Avraham Azulai,** Sunday, Nov. 23, 10 p.m.

Rosh Chodesh Kislev lecture, meditation, buffet dinner, Saturday, Nov. 29. Register from 8 p.m. $14.

GUYS AND DOLLS

The Yorkminstrels musical theatre company presents *Guys and Dolls* at Leah Posluns Theatre Nov. 29, 30, Dec. 2, 3, 4, 6, at 8 p.m. and Nov. 30, Dec. 7, at 2 p.m 422-1971.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting, Thursday, Nov. 27, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **Jack Pincus** speaks on The Role of the Pharmacist and You. **Goldie** 635-2860.

LZA Seniors Club space for Miami Trip 1998. **Libby** 782-2059 or **Belle** 633-5841. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tursdays 10 a.m. Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., open for socializing Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Nov. 27 program is video *The Best Comedy of Mr. Bean.* **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Dec. 3, *Showboat*; Dec. 10, day trip to Magnotta Wines; Dec. 17, Casino Rama; Dec. 31, New Year's dinner and dance, 7 p.m. Members $30, non-members $35; activities, table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork shop, trips, bingo. Membership '98 open $12. 395-7881.

Ladies, sing and dance your blues away with the **Bubies and Zaidies.** No joining fees. **Fred** 633-2877.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Arthritis Society Pain Management Clinic, **Bev Tobe,** therapist with Arthritis Society, Thursday, Nov. 20, 1-4 p.m. Book appointment at Wellness Desk.

Mary Rykov, music therapist consultant to Division of Palliative Care at Mount Sinai Hospital (Jewish Hospice Program), Music Therapy — How Can It Help Me?, Monday, Nov. 24, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Osteoporosis Support Group Tuesday, Nov. 25, 1:15-2:30 p.m. Dietitian/nutrition educator **Catherine Smith,** A Calcium Rich Diet for Bone Health. Resource person **Joan Turner.**

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, sing-a-longs, dances, bingo. Nov. 25 is a free evening. **Anna.**

Movie, *The Student Prince,* Sunday, Nov. 23, 2:15 p.m.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band Sunday, Nov. 23, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Songs from around the world with **Marat Maksutov**, Wednesday, Nov. 26, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Vilde Chayas Comedy Show, Thursday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. Members $6, non-members $8. **Florence Marantz.**

Books and Bagels, Sunday, Nov. 23, 11 a.m., **Linda Frum** reads from *Barbara Frum-A Daughter's Memoir,* Non-members $8.

Premiere of movie *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies and the American Dream,* Princess of Wales Theatre, Monday, Nov. 24.

Tom's Place clothing sale, Nov. 26-30. Portion of proceeds donated to campaign fund.

Unveiling of Donor Board in the Jacob's Hospitality Room, Thursday, Nov. 27.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club: Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2:15 p.m.,*The Lady with the Hammer*, play about Florence Nightingale, starring **Isolde O'Neil,** presented with Focus on Arts and Culture Class. Non-members $3. Thursday, Nov. 27, 2 p.m., You Can Do CPR (Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation) with **Maureen McIlveen,** fitness co-coordinator. **Judy.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Support Group for women who have converted to Judaism, Wednesday, Nov. 26, 7:30 p.m. Information and to RSVP, **Elissa Goldstein** ext. 284.

Register for Winterlude, winter break camp for kids ages 2½ to 12 (Dec. 22-Jan. 2). Swim, dance, drama, music, arts and crafts, outdoor and indoor play, gym. **Reesa** ext. 378.

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From coast to coast

CJC-Q approves move to new Campus building

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The future of Canadian Jewish Congress-national (CJC) in Quebec became the overriding issue after its national officers and the Quebec regional executive conditionally cleared the way recently for CJC-Q to relocate within two years to the planned Jewish Community Campus at FEDERATION CJA.

During a Nov. 2 meeting in Ottawa and despite continued concerns over "process," CJC's national officers voted 15-4 "in principle [in] favor of the move...subject to the satisfactory resolution of the issues of concern to the officers, including, without limitation, budget, the building [Samuel Bronfman House], the archives and the integrity of Congress..."

But the vote did not end the reverberations that continue to resound within CJC.

Three days later, in protest over the "process" – some CJC national figures accused the CJC-Q of entering into talks with federation without consulting them – Renee Switzer of Vancouver resigned as chair of CJC's strategic planning committee. She also tried to resign as chair of CJC's national executive committee, but last week was persuaded to stay on.

Switzer said in a statement that "recent attempts to undermine the work of the [strategic planning] committee, as well as that of the CJC national administration, cast a shadow of non-confidence in the integrity of the CJC strategic planning process and therefore necessitated my resignation."

She told *The CJN*, she had been subject to "unbelievable pressure" to change her mind about resigning.

That same evening in Montreal, at a session of the CJC executive, faced with a virtual fait accompli in light of the national officers' vote, members voiced their support for the resolution in overwhelming numbers – 38 to 3 with one abstention.

Some members appeared to have an air of reluctance and resignation, particularly CJC stalwarts who have resisted for years what they saw as a continued effort by the federation to "take over" Congress.

Virtually all members, however, seemed ready, at least for the time being, to take FEDERATION CJA at its word that it would guarantee CJC-Q's autonomy, and were encouraged by the news that the region would continue to be fiscally viable.

Discussions involving FEDERATION CJA, CJC-Q, CJC-national and CJF-Canada (its funding body which has supported the CJC-Q relocation), prior to the executive meeting, had put the "process" issue in the background and were cordial in tone, the executive was told. All parties negotiated with sincerity and in good faith.

The executive voiced its "strong preference," that CJC-national stay in Montreal, one of the most important issues left hanging in light of CJC-Q's planned relocation.

The move put into doubt CJC-national's future at Samuel Bronfman House, its downtown Montreal headquarters for the last 30 years and the home of CJC's national archives, whose future location also remains uncertain. CJC-Q has been burdened with an "occupational cost" or "overhead allocation" of $110,000 annually to be in the building, a cost that would have to be picked up by CJC-national if it stayed there.

At the new campus, CJC-Q would pay no rent for the space it occupies. It also has been promised a guaranteed level of "allocated funding," approximately $455,000 per year, the amount currently apportioned to CJC-Q by CJC-national, as long as campaign revenues remain stable.

Ultimately, Bronfman House could be put up for sale, although it is believed that CJC-national would continue to maintain a "presence" with an office elsewhere in Montreal. The CJC archives, according to one idea being put forward, could be consolidated with those at the Jewish Public Library and Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre.

FEDERATION CJA has invited CJC-national to come to the campus, but it would have to pay rent. However, president Goldie Hershon sees moving the national offices there as unlikely, since Ottawa is increasingly the focal point of CJC's national advocacy agenda. Moving to Ottawa is a more possible prospect.

All the outstanding issues – the status of CJC-national, CJC-Q autonomy, the building, budgeting and archives – will be the subject of detailed discussion in coming weeks involving CJC-national, CJC-Q, FEDERATION CJA and CJF Canada.

Canada, Israel relations 'good,' says ambassador

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — Relations between Canada and Israel remain "good, on a sound basis of friendship," despite the recent passport affair, the Israeli ambassador to Canada told a Halifax audience recently.

David Sultan was on a five-day visit to Atlantic Canadian centres, his first official visit to the region since his appointment a year ago. He spent two days in Fredericton and three in Halifax.

He stressed that the volume of trade between Canada and Israel has jumped 45 percent over last year, since the implementation of a free trade agreement between the two countries.

"And Prime Minister [Jean] Chrétien will attend the lighting of the first Chanukah candle at Parliament Hill Dec. 23 to mark the beginning of celebrations of Israel's 50th anniversary. In retrospect, the passport crisis will not harm the good relations between Canada and Israel," he said.

Sultan met university and government officials in Fredericton and addressed a Jewish community audience of nearly 60 people.

In Halifax, the ambassador met government officials, the lieutenant-governor, two university presidents, the editorial board of the *Chronicle-Herald and Mail-Star*, and addressed members of the Atlantic Canada Jewish Students Federation at a Shabbat dinner.

At a community reception attended by 75 people, Sultan updated the peace process for Haligonians.

"We're not having the hoped-for progress we expected, but difficulties are part of any process. We remain committed. Peace in the long range is the only viable option. It's certainly the biggest challenge."

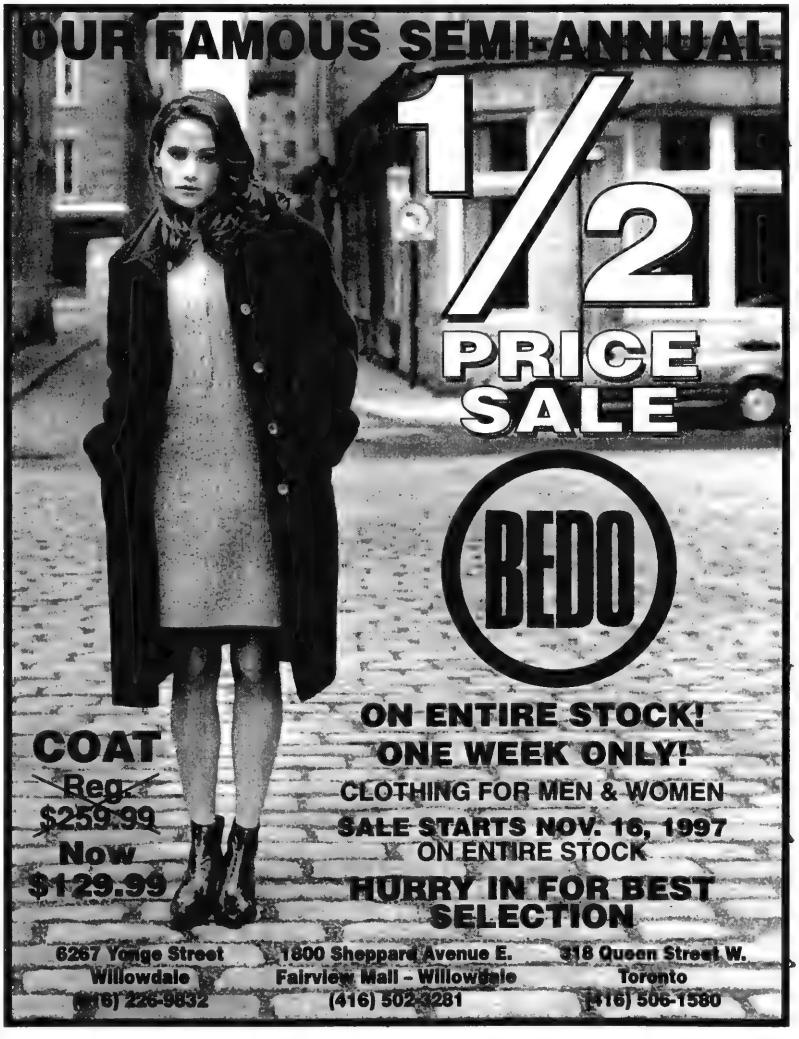
Sultan, who served as ambassador to Egypt for four years prior to his Canadian assignment, emphasized that Israel has to calculate carefully its every move in the peace process.

"The tendency in the world is to support the Palestinians. They are perceived as the weak side, but this is a misperception. They are part of an overwhelming Arab majority in the region. I'm confident we'll reach an agreement, but only with more ups and downs and additional crises."

On Syrian peace, Sultan said: "[We're] trying to find a formula to resume talks. We'll have peace, but it's a long way off." On the conflict among religious sects in Israel: "To face our challenges, we must unite and combine our efforts. We could all do with a little more tolerance. Religion must not be a dividing factor." And on the botched assassination attempt of the Hamas leader: "The man is not a saint. We're at war with the Hamas and people don't understand that."

In his address to the newspaper editors, he said Israelis can't understand why the process of prosecuting alleged Nazi war criminals takes so long. "Low prosecution is certainly a concern for Israelis. They'd like to see things move more quickly and efficiently."

He stressed the importance of the People to People initiative between Israelis and Palestinians: "We've organized meetings between student groups and teachers' groups, and established small collections of Israeli material in 100 Palestinian libraries and vice versa. It doesn't cost big money. Canada is participating in peace forces and multilateral talks, but we'd like to see more in the People to People program. To a great extent, the peace process depends on it."



From coast to coast

Kristallnacht ceremonies held across Canada

Jewish communities from across Canada came together on Nov. 9 to commemorate Kristallnacht, the night of destruction of Jewish synagogues, homes and businesses in Nazi Germany, Nov. 9, 1938. Here are two of many local community accounts.

The evening was dark, damp and foggy, which reflected the mood of more than 100 people crowded near the Halifax cenotaph in Grand Parade Square.

They gathered to commemorate Kristallnacht and to celebrate Dignity Day, designated to encourage humankind to eliminate hatred and respect each other.

Men, women and children carried lit candles a few hundred metres from Province House, the seat of the Nova Scotia government, to the central city square, and then quietly laid their candles at the base of the cenotaph.

"The turnout is very encouraging," said Larry Riteman, chair of the Atlantic Jewish Council education committee, and the son of a Holocaust survivor. "This is our sixth year of Dignity Day and the large numbers indicate people want to learn the best lessons they can from the sorrows, grief and losses of war."

Candles were placed by Nova Scotia's lieutenant-governor James Kinley, provincial labor minister Gerald O'Malley, and Halifax Regional Municipality Mayor Walter Fitzgerald. Among other dignitaries attending were provincial attorney general Alan Mitchell and Halifax councillors Howard Epstein, Bob Harvey, Clint Schofield and Russell Walker.

Holocaust survivors Helena Jockel and Philip Riteman placed candles on behalf of other survivors, while a large group of Halifax-area children represented youth and the hope for the future.

Viva Press, co-president of the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students Federation, a University of King's College journalism student and *CJN* columnist, spoke of the significance of Kristallnacht.

* * *

In Vancouver

A standing room crowd of approximately 750 people crammed into the Beth Israel Synagogue in Vancouver to commemorate Kristallnacht.

Dr. Chris Friedrichs, a professor of History at the University of British Columbia (UBC) and chair of the Kristallnacht committee, began the ceremony with an address in which he noted that Kristallnacht heralded the beginning of the Holocaust and was, in fact, "the beginning of the road to Auschwitz for European Jewry."

After the address, six candles were lit by witnesses, survivors and members of the Vancouver Jewish community, to commemorate the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Rudolf Vrba, a resident of Vancouver and an emeritus professor at UBC, is a distinguished biochemist and Holocaust Educator, renowned as one of only five Jews ever to have escaped from Auschwitz. He spoke on the issue of Money and the Holocaust and the role of the Holocaust in German Economic and Military Strategy from 1941 to 1945.

In a poignant speech, Vrba, who spent 2½ years in Auschwitz as a slave laborer and who has written about his experiences, questioned the use of the term extermination to describe the fate of the Jews of Europe.

"No one was exterminated in the Holocaust. The victims of the Holocaust were murdered," he claimed.

He also pointed out that robbery, which is rarely discussed in relation to the Holocaust, "was an integral part of the Holocaust." In fact, he said, "the Holocaust was a case of murder in the furtherance of theft."

The Nazis murdered Jews and systemically robbed them, he said.

He also refuted the claim that the regular German army "had clean hands" and that they were unaware of the fate of European Jewry. "The fate of Jews was no secret to the German army," he emphatically stated.

The program was organized by the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society and the adult education committee of Congregation Beth Israel.

With files from Joel Jacobson in Halifax and David Litvack in Vancouver.

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Passport affair will not be repeated, Axworthy told

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

JERUSALEM – The much-awaited visit to Israel of Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy took place last week in the wake of the abortive Meshal assassination attempt by the Mossad in Amman almost two months ago.

Statements made by Axworthy and Israeli government ministers, although mostly conciliatory in nature, still do not answer the basic question — are Canadian Israel relations back on track following the misuse of Canadian passports in the Meshal affair?

Prior to Axworthy's arrival, the Canadian Embassy in Tel Aviv distributed a media announcement in which he described the aims of the visit. "The convention to ban anti-personnel mines, and the direction of the Middle East peace process will be at the top of the agenda during my visit. I will seek the support of countries in the region to join the global coalition on the landmine issue. In the context of the peace process, Canada is in search of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region, which includes the Palestine refugee question."

While in Israel, the media announcement continued, Axworthy will pursue clarification on the steps taken to ensure that Canadian passports will not be misused again. It was this last item that gave the journalists, following Axworthy during his 30 hours in Israel, an obsession to find the truth and to explain unresolved issues.

Following a closed meeting with Israeli foreign minister David Levy, the two men sat down in front of the press to make their statements. "I am very happy to be in Israel on this, my first visit. I found the experience this morning [at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial] very moving. It will live with me for a very long time," said Axworthy. "At the same time we had the opportunity to talk about many bilateral issues. "We want to support increased dialogue between people in this region. I am pleased that Israel will be in attendance at the Ottawa meeting to help the victims of land mines...."

Then came the questions on everybody's lips — the passport affair.

"We received from Minister Levy assurances that directives had been given to all the appropriate authorities and agencies so that it will not happen again," said Axworthy.

In response to the claims expressed by the former Canadian ambassador to Israel, Norman Spector, to the fact that Canadian Embassy staff and security officials were aware that the passports were being used by the Mossad, Axworthy said, "He is wrong, period. As far as the Mossad is concerned, we have a number of arrangements where we share information, and that's it."

Why was the Canadian Ambassador David Berger recalled? Axworthy said,"We just wanted to ensure that there was no Canadian connection and that the passports were not of Canadian making — they were in fact forged."

Foreign Minister Levy justified Israel's policy in fighting terror by sending hit squads after her perceived enemies outside her own borders. "Israel faces a situation that very few countries in the world have to face," he explained. "There are factions that try to kill and injure our innocent civilians. The results are tragic and we face a very heavy toll. We are always turning to friendly governments to help us prevent these tragedies and to stop our enemies from acting against us — but we are not always successful. Sometimes we are forced to take action on our own. In the case of our action in Jordan, this was in no way directed against that country, or Canada. I think that the governments of Jordan, Israel and Canada have acted wisely in order to address the situation. We wish to see this matter behind us.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy (left) with his Israeli counterpart David Levy at a news conference in Jerusalem last week. [Israpet Photo]

"Relations between Israel and Canada are based on shared values: two democratic countries, both making a big contribution to fight international terrorism. Unfortunately there are few countries who are prepared to fight international terror, which itself knows no boundaries. We live in an area where there are dangers, not only to Israel, but to other countries in the region. This threatens the stability of the whole area and beyond."

Just before leaving for Jordan, Axworthy met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. It was hoped that there would be a joint press conference to close the passport affair, but Netanyahu refused to meet the group of journalists waiting outside his office, preferring to issue a short statement describing his meeting with Axworthy.

He covered the peace process and the war against terrorism and reiterated the promise made by David Levy regarding the use of Canadian passports.

After the meeting with Netanyahu, Axworthy told *The CJN* "It wasn't my job to probe significantly what directives were given to security personnel. We received an aide memoire in writing with guarantees and assurances that this will not happen again."

In response to the question of whether he will make the contents of the aide memoire public. "No, we will not."

Following the Axworthy visit there are still many unanswered questions concerning the Meshal affair and the interaction of friendly governments in fighting international terror. It was hoped that the minister's visit might remove any remaining tension marring the usually cordial relations that exist between Israel and Canada, but this was not to be so. A joint appearance before the media of Netanyahu and Axworthy, as well as an unequivocal statement by Axworthy that Canada accepts Israel's apology, could have cleared the air. Neither was forthcoming.

***

Axworthy also announced last week that Canada will contribute $1 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to rebuild shelters for Palestinian refugees.

The minister made the announcement while in Gaza as part of his Middle East trip.

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NETANYAHU LAYS WREATH

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, assisted by military policewomen, lays a wreath at the grave of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as Rabin's widow, Leah, looks on. [Reuters/RNS]

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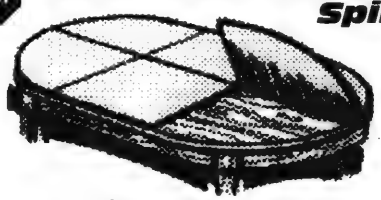

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Time running out for peace process: Albright

By STEVE RODAN
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

DOHA, Qatar — Warning that time is running out for the peace process, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright last Sunday called on Israel to implement the interim agreements with the Palestinians.

"Palestinian leaders must intensify cooperation on security issues and speak more consistently the language of peace," Albright told the opening of the Middle East and North Africa economic conference in the Qatari capital.

"Israeli leaders must meet their responsibilities by taking steps to restore Palestinian and Arab confidence in their commitment to implementing Oslo."

The Doha conference, being held under tight security with special U.S. units deployed, is being boycotted by a majority of the 22 members of the Arab League. These nations have accused Israel of refusing to trade land for peace with the Palestinians.

Among those who have boycotted the conference are Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the Palestinian Authority. Israel has sent a lower level delegation than in the past.

In words that seemed directed at Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Albright said that Middle East leaders cannot "sit on the fence and wait for others to take the risks and summon the requisite courage to bring peace about. Partners have obligations – to make their partners stronger, not weaker, to act in the spirit of peace, to take into account the needs and views of others."

In her speech, Albright mentioned the late Egyptian president Anwar al-Sadat, Menachem Begin, Yitzhak Rabin, Yasser Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein as examples of those who have shown courage to make peace.

Albright said the peace process is in danger "not because the people of the region do not desire peace, but because leaders have failed to take the actions required to realize the possibilities of peace."

She urged Israel to agree to measures that would help the Palestinian economy and reduce closures of the territories.

She said Israeli-Palestinian negotiations are based on a four-part agenda of security, further IDF redeployments, a "time-out on settlement activity" and accelerated talks on final-status issues.

She reiterated U.S. support for UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, "including the principle of land for peace."

Her words reflected what U.S. officials said is Washington's frustration with the stalled peace process.

Arab leaders at the conference accused Israel of threatening war.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Congress presses Russia on Iran missile program

By DANIEL KURTZMAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

WASHINGTON — Congress is stepping up pressure on Russia to stop aiding Iran's ballistic missile program.

In a move aimed at containing Iran's potential to rain terror on Israel and other nations, the House of Representatives has approved a bill that would provide for stronger sanctions against countries, companies or research institutes helping Iran develop ballistic missiles.

Sanctions would include eliminating all U.S. assistance for two years.

President Bill Clinton has threatened to veto the measure. The administration said the bill would interfere with diplomatic efforts to address the problem of Russian companies aiding Iran.

A similar bill pending in the Senate has gained the support of 82 co-sponsors, but will not be taken up until January, after Congress returns from its recess.

Russia has repeatedly denied charges that it is passing missile know-how to Iran.

United States and Israeli intelligence reports indicate that with continued help from Russian firms, Tehran could have the ability to launch ballistic missiles equipped with chemical, biological and other warheads capable of reaching Israel and other states in the region within the next year.

"If the supply of Russian technology is not stopped, then within a year Iran would become self-sufficient and would be able to create those missiles on its own," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told a recent meeting at Britain's House of Commons last week.

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), which undertook an "emergency mobilization" to push the measure through Congress, praised the House's action.

"This is amongst the most timely, vital national security issues calling out for decisive U.S. leadership," said Howard Kohr, executive director of AIPAC, the pro-Israel lobby. "Regretfully, diplomacy alone has failed to stop the flow of missile technology to Iran."

The legislation, known as the Iran Missile Proliferation Sanctions Act, requires the president to report within 30 days if there is "credible information" that a country, company or research institute transferred missile goods or technology to Iran.

The bill allows the president to waive sanctions for reasons of national security.

"It's now time for the Congress to say enough is enough," said Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.). "We need to back up our rhetoric on non-proliferation with meaningful action."

Although the White House opposes the bill, Vice President Al Gore told a delegation from the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations that the House vote would serve as a useful tool in persuading the Russians to curb missile cooperation with Iran.

Saddam tied to plot to kill former UN official

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

LONDON – The Iraqi regime plotted last year to assassinate the United Nations' former chief arms inspector, Sweden's Rolf Ekeus, Iraqi opposition sources revealed last weekend. A last-minute warning from their intelligence contacts in Baghdad saved the Swedish diplomat's life.

An informant deep inside Iraq's intelligence establishment notified the Iraqi National Congress (INC), the main opposition group seeking Hussein's overthrow, of the murder plot, the sources said.

They said Ekeus was to have been given a dose of thallium, a lethal substance that has no taste or odor, but which causes rapid physical deterioration and ultimately death.

Upon learning of this, INC president Ahmed Chalabi sent a letter to Ekeus alerting him to the plot and urging him to take precautions. Ekeus was said to have verified the Iraqi scheme through his own contacts and acted accordingly.

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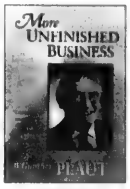

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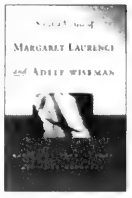

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Iraq further isolated

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

The growing crisis pitting Iraq against the United Nations (UN) has further isolated Saddam Hussein's regime, but triggered a groundswell of Arab opposition to the use of force to solve the problem.

Last week, in response to its refusal to cooperate with UN weapon inspectors and its threat to shoot down U.S. reconnaissance flights verifying Iraq's compliance with UN resolutions, the Security Council passed a resolution tightening sanctions against Iraq. Retaliating, Baghdad expelled American inspectors. The UN then withdrew all its monitors from Iraq, thereby imperilling the weapon inspection system.

The latest instalment in the seemingly perennial confrontation between Iraq and the UN is colored by a sense of deja vu. Since the end of the 1991 Gulf War, Iraq has played a cat-and-mouse game with UN monitors, who are charged with the task of certifying that Iraq destroys its remaining stockpile of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons.

In September, Iraq submitted a "final and complete" report claiming that its biological weapons programs had been terminated. But last month, the UN accused Iraq of withholding data on its non-conventional capabilities, including missiles.

The UN, since Iraq's battlefield defeat in the Gulf War, has maintained a regimen of economic sanctions against Baghdad, barring Iraq from selling all but a fairly insignificant quantity of its oil.

Iraq was promised relief from sanctions if it fulfilled UN requirements designed to reduce its military capacities. Exerting great coercion on Baghdad, UN inspectors partially succeeded in defanging Iraq and cutting it down to size as a regional power. But through a ceaseless campaign of evasion and deception, which began to take shape in the wake of the 1991 war, Iraq managed to renege on its pledge to relinquish all its chemical, biological and nuclear materiels and its weapons of mass destruction.

In the face of its continual violations of UN resolutions, the United States – which has spearheaded the drive to enforce Iraq's compliance – has enlarged the so-called no-fly zones in northern and southern Iraq and bombed Iraqi bases and factories three times since the Gulf War.

Iraq's strategy in dealing with these intrusions of its sovereignty has been to highlight the crippling effects sanctions have had on its long-suffering population and to try to undermine the Western/Arab coalition which drove Iraq out of Kuwait.

Iraq has been somewhat successful in driving a wedge between the United States and several of its allies. France and Russia, seeking lucrative commercial opportunities in Iraq, have advocated an easing of sanctions. Last month, much to the annoyance of the Clinton administration, they joined China, Kenya and Egypt in abstaining on a UN resolution which threatened still more sanctions unless Iraq improved the level of its cooperation with UN weapon inspection monitors. This resolution emboldened Iraq to bar Americans from the monitoring teams, which in turn prompted the Security Council, at the behest of the U.S. and Britain, to bolster sanctions.

The imposition of fresh sanctions is not only a serious blow to Iraqi diplomacy, but also a reminder that Saddam Hussein is a reckless gambler with a bent for miscalculation. Throughout the 1990 crisis, which climaxed with the Gulf War, he committed repeated blunders. And now he has made yet another one.

He can, however, draw solace from from the fact that Arab states firmly oppose a military solution, and support his position that a timetable should be established for an end to sanctions.

There is resentment in the Arab world that Washington, while pressuring Iraq, has been reluctant to lean on Israel to soften its policy toward the Palestinians in the Oslo peace process. Iraq, in a reprise of its tactics in 1990, is obviously trying to exploit this grievance.

PM's message of hope

[Cont'd from page 1]

Netanyahu touched on a number of other subjects in his 30-minute address.

Echoing the theme of one of the key resolutions passed at the GA, he stated: "We must support Jewish education in the Diaspora and bring Jewish youth to Israel to experience our nation in its homeland.

Earlier in the day, a resolution had been submitted to the assembly that reaffirmed "our commitment that the survival of the Jewish people obliges all federations to work diligently to make quality Jewish day school education available to all Jewish children whose families desire it including those whose families do not have the necessary financial resources."

Netanyahu also spoke about the peace process and Jerusalem. He urged Palestinians not to miss the opportunity for achieving peace.

"The right thing to do is go on a fast track. Our hand is extended in peace."

On Jerusalem he repeated that it will stay undivided forever.

Ted Zacks, president of CJF Canada, called the GA a "terrific opportunity for the leadership of North American Jewish communities to learn from each other, to communicate with each other and to find solutions to the issues with which we are dealing."

The Week in Israel

Nov. 10

• Former U.S. secretary of state Henry Kissinger said in Tel Aviv that Israel must accept that a Palestinian state is "inevitable," and urged the Palestinian Authority (PA) and Israel to move quickly to negotiate a final peace deal.

Nov. 11

• Political leaders called for a national reconciliation as memorial ceremonies on the second anniversary of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin were held around the country.

• The joint Israeli-Jordanian airport in Aqaba began operations for a four-month trial period.

Nov. 12

• The Likud party abolished the primaries that determine the party's list of candidates for Knesset elections. This restores the power of the party's central committee to draw up the list. Leading Likud ministers called the move undemocratic.

• Two Palestinian land dealers arrested on suspicion of selling land to Jews died in Palestinian jails over the weekend. PA police reported the cause of death as illness.

• Yuval Rabin, the son of Yitzhak Rabin, received a threat to his life on his way to memorial services for his father.

Nov. 13

• Knesset members called for the Shin Bet handlers of Avishai Raviv, the acquaintance of Yigal Amir, to be put on trial following the release of parts of the classified section of the report on Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. A section of the Shamgar report disclosed that while Raviv frequently instigated political violence, his handlers believed that the information he provided outweighed the damage he inflicted.

• Israel agreed to begin making payments to Australian athletes injured in the bridge collapse at the opening ceremonies of the Maccabiah Games in July.

Nov.14

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met separately in London with British Prime Minister Tony Blair and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

With files from the JTA.

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Genetic markers a focus of breast cancer research

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Advances in breast cancer treatment will come in a series of small steps, rather than one dramatic advance, according to a panel at the recent Dialogue on Breast Cancer II.

The focus of current research, panel members agreed, is mainly on genetic markers for the disease, new imaging techniques and new drugs.

The program was held at Mount Sinai Hospital's Ben Sadowski Auditorium and was a joint venture between the hospital and Scotiabank.

Statistics on breast cancer are chilling, noted moderator Linda Boyle, health reporter for Global Television. "One in nine women will get it and it claims a life every 12 seconds. Everyone knows someone – it robs families of mothers, sisters and wives."

Pamela Goodwin, director of the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre, stressed that mortality from breast cancer has remained stable in recent years; in fact, she said, the numbers have even fallen.

This is due to better screening, she said, since earlier detection leads to more cures and to the availability of better treatment programs.

While age appears to be the only sure risk factor for contracting breast cancer, Goodwin said, other factors appear to include living in a western society (although no one seems sure just why that is); reproductive history, such as age at the onset of menses, menopause and the birth of the first child; lifestyle, including diet and exercise; and family history.

Hormone replacement therapy, currently widely used to overcome the effects of menopause, "seems to have a small, very small, influence, but not until after it has been used for 10 years."

Nevertheless, she emphasized, "70 percent of women who suffer from breast cancer have no risk factors other than age."

Irene Andrulis, a scientist at the Lunenfeld Research Institute and director of the Ontario Cancer Genetics Network, said that while only five to 10 percent of breast cancer cases appear to be hereditary, it is important to at least identify those at risk, so that they can be closely monitored and can get the most appropriate treatment.

Family history in itself is not necessarily significant, she said, since there is no way of knowing if the incidence is indeed hereditary or just a "cluster" of cases.

Research is being carried out among those Ashkenazi Jews who carry a gene mutation called BRCA1, which appears to increase the risk of breast and ovarian cancer.

Even so, she said, only one percent of the Ashkenazi population carries that gene. Research hopes to determine what other factors influence carriers to get the disease.

Roberta Jong, a radiologist at the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre and director of breast imaging there, said that mammography, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and ultrasound are used to diagnose breast cancer.

Routine mammography is a very useful tool, Jong said, since it can detect cancers early, before they can be felt by the woman herself or by a health professional.

"If tumors are caught early, 93 percent of patients are still alive 20 years later," she noted.

There is some controversy over when routine mammography should begin. The Canadian Association of Radiologists believes it should start at age 40, with follow-ups every one to two years. The Canadian and U.S. governments support beginning at age 50, and that is what is usually done.

Conservative surgery, radiation often effective

Saul Sidlovsky, a surgeon at the Marvelle Koffler Breast Centre, and head of Mount Sinai's breast disease department, had three pithy pieces of advice for people who discover a lump in their breast: Don't ignore it or deny it; don't assume a worst case scenario; and go and see your doctor at once.

While for many years the surgical treatment of choice was a radical mastectomy, in which the whole breast and the pectoral and axillary muscles were removed, or a modified radical mastectomy, in which the muscles were by and large left in place, now, Sidlovsky said, conservative surgery (removing just the lump and a surrounding margin of tissue free of tumor, to be sure the whole cancer area is gone) together with radiation treatment has been found to be effective in 70 to 75 per cent of patients.

Goodwin warned against blind use of alternative therapies, urging people to make sure the ingredients are listed on the package and are standardized from package to package; to consult a physician about side effects and possible interactions with other drugs; and to be careful about spending large amounts of money or discontinuing standard medical treatment.

In reply to a question from the audience, Goodwin noted that women who took the birth control pill in the early 1960s are just reaching the age at which breast cancer develops and there is concern in the medical community over the effect the oral contraceptives will have on their susceptibility to the disease.

In response to another question, Andrulis said research is also being done on the effect of environmental factors such as food additives and air pollution.

ABOUT NUTRITION

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. My children like to eat melon. Which is the most nutritious?

A. Many melons are very nutritious, but cantaloupe wins first place. One cup contains over 70 times as much vitamin A as honeydew, a healthful dose of beta carotene and almost as much Vitamin C as an orange, plus a significant dose of fibre.

Q. I have been thinking about trying tofu, but I wasn't sure if it has to be cooked or what kind to buy?

A. Tofu does not have to be cooked. It is ready for eating right out of its package. Tofu comes in several varieties: soft/silken, which has a custard-like texture for dips, sauces or fruit smoothies; firm, medium density, which holds its shape for salads, barbecuing, casseroles and soup; extra firm, the best choice for stir frying, crumbling or slicing in a sandwich.

Q. My family loves mashed potatoes, but I find they require so much butter to make them creamy that in the end they are very high in fat and calories. Do you have any suggestions for lightening these up?

A. Mashed potatoes can be creamy and delicious without all the extra fat and calories. I use buttermilk in mine along with roasted garlic to give a very creamy texture without all the fat. Buttermilk is a fabulous low fat substitute to fat in many recipes and has a rich, thick texture of its own.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions send them to The CJN.

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Hollywoodism:

Simcha Jacobovici's newest film looks at role of Jews in Hollywood

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

For better or worse, popular culture in the United States is largely defined and driven by Hollywood films, and has been for at least the past 70 years.

Strange as it may seem, this culture, this vision of American society, was mainly concocted by a circle of Jews who were either immigrants or the children of immigrants.

They were the legendary movie moguls, the hardbitten, yet sentimental showmen whose studios nurtured the archetypical middle-class values and images which so often seem to characterize the essence of America.

Simcha Jacobovici's latest documentary, *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies, and the American Dream*, examines this fascinating topic at length.

His film, based on Neal Gabler's book, *An Empire of Their Own: How the Jews Invented Hollywood*, will be premiered at the Princess of Wales Theatre on Nov. 24 at 7 p.m. Tickets are $36, and can be bought at the box office or by phoning 872-1212.

The event, to be followed by a reception at the Holiday Inn on King Street, is sponsored by the Bloor Jewish Community Centre and the Riverdale Jewish Community Centre.

Written and directed by Jacobovici, *Hollywoodism* turns on the founders of the major studios – Adolph Zukor of Paramount, Carl Laemmle of Universal, Louis B. Mayer of MGM, William Fox of 20th Century, Harry Cohn of Columbia and, of course, the Warner brothers.

Hailing from Poland, Russia, Hungary and Germany, these quintessential outsiders brought to the fledgling industry a vision of America which, at first, did not correspond to reality. But as they tightened their grip on Hollywood, their fantasy of America, Hollywoodism, prevailed.

The films they churned out during their heyday, the 1930s and 1940s, were stamped with a common touch. They glorified the brave little guy fighting against tremendous odds, extolled egalitarianism and virtuousness, championed the family and promoted a mythical America of boundless optimism, gleaming streets and white picket fences.

The moguls, who essentially supplanted a bigoted Protestant elite that had laid the foundations of the industry, moved it from New York to California and then proceeded to transform it into the most influential art form of this century.

Jacobovici, an award-winning documentarian, tells their story through archival footage, scenes from their films, interviews with their children and grandchildren, and observations by movie historians, critics, actors and producers.

As social history, *Hollywoodism* is never less than interesting, invariably enlightening and occasionally even riveting.

We learn that two of the most enduring elements of the typical cowboy film, rampaging mobs and burning homes, were derived from pogromist imagery, which had been deeply etched into the minds and hearts of the moguls.

We also learn that the subliminal theme of the lavish Hollywood musical, which they pioneered, was "fitting in." This was hardly coincidental, since the moguls, who went from "Poland to polo" in one generation, craved acceptance from gentiles, tried to blur the lines between Jews and Christians and hewed to an assimilationist agenda.

To some degree, they attained their objective, but at the price of downplaying their Jewishness, all but ignoring Jewish movie themes and insisting that Jewish actors anglicize their surnames.

In their zeal to be upstanding and patriotic Americans, the moguls showed little backbone in times of crisis. Amid the hysteria fanned by the Cold War, they exhibited spinelessness and disloyalty to their employees when a witch-hunting Congress scoured the industry for signs of Communist infiltration.

The moguls buckled under the weight of the investigation because, in the final analysis, they felt basically insecure about their place in America. So much for the notion of upward mobility.

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants: 1. Twelve years old and under; 2. Thirteen to 18 years old; 3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter: The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem.

We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.

We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: "Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 12, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 25, 1997. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

Charities will win big under gambling proposals

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

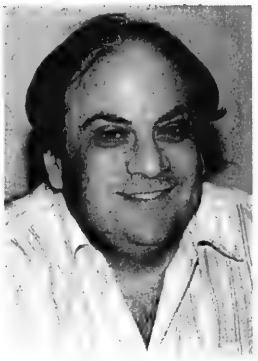
TORONTO — Residents of Ontario seem to have a split personality when it comes to gambling. Tens of thousands enjoy games ranging from Bingo to blackjack, yet voters in last week's municipal elections voted two to one against a proposal to make charitable gaming houses a permanent fixture of the urban landscape.

Under current law, the Ontario government will no longer approve licensing "three-day events" as of March 31, 1998, but will permit the "roving" gaming houses to find permanent homes. While the province has given the green light to the change, municipal governments have yet to provide the zoning and other approvals that casino operators need to begin renovating or constructing facilities, said Gary Gladstone, vice-chair of Charities First Ontario.

Faced with the Nov. 10 vote, which is non-binding, municipal government must now weigh the potential political costs of approving gaming houses versus the economic benefits that gambling venues generate. Estimates advanced by Gladstone suggest that gaming house operators would invest from $4 to $7 million per site and create 400 jobs per venue.

Ontario charities would also be big winners under the new proposals, netting as much as $170 to $180 million per year. Charities First Ontario, which includes organizations like the March of Dimes, Easter Seals, sports clubs, churches, synagogues and BBYO, believes the proposed new regime would be an important component in the fundraising activities of member groups, Gladstone said.

Under the current system, charities are entitled to operate for three consecutive days in any one location before moving on. Close to 1,000 charities ran three-day events in 1996 but their take was substantially reduced by the costs associated with temporary locations. Banquet halls charged "exorbitant rents," security was lax, moving was expensive and advertising costs (to inform gamers of new locations) were high. In addition, charities were faced with the uncertainty of not knowing whether another group planned to move in next door to their new location, Gladstone said.



Gary Gladstone

Under the provisions that take effect on April 1, 36 full-time charity gaming clubs and eight seasonal venues will be situated in industrial and commercial areas. They would operate in facilities about half the size of hockey rinks and approved charities would sponsor gaming in those sites on a rotating basis. Blackjack and poker tables along with video lottery terminals (VLTs) would be featured, Gladstone said.

Ontario charities stand to see a huge jump in revenues under the new regime. Currently, costs eat into revenues so much that charities net about 10 percent of the gross take, or about $10 million per year. Under the new system, they would still receive 50 percent of table revenues, but also get 10 percent of VLT sums. Charities stand to gain as much as $80 million from table revenues and $100 million from VLTs.

Those are huge sums to charities that have found it difficult to raise funds in recent years. "Charities see their funding base eroding from government and donors, [and competition] from other forms of gaming, while their expenses are going up," Gladstone said.

He acknowledged that for many people, gaming has negative connotations. "A lot of municipalities think they're the death of you and that VLTs are the crack cocaine of gaming," he said.

But Gladstone, who also serves as chief fundraiser for BBYO, said, "We look at it as good entertainment and as a way to raise money for charities. Just because some people are alcoholic doesn't mean you get prohibition."

Despite last week's vote, he's "cautiously optimistic" that municipalities will approve the facilities, though none have yet been constructed. Charities First will lobby hard for the changes and try to clear up public misconceptions that colored the municipal vote, he added.

Megamayor-elect Mel Lastman called proposed changes to charity gaming a money grab by the provincial government and he expressed surprise that no charities had approached him to discuss the issue.

"Not one charity has come to me and said they want charity casinos. Not one," he told *The CJN*'s Ron Csillag.

"You know why? Because there's nothing much in it for them. The province is grabbing it all. This is money in the province's pocket and no one else's. It's a headache for us. It's a headache for the municipality and the charities aren't going to make any more money."

Fully versed today in the world of gaming, Gladstone started as the rawest of rookies. Back in the mid-1980s, while serving as the president of the newly founded Maven lodge of B'nai Brith Canada (BBC), he and two friends, Carey Miller and Elliott Snitman, ran Bingo games to raise money for the lodge and B'nai Brith.

Gladstone was on the BBYO board when BBC announced it would no longer fund the youth group. BBYO looked to gaming to help fund its activities.

Many other Jewish charitable organizations rely on gaming for funds, including various synagogues, community centres and sports organizations, he added.

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Viktor Ullmann

An allegory on the nature of fascism and the low value it places on human life, Ullmann's chamber opera *The Emperor of Atlantis* was in its final days of rehearsal at the concentration camp of Terezin when an SS delegation found the satire in the piece too close for comfort—it was never performed. Shortly afterwards the "model ghetto" was deemed to have outlived its usefulness and nearly all the composers and artists in the camp were sent to their deaths.

Image: *Life of Prominent*, Fritta/Fritz Taussig

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A Message to CJN Snowbirds

If you will be spending all or part of this winter outside of Canada, there are three options available to you regarding delivery of your Canadian Jewish News.

1/ Continue regular delivery to your home, and arrange for Canada Post to forward The CJN on with your other mail each week.

2/ Advise our Circulation Department to suspend delivery until your return to Canada with no weeks lost in your subscription period.

3/ Arrange with our Circulation Department to redirect The CJN to your winter address at a cost of $5.00 per month.

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Ben Wicks sheds light on Israel's founding generation

By ADAM BELLO
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When Bloomsbury Publishing of London asked Ben Wicks to write about the birth of modern day Israel, they thought he would produce a historical account and inject his own brand of wit.

But with *Dawn of the Promised Land: The Creation of Israel*, Wicks found the undertaking was not just a matter of breathing new life into events, but of drawing out the life-blood flowing through those events.

"I undertook the book from a journalistic perspective and I was absolutely astonished at the history and events surrounding Israel's beginnings," said the Canadian author and cartoonist. "I found myself not only telling the tale for one audience, but for two.

"For the Jewish people, I thought it was important to bring to light the real-life details of how these individuals from different backgrounds worked together to turn a malaria-ridden swamp land into a land of their own," he said. "I think these stories offer a sense of pride and heritage to be passed along to their children and grandchildren.

"At the same time, I felt the book speaks to the gentile community, in that it may better understand why the Israeli Jew was so adamant about hanging on to this land, and what personal costs had to be paid."

Printed in Canada by Stoddart Publishers of Toronto, *Dawn of the Promised Land* is being released this month to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel.

Beginning work on the book in the fall of last year, Wicks drew on interviews with members of Israel's

Ben Wicks

founding generation in Israel, Canada and the United States.

Describing in detail how Jews from many walks of life migrated to the former Palestine, the book examines how individual sacrifices were made based on split second decisions and the unwavering belief in Israel as a greater goal.

"These people were anxious to die for this country because they believed whatever they had to endure to get there was worth it if it meant a better life for their children," said Wicks at the book's recent launch at the Leah Posluns Theatre during the Jewish Book Fair.

"They made wealth and class secondary; doctors and scientists worked shoulder-to-shoulder with people who could not even read because they knew the work had to be done. So division by status disappeared.

"From the VIP to the UIP [unimportant person], you learn about the people who struggled through the exodus, crossing deserts and coming out of every part of Europe. It is through their voices you get to understand the people themselves, and the breed of person that lived there day to day."

Telling the story in multiple voices, Wicks creates a chronology of events starting at the close of World War I and ending with Israel's independence.

"No other country in the world has had such an independence day as Israel," Wicks said. "Being in a position where neighboring countries are ready to pull the trigger as soon as a pen stroke touches the paper, every minute of those 24-hour periods is a story worthy of capturing, in both its tension and its humor."

Wicks also offers cultural and cross-cultural analysis. Comparing Israel at the time of independence to the Tower of Babel, with people speaking 60 different languages, Wicks highlights cultural differences between Jews, especially in kibbutz life, and the willing acceptance of a common culture and language in Hebrew.

And while Wicks eagerly speaks of the character of Israeli pioneers, he said the books tells something more about the human spirit.

"Writing the book gave me an insight into the potential human beings have to do good," he said. "When people can care for each other or work towards common goals, it can knock down any wall that stands in their way."

Just prior to the launch of *Dawn of the Promised Land*, Wicks collaborated with the Canadian Cancer Society to produce a 96-page booklet *So You've Got Cancer*. The tongue-in-cheek publication dealing with the emotional impact of cancer on individuals and their families is free. Call 1-888-939-3333.

Play on Orthodox/secular interaction

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — *Twist of Faith*, an engaging play about the interaction between an Orthodox and secular Jew, comes to the Toronto area for one performance this week as a fundraiser for congregation Kehillat Shaarei Torah of Toronto.

Sam, a pony-tailed secular Jew who makes piles of money as a commodities broker, is eager for a hot date with his non-Jewish girlfriend, Lola. But his plans come to a halt when his Porsche gets stuck in the heart of the Orthodox community in Boro Park, N.Y,. during a blizzard.

He is rescued by Baruch, a black-hatted yeshivah student, only five minutes before the onset of Shabbat.

Trapped within the Orthodox world for Sabbath, Sam endures an agonizingly peaceful day without hot water, phones, television or other modern conveniences and distractions. Despite himself, he becomes entranced by the niggunim, the sweet wordless songs of the rebbe.

Baruch, ironically, is intrigued by Sam's fast-paced life and his facility with investing money. Both have strong memories of their encounter, and their lives change because of it.

Playwrights Matt Okin and Michael Gurin make sure there are many twists of fate as well as faith in this work, which received good notices in the New York area, Washington, D.C., and elsewhere.

The *Washington Jewish Week* called it "a witty, accessible meeting between two distant streams of Judaism" and the *Long Island Jewish World* said it was "highly entertaining and spiritually uplifting."

Rabbi Anchelle Perl of the Long Island Chabad called *Twist of Faith* "an evening of meaningful drama, comedy, depth and Torah insight."

Twist of Faith is being performed at the Markham Theatre, 171 Town Centre Blvd., on Nov. 24 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $100 for sponsors, which includes a post-performance reception. Sponsors are entitled to a tax receipt. Tickets costing $36 and $25 (plus a $2.14 booking fee) are also available. For reservations, call 416-229-2600.

Kehillat Shaarei Torah is located at 2640 Bayview Ave. in Toronto.

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

MENORAH RAFFLE HELPS PRESERVE HERITAGE

The Centre for Jewish Art of the Hebrew University is raffling off a Chanukah lamp by international artist **Moshe Zabari** to support its mission of documenting endangered Jewish art and architecture around the world.

A total of 2,500 tickets will be sold at $100 each for the menorah, which is valued at $23,000. The draw is scheduled for Dec. 21.

Founded in 1979, the Centre for Jewish Art claims to be the only institution in the world that is systematically and comprehensively recording the art treasures of the Jewish world. In 1998, the centre plans expeditions to Bosnia, Tunisia, Greece and Ukraine.

International Society for Jewish Art, Inc., 914-528-7324.

* * *

Linda Frum

Books & Bagels: The Bloor JCC's series of Sunday literary gatherings continues Nov. 23 when **Linda Frum** – author of a best-selling guide to Canadian universities, producer of the award-winning documentary *Ms Conceptions* (1996) and famous daughter – reads from *Barbara Frum: A Daughter's Memoir*. 11 a.m., 750 Spadina Ave. Bloor JCC members free, non-members $8. Coffee and bagels will be served. 416-924-6211.

* * *

Yiddishland Cafe: This popular venue presents an evening of Yiddish music with accordionist-pianist **Sasha Luminsky** and clarinetist **Martin van de Ven**, both masters of klezmer. Workmen's Circle, 471 Lawrence Ave. W. Nov. 22, 8 p.m. Doors open 7:30. Reserved seating. $10. 416-635-0720.

A few tickets may be available for $12 at the door.

* * *

Book News: Winnipeg historian **Allan Levine** has produced *The Blood Libel*, a novel set in Winnipeg's lively north end in 1911. The story centres around Sam Klein, a streetwise manager of a brothel who investigates the murder of a young Polish girl, a crime that has been blamed on a north-end rabbi. Published by Great Plains Publications, Winnipeg.

* * *

Young Composer's Award: The Guild of Temple Musicians is offering a cash prize of $1,800 to composers 35 years or younger (as of Dec. 1, 1997) for a set of two pieces with Hebrew texts drawn from the Sabbath evening liturgy, for "SAB" volunteer choir, with or without keyboard accompaniment.

Total duration should be seven to 10 minutes. Submissions should be postmarked no later than Dec. 1. For more details, contact Ben Steinberg, Temple Sinai, 210 Wilson Ave., Toronto M5M 3B1. 416-487-4161.

* * *

Comedy Show: Graeme Bing Kirkland and his jazz-funk ensemble kicks off a hilarious comedy show Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. at the Bloor JCC.

The Vilde Chaya Comedy Show features **Don Cullen, Ed Marion, David Zimmerman, Joyce Borenstein, Ian Sirota, Ophira Eisenberg** and **Ed Pollock**. $6 for members; $8 for non-members. Tickets available at the door. Cash bar. All proceeds go to benefit the Bloor JCC.

* * *

Arts Briefs: Celebrating the music and mayhem of legendary jazzman **Fats Waller**, the musical *Ain't Misbehavin'* runs Nov. 18 to 23 at the Markham Theatre, 1717 Town Centre Blvd. $20-$30. 905-305-SHOW. ...*I'll Be Back Before Midnight*, **Peter Colley's** play of suspense, murder and betrayal, is running to Nov. 28 at Solar Stage Lunchtime Theatre, 40 King. St. W. on the concourse level of the Scotia Plaza. $7.50. 416-368-8031...

York University graduate student **Michal Nahman** and local dentist **Harvey Cooperberg** have been signed to play feature roles in The Yorkminstrel's upcoming production of *Guys and Dolls*, Nov. 29 to Dec. 4 at the Leah Posluns Theatre. Good seats still available. 416-622-1971...Guitarist-pianist **Brian Katz** and clarinetist **Martin Van de Ven** perform klezmer classics at the Free Times Cafe (416-067-1078) on Nov. 23 at noon. Also at Mezzetta Cafe (416-658-5687) on Nov. 26, 9 p.m...

Etobicoke Musical Productions presents *Fiddler on the Roof*, Nov. 28 to Dec. 13 at Burnhamthorpe C.I., 500 The East Mall, Etobicoke. Reservations, 416-248-0410....**Judy & David**, top children's entertainers, perform at the City Playhouse, Bathurst south of Hwy. 7, Nov 23, 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. 905-709-4057.

Jason Alexander reproduces urban art and city scenes

MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jason Alexander's representational paintings pulse with energy and color.

Modern urban canvases — darting taxicabs symbolizing commerce amid a cityscape of streets and buildings — also embody rural vistas which are a foil for the motion.

This juxtaposition of opposite intensified by adroit perspective, involves the viewer in a vibrant experience. There is life to be savored in the hum of Alexander's downtown.

Sometimes there is poignancy. A significant billboard (acrylic on outdoor vinyl), The City Is No Place For Children To Live, commissioned for Covenant House and sponsored by Nike of Canada and Mediacom, focuses on three homeless youths sitting on the curb as the traffic rolls by. To get the "feel"for this, Alexander spent some time undercover among the kids at Covenant House.

The artist outside his Queen Street studio.

***The Street* by Jason Alexander. Commissioned for Covenant House.**

The 33-year-old Torontonian, a graduate of the Ontario College of Art and Design, has risen in just a few years from struggling artist to a painter of international status. A workaholic, his originals and signature prints are in demand across North America and in Europe. There is also a growing market in Japan.

His city scenes reflect the mood outside his Queen St. West storefront studio but he is relocating to the Collingwood area where he will exchange urban for rural, indoors for outdoors, acrylics for oils. And, the workaholic will also add snowboarding to his lifestyle.

It will be interesting to see the next collection!

To view Jason's art work online refer to Web site: [www.galleryonthe web. com]

His serigraphs are available from the Liss Gallery, 978 Eglinton Ave. West.

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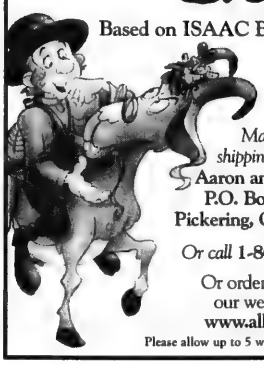

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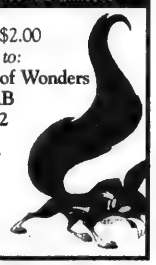

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
198 VACATION PROPERTIES-EXCH./SHARE
199 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
358 BRIDAL
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
386 DANCING
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
483 SKIING
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
545 WORD PROCESSING
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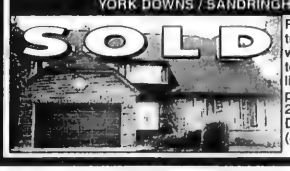

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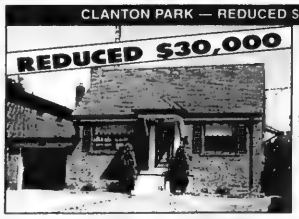

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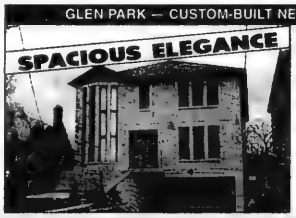

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Don Mills/Finch, Skymark, lux. condo, fully equip, 2 bdrms, 5 appls, indoor rec facil. Jan.-April,$1600./mo. 416-497-6270.

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BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
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631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Clanton Pk., 1 bdrm, bright bsmt, TTC, own entr, no smkr/pets. 416-633-5406.

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Beautiful 2050 sq. ft. yr. round home with privately owned 50' water lot. Country kit., stone f.p., sep. din. rm., 80' dock. New 24'x24' gar./wkshp.
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130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

1 bdrm, on the beach, fully furn, **Lauderdale By The Sea.** Dec. 6-Dec. 20. 416-739-6401.

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Lovely 2 bdrm, 2 bth, across from ocean, tennis, full secur, club, **163rd & Collins,** $65./day U.S.,min. 2 mos. 416-252-2521.

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Ocean Pavillion, 2 br., 2 bth., on ocean, w/lge. balc., Jan. & Feb. 416-785-9917.

Oceanfront, Pompano Beach, spotless 2 bdrm, 2 bth, all amen., for the season. Serious only, $2300./mo. U.S. 443-8909

S. Miami Beach, 1 bdrm. renov'd., pkg, near shops, restaurants, shul, $1100./mo. U.S. Bernice, 416- 667-8045.

Surfside on the Ocean, seasonal, min. 4-5 mos., $2000./mo. U.S., luxury 2 bdrm. conv., 2 bth, furn, walking dist. to Bal Harbour and Houses of Worship. Call 954-458-0913.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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SPECIALIST IN:
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143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.

Century Village, Deerfield, Sr. lady to share expenses of condo. with same. **416-785-5647.**

Opportunity awaits your get away dream free accommodation, Century Village, Deerfield Beach, Fla., Feb./Mar./Apr., share this 1 bdrm + condo. in exchange for light duties & companionship. Call Sharon Black, 416-444-1977

150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION

Cars/Vans transported by encl railcars/auto carriers across Canada, Florida, U.S. locations. **SEARAIL 1-800-282-9892.**

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Modern 2 bdrm. condo., **Ramat Gan/Tel Aviv,** fully furn., kosher kit., 7 mjr. appls. + jacuzzi, priv. pkg, close to shopping, transportation & beaches. $220K U.S. Call 416-787-7960.

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Apt. for rent in Jerusalem, beautiful 3 rm. apt., reno'd., fully furn, grdn, quiet neigh., **(nr. Rehavia),** avail immed. 416-223-5184, or 011-972-52-63-6732, or 011-972-2-625-8081(Israel).

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LAKE SIMCOE
South of Barrie
Vendor will consider offers between $559K & $648,876. Updated 2800 sq. ft. year-round retreat. 2/f/p's, 5 walk-outs, gazebo, boat house, heated pool, gorgeous lot 125'x300'. Vacant.
Call: PATTIE HARPER
Prudential Andrews Realty Group
416 - 213-7224 / 800-254-3695

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS
NEED A NANNY?
• **No Fee to Employer**
• Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
• Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
• We prepare all documents for you.
• We have a 100% Approval rate!
(416) 730-0127

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CLASSIFIED AD REP

The Canadian Jewish news

seeks a full-time, organized individual to work in the classified advertising department.

Applicants must have excellent English language and interpersonal skills, a pleasant telephone manner and an ability to deal with the pressure of deadlines. Basic MacIntosh experience an asset. Duties include taking ads over the phone, typing ads on computer, proofreading, invoicing and checking pages.

Fax résumé to (416) 391-0949
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245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Sr. bookkeeper for 35 yrs., manual system, including: trial bal, GST, PST, payroll. Wish to work P/T or at home. Please call Rhonda, 223-8275.

247 DAY CARE

Babysitter avail., live in or out. Call Lena, 416-439-1575.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

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RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly, cleaning. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
People you trust taking care of people you love.
We have live-in and live-out caregivers. We specialize in helping seniors, and people afflicted with Stroke, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
Honey Hecker
(416) 665-4229

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I will clean your house/apt, any day of the wk., anytime, also Sat. or Sun. Call 638-9654.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Lady avail. for cleaning work, days,homes,exp/refs. 745-2530

Loving & energetic. A babysitter, caregiver, housekeeper, caring for elderly, exp., refs. 733-3915, 905-770-6835 or 905-624-0808.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Young lady seeks position to take care of elderly, or babysitting, refs. Call 416-249-0061.

EC Access Employ. Agency Filipino owned. Low fee to employers. Nannies/Hskprs/Companions. **905-475-2518.**

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personaly interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
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416-789-3070

Harvscott Domestic Services
"Five stars above the rest"
Available: prof. cleaning ladies, nannies, housekeepers,party helpers. Exper. with refs. & legal. 905-771-7882.

Cleaning lady avail., houses & apts., 14 yrs. exp. in the Forest Hill area. Raquel,905-625-7608.

Cleaning lady avail, Mon.-Fri., reas. fees, exper. 658-8678.

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674** or **416-224-9907. #1 Domestic.**

Polish cleaning lady/housekeeper avail.,exper. 266-7208.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

A companion for elderly lady, (in Cote St. Luc), pref. Hungarian & English speaking. Can also accompany her to Florida for 3 mos. Jerry, 514-486-5227

257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE

Certif. HCA avail for work with elderly. Exper., refs. 724-4097.

HCA seeks work, in-home/inst., live-out,exc. refs. 416-650-6097

HCA with hospital, nursing home, private home exper., seeks steady position. Refs. & licensed. Call 604-3350.

Personal Support Worker (Certif. HCA) avail for work with elderly. Exper. & refs. 724-8440

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Bringing People Together. The top-rated service that puts your needs 1st. 905-731-5204.

CONNECT 123 Queen St. W. Box 160,Toronto,Ont. M5H 3M9

Jewish Singles Registry,over 1495 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

Looking to Meet a Single Prof.? **LADIES,** take advantage of our **FREE 6 mo. registration.** At A NEW CHANCE Jewish Dating Service. Ages 20-40 our specialty. Limited Time offer.
416-398-3991

The Jewish Dating Network. Money-Back Guarantee. All ages, local, caring counsellors.
Call 1-800-263-6831

264 SOCIAL ANNOUCEMENTS

Mazel Tov
Esther & Alan Turner
and Sarah & Ben Moshe
are delighted to announce the engagement of their children
ARLENE and RAFAEL
A summer wedding is planned.

264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLEIWAS/BARSKY. Terry & Leon Bleiwas are overjoyed to announce the arrival of their first grandchild, **Daniel Corey,** weighing in at 9 lbs., 1 oz., on November 5, 1997 at Mount Sinai Hospital. Paul and Sara Bleiwas are delighted first-time parents. Daniel is the second grandchild for a very happy Lorne & Lesley Barsky. He is the first great-grandchild for a very proud Zeidie Albert Bleiwas & Bubba Merle Young. Happy aunts and uncles include Lisa Bleiwas, Mark Bleiwas, Paula & Jeff Ashley and Joanna Barsky. A new playmate for first-cousin Max Elliot Ashley. Many other family members join us in welcoming the newest member of the Bleiwas and Barsky families.

CLASSIFIED AND SERVICE DIRECTORY
- CUSTOMER SERVICE -

The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as The CJN will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of The CJN. The CJN reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Deadline for all Classified/Service Directory ads is Wednesday, 8 days prior to the issue, by 4:00 pm.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

• CJN Boxes for Personal Companions Wanted ads are valid for 30 (thirty) days only (from 1st publication date). Replies must be received within this time frame in order to be forwarded to the correct CJN Box #.

Ladies-Gentlemen!? Julian can assist you to find relationships or friends. Call 782-7592

Lovely Jewish lady, classy, divorced, early 40's, blonde, attr., one adult son, dreams about love. CJN Box 6992.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Seeking individuals interested in starting Jewish renewal-oriented Havurah for worship, meditation, chanting, song, and study. Call Michael. 787-3449.

300 ARTICLES FOR SALE

Quality furniture: Andrew Malcolm 5-pce. bed set: 18-light chandalier, Colonial 7-pce. dinette set: Spanish Provincial sofa & 2 chairs: fam. rm.-2-8 ft. sofas & 1 chair: 2 brocade sofa chairs: 4 Kashmir indian rugs. All mint condition. **Private.** 416-783-2205.

Hand knitted sweaters for sale. Call 905-881-1526, after 6 pm.

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE UNVEILING

330 OBITUARIES

ABRAMS, Marie - on Oct. 31, 1997, late of 7825 Bayview Ave., #613.
FREI, Daisy - on Oct. 31, 1997, late of 605 Finch Ave. W., #1906.
NOIK, David - on Oct. 31, 1997, late of 2 Mossgrove Trail.
DEITEL, Alexander - on Nov. 1, 1997, late of 4266 Bathurst St., #902.
SHAIN, Rose - on Nov. 1, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
CHERNOFF, Roy - on Nov. 4, 1997, late of 65 Madison Ave., #1.
DELMAR, Sam - on Nov. 5, 1997, late of 99 Burke Dr.
GLASER, Pearl - on Nov. 5, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
GLAZER, Anne - on Nov. 6, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
GORANSON, Richard - on Nov. 6, 1997, late of 9 Glen Castle St.
TREIBER, Sarah - on Nov. 6, 1997, late of 17 Ava Rd.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

ARMSTRONG, Betty - on Oct. 30, 1997, late of 14 Saranac Blvd.
KRAUSS, Emil - on Oct. 30, 1997, late of 765 Wilson Heights Blvd.
CUGELMAN, Ruth - on Oct. 31, 1997.
JACOBSON, Irving - on Oct. 31, 1997.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

STARKMAN, Helen Essie - on Nov. 1, 1997, late of 6200 Bathurst St.
WIZMAN, Ida Golda - on Nov. 1, 1997, late of 36 Leacock Crt.
FELDMAN, Allan Leon - on Nov. 2, 1997, late of 59 Newlin Cres.
BLOCH, Lillie - on Nov. 3, 1997.
KIRSCHNER, Andrei - on Nov. 4, 1997.
MONHEIT, Marion - on Nov. 4, 1997.
STITSKY, Dianne Roslyn - on Nov. 4, 1997, late of 7825 Bayview Ave.
ZELBST, Lubov - on Nov. 5, 1997.
KLEINMAN, Rabbi Irving - on Nov. 6, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
ROSENBERG, Abram - on Nov. 6, 1997, late of 80 Antibes Dr.
LITTLE, Charles - on Nov. 7, 1997, late of 15 Canyon Ave.
SWITZMAN, Max - on Nov. 7, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
CHESKES, Gerald - on Nov. 8, 1997, late of 317 Wilmington Ave.
DIAMOND, Jack - on Nov. 8, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
HOROWITZ, Joseph - on Nov. 8, 1997, late of 33 Wilmington Ave.
KOGAN, Boris - on Nov. 8, 1997.
RECHES, Herman - on Nov. 8, 1997, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W.
BILCHIK, Simon - on Nov. 9, 1997, late of 1201 Steeles Ave. W.
REMBACH, Joyce - on Nov. 9, 1997, late of 10 Tangreen Crt.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

IDA GLICK ז"ל

loving wife of the late Chazzan David Glick, mother of Earl, Norman, Danny, Srul and Elaine Neila Carlebach

will take place

Sunday, November 23rd at 11:00 p.m.

Beth Tzedec Memorial Park

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

338 SHIVA CATERING

milk 'n honey
THE DAIRY RESTAURANT
SAME DAY SERVICE
*Tasteful Presentation
*Hot/Cold Platters and Full Course Meals
• DELIVERY AVAILABLE
789-7651
3457 BATHURST ST.

KING SOLOMON'S CATERING
COR
630-0303
SHIVA CATERING

DEADLINE FOR SERVICE DIRECTORY ADS ARE WEDNESDAY, 4:00 P.M., 8 DAYS PRECEDING THE ISSUE.

SERVICE DIRECTORY/CLASSIFIED
- CUSTOMER SERVICE -

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KOSHER CITY COR

CHAI FRESH CHICKEN LEGS backs attached, lb. 1.89

UNGER'S FROZEN GEFILTE FISH 680 g. 5.99

MIGDAN CHOCOLATE WAFERS 500 g. 1.39

MIGDAL CHEESE SLICES 3 lb. / 108 slices 13.99

STELLA DORO SWISS FUDGE COOKIES 250 g. 1.99
LABISCOTTE RICE CAKES asst. varieties .89
HERSHEY CHOCOLATE CHIPS 300 g. 1.89
SMUCKERS DOUBLE-FRUIT APRICOT JAM 500 g. 2.49
MEDALLION MUSHROOM PIECES & STEMS 10 oz. .79
MIGDAL MARGARINE STICKS 1 lb. 1.79
HADDAR 6-PACK CHOCOLATE COVERED WAFERS *Perfect for school!* .99
KITOV or NOSHKEZ SUPER SNACKS 3/1.00
UNCLE BEN'S RICE 2 KG. bag 4.49
BEIGEL SUPER PRETZELS 200 g. *So good one bag is never enough!* 2/.99
SARDO ASSORTED BEANS, CHICKPEAS, ETC. 19 oz. .69
SCOTT NAPKINS 150-pack 1.39

OUR VERY OWN POTATO CHIPS 7 oz. .99

THE JOYS OF FREE DELIVERY

FACT: The average person spends 150 hours a year shopping. At $15.00 per hour, that's **$45.00 a week.**

YOU DO THE CALLING, WE'LL DO THE SHLEPPING!

For great same-day service, call us at 782-6788

P.S.: Our produce is FULLY GUARANTEED. If you're not completely satisfied, we will refund you — no questions asked.

3515 BATHURST STREET • (416) 782-6788

Specials valid Tues. Nov. 18 – Sun. Nov. 30. We reserve the right to limit quantities.

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BEST AVAILABLE RATES
For Personalized
Planning Strategies
Call (416) 787-4517
SB SHERR, BERGSTEIN &C & CRACKOWER

Sports

R.R.S.P. R.R.I.F. ANNUITY
BEST AVAILABLE RATES
For Personalized
Planning Strategies
Call (416) 787-4517
SB SHERR, BERGSTEIN &C & CRACKOWER

CHAT alumni raise funds for tournament

A living tribute to Israel Becker

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Stage 1 is complete, stage 2 gets under way in early December.

About two weeks ago, 160 of the tallest grads produced by the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT) gathered for a fundraising basketball tournament. The hoopsters, divided among 13 teams and including the current edition of the CHAT Tigers as well as a teachers team, raised around $2,000 towards the CHAT Israel Becker Invitational Basketball Tournament. End phase 1.

Phase 2 tips off on Dec. 3 and runs until Dec. 7 as 10 men's teams and from four to six women's teams participate in the invitational tournament, which is fast becoming an annual event. The tournament, which will be held at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, is named in honor of Israel Becker, a CHAT alumni who was killed in a car accident three years ago. Becker was known for his devotion to the Jewish community and his passion for sports, particularly basketball, said Josh Sugar, a CHAT grad who coordinated the alumni tournament along with Eitan Mammon.

The tournament is conceived as a "living tribute to Israel and his zest for life," Sugar stated.

Members of the 1988-89 CHAT alumni team are all smiles after finishing first in the invitational tournament for the second year in a row. Seen here (from left): Howard Buckstein, Elliot Birnboim, Joseph Garten, Richard Kaminker, Mike Tylman, Jeff Raphael, Rob Eklove. Bottom: Mike Citron.

Confirmed participants in the men's invitational tourney include: Columbus Torah Academy (Ohio), Bialik High School (Montreal), Or Chaim (Toronto), Akiva Hebrew Day School (Detroit), Hebrew Academy (Montreal), Yeshiva Beit Yitzchak (Hamilton), Ramaz (New York) and CHAT.

In addition to the on-court action, players will participate in a Shabbaton program, a tour of Toronto, an award ceremony and a banquet.

"This tournament will not only be a chance for young boys and girls to have a great time and showcase their talents, it has proven to be an opportunity to promote Jewish identity through athletic, religious, cultural, Zionist and social activities. This tournament can continue to go a long way towards fostering new links and new friendships among our respective communities," Sugar said.

Hosting an event on the scale envisioned is an expensive proposition. That's where the alumni fundraising tournament comes in, said Sugar, a member of the 1990 Tigers team. Each team anted-up $300 towards costs of the invitational, he added.

Members of the women's winning team included: Michelle Bendayan, Jacklyn Wolfman, Amanda Suchter, Ruth Cadesky, Lara Rosenberg, Shayna Greenwald, Liane Porepa, Talia Phillips (captain). Adena Scheer, Lorrie Plonka, Gillian Spergel and Lauren Rotenberg. The team was coached by Aubrey Zimmerman.

For the second year in a row, the '90 men's squad lost the championship game to the1988-89 team, which included: Howard Buckstein, Elliot Birnboim, Joseph Garten, Richard Kaminker, Mike Tylman, Jeff Raphael, Rob Eklove and Mike Citron.

Bet you never thought you could have the Stanley Cup at your Barmitzvah.

Well, at the Hockey Hall of Fame you can!

The Hockey Hall of Fame is a spectacular venue for any function, but particularly for a batmitzvah/barmitzvah. Elegantly catered by Al Salomon, Stephen Field and the team at Marigolds & Onions, your event is sure to be truly unforgettable. For a FREE guided tour and more information call Janice Barrina of the Hockey Hall of Fame at (416) 360-7735 or Al Salomon of Marigolds & Onions at (416) 256-4882 today!

The Stanley Cup, circa 1893.

2700 Dufferin St.
Unit 20, Toronto
Fax: (416) 256-7733

MARIGOLDS AND ONIONS LTD CATERING

30 Yonge St.
BCE Place, Toronto
www.hhof.com

Marigolds & Onions and the Hockey Hall of Fame.
The right team for your special time.

Series included Sukkah

By FAYGIE LEVY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — There was something new to go along with the traditional peanuts and Cracker Jacks at this year's World Series – a sukkah.

The sukkah mobile, a portable sukkah perched atop a U-Haul truck, greeted baseball fans as they arrived at Pro Player Stadium in Miami, home to the Florida Marlins, before game 2 of the Series.

The sukkah, with Jewish music playing from loudspeakers and signs welcoming fans to the "official sukkah" of the World Series, was sponsored by Chabad of South Broward, Fla.

This was the first time a sukkah mobile, which Lubavitch started in the 1970s to allow people to observe the mitzvot of Sukkot, was at a World Series.

Rabbi Raphael Tennenhaus, executive vice-president of Chabad in South Broward, said he picked the World Series as a a place to park the sukkah mobile because the jovial mood of the crowds matched the spirit of the Sukkot holiday, which is also called the time of happiness.

He also compared the unity of fans rooting for the Marlins to the unity of Jews when they gather in a sukkah.

Ten yeshivah students served as hosts. They showed people how to use a lulav and etrog that are shaken together after reciting the blessing.

More than 500 baseball fans took advantage of the sukkah, Rabbi Tennenhaus said.

For some, it was the first time they had held a lulav and etrog. These people had "to go to the World Series to fulfil the mitzvah of lulav and etrog," Tennenhaus said.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A	B	C		A	K	A	B	A		E	T	H	E	L
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The Inside Back

Tom's Place

since 1958

TOM'S "LAST ON THE LIST" SALE!

'Tis the season for gift giving, but why leave yourself out? Nov. 26th-30th, the Bloor JCC will host the **Tom's Place** million-dollar inventory clear-out. With prices 60% to 80% off Tom's already lower-than-retail prices, you too can afford a new look for the holidays! Best of all, your purchase is a present to the Bloor JCC because a portion of the sale proceeds on Thursday, Friday & Sunday will be donated to their capital campaign.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S DESIGNER FASHIONS REDUCED TO BELOW DISCOUNT PRICES!

LEATHER COATS FROM $149.99!
MEN'S & WOMEN'S SUITS FROM $99.99!
JACKETS FROM $49.99! **PANTS** FROM $29.99!
SKIRTS FROM $19.99! **BLOUSES** FROM $9.99!
TIES & BELTS FROM $9.99!

NOV. 26th-30th at the
BLOOR JCC
750 Spadina Ave., across from the Spadina subway station

HOURS:
Wed-Fri., Nov. 26-28 11AM until 8PM
Saturday, Nov. 29 11AM until 7PM
Sunday, Nov. 30 11AM until 6PM

BloorJCC

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

HERB CAPLAN

WE SELL Whirlpool FOR LESS

1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

BROCCOLI SALAD

THIS IS A FANTASTIC COMPANY SALAD!

2 bunches broccoli (florets only)	1 cup red seedless grapes
1/2 cup roasted sunflower seeds	1 cup diced red onion
1/2 cup raisins	
Dressing	1 cup no fat or low fat mayo
3 tblsp. white vinegar	1/4 cup white sugar

Combine dressing ingredients. Mix salad ingredients together. Pour dressing over salad. Can be prepared a day in advance.

About families

Dear Susan,

My parents are newly separated. Despite this (or perhaps because of this) they have indicated that they wish to have our two youngsters spend time with them during winter break. How should we go about negotiating this process?

Dear Reader,

Thank you for sharing your dilemma about the holidays.

You need to determine what is in the best interests of your children, based on an assessment of their fundamental physical and emotional needs. How capable is each grandparent, either individually or together, of meeting these needs? As their parents, your are ultimately responsible for ensuring that your children's best interests are addressed. The decision is particularly important if you have young children who require constant attention.

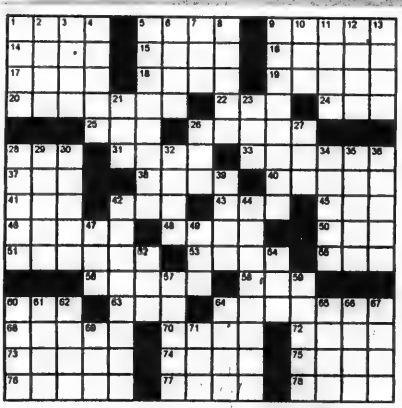
The first issue that must be addressed is the basic "configuration" of the visit. Will your children be with each grandparent separately, or are they prepared (and are they able) to put aside their differences and accept joint responsibility for the care of your children? Also, should your children embark on the visit together, or separately. (i.e., one with each grandparent).

The decision must be made after thorough discussion with your parents, your spouse and your children. Carefully assess your parents' ability to ensure that their differences do not impact on their care of the children. Remember that children can either help parents (and grandparents) engineer the transition from one life situation to another, or they can be innocent pawns in a vicious, ongoing struggle. You *cannot* let your children become the victims of your own parents.

Finally, be sure that any decision you make has the support of the children. After all, it is their holiday that is at stake.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

The Canadian Jewish news CROSSWORD PUZZLE The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. House for Avram
5. Actor Hackman
9. Edomite king
14. E'er to Peretz
15. Shemini Atzeret hope
16. Moses on the mount
17. Chanukah days
18. Ellis or Emerald
19. Desert delight
20. Bridge to Jordan
22. Radioman Allen
24. Wiggling tref fish
25. Reason for shiva
26. Israeli neighbor
28. Eve's origin
31. ___ Brak
33. Like the second son
37. Tel Aviv to Jerusalem (dir)
38. Tsitsit site
40. Suez or Panama
41. Dreidel letter
42. Ashdod to Be'er Sheba (dir)
43. Sacrifice residue
45. Jonas Salk's Org.?
46. Hasidic worship
48. Bris must
50. Biblical fishing device
51. New Year's noisemaker
53. Bitter Seder dish
55. Hester Street time zone
56. Change for a NIS
58. Hebrew letter
60. Egyptian snake
63. Tay-Sachs carrier
64. Adloyadah (plural)
68. Queen of __
70. Tribe
72. "__ Story", Segal
73. Feast of lots
74. Exodus
75. Joseph's dream
76. Stairs
77. Hebrew letters
78. Observe Shabbat

Down

1. Shoe maker
2. Hitler and Haman
3. Sedaka or Simon
4. Attempted
5. Fried skins and onion
6. Effortless
7. Bubkes (Eng)
8. Edomite
9. Pianist
10. __ Carte
11. Finished
12. Frank
13. Monty Hall specialty
21. Point of a scribe
23. Bo Belinsky stat
26. Emcee Caeser
27. Alias
28. Shiva garments
29. Asher's second
30. Sculptor
32. Issachar city
34. Meshugge (Eng)
35. Items on Schindler's List
36. Super kosher
39. Saks or Macy's event
42. Bronfman company
44. Bilhah and Zilpah
47. Finance degree
49. Got ya!!
52. Like David from Saul
54. __ Kochba revolt
57. Maccabiah activities
59. Woman of ___
60. Cleo killers
61. Close
62. "Abba" to Marceau
64. Ache
65. Atop the shul?
66. Ma'ariv times
67. Transmitted
69. Marceau character
71. 61

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 46.)

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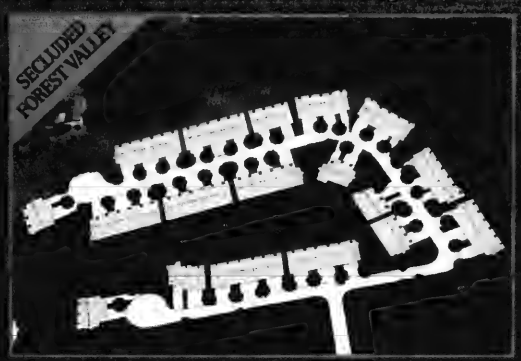

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Letter-writing campaign blames Jews for labor strife. *Page 5*

Shortage of nurses causes Branson to shorten emergency hours. *Page 6*

Tzedek, a group of socially conscious Jews fight Ontario Tories' agenda. *Page 7*

National

Conversion bill to create new problems, CZF told. *Page 32*

Arts

Plenty of Jewish authors present at 18th International Authors Festival. *Page 38*

Party Planner

Party-making tips from the city's leading experts. *Section B*

Index

Coast to Coast 3
GTA 4
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 24
Just Between Us 27
On Campus 29
Health 33
International 35
Travel, Arts & Business 38
Classified 42
Sports 46
Crossword 47
Ask Lisa 47

Shabbat: Toldot
Candlelighting: 4:25
Cheshvan 28, 5758
Havdallah: 5:30

Settlements to continue

Israel to expand East Jerusalem presence: PM

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has pledged to continue expanding the Jewish presence in eastern Jerusalem.

The prime minister made the statement Sunday after a visit to the site where a Jewish yeshivah student was gunned down and another seriously wounded last week in Jerusalem's Old City.

Gabriel Hirshberg, 26, was killed Nov. 19 by automatic gunfire as he was returning to his dormitory with another student, Binyamin Dell, 18, after studying late at the Ateret Cohanim Yeshiva in the Old City.

Dell was seriously wounded.

"We will honor the memory of Gabi by our settlements of Jerusalem, and our development and building," Netanyahu said.

Israeli security officials suspect that Palestinian police may have been involved in the attack because Hirshberg and Dell were fired on with Kalashnikov rifles, which are carried by Palestinian police, the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv* reported.

Meanwhile, the director of the Ateret Cohanim Yeshiva, Mati Dan, said his group would respond to Hirshberg's murder by having 18 more Jewish families move into the Muslim Quarter before the end of the year.

On Sunday, some 20 yeshivah students began clearing and renovating one such building.

Dan denied reports that police had forcibly removed the students from the site, saying they left at his directive.

The yeshivah is partially funded by American millionaire Irving Moskowitz, who has bought several homes from Arabs in eastern Jerusalem as part of a campaign to settle Jews there.

Palestinian officials denounced Netanyahu's declaration about building in Jerusalem as a further provocation.

In further violence, an attacker stabbed a yeshivah student in the Muslim Quarter.

The student, who suffered minor wounds to his neck, told police he believed his attacker was a Palestinian.

Jerusalem was at the centre of a dispute last week between the Palestinian Authority and Israel, which vowed to thwart plans by the self-rule government to carry out a census of Palestinians living in the eastern portion of the city.

The self-rule authority agreed in the Oslo accords not to conduct any activity in the eastern part of the capital.

Jewish seminary students grieve and pray at the site where one of their fellow students was killed in a post-midnight shooting last week that left another seriously wounded. Israel lashed out at Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority over the shooting with automatic weapons.
[RNS/Reuters photo]

Holocaust memorial unveiled

By MITCHELL DANOW
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Greece has dedicated a memorial to a once-thriving community of Jews that perished in the Holocaust — a move that some said was aimed at repairing the country's ties with Israel.

In a ceremony Sunday in Salonika, Greek President Costis Stephanopoulos unveiled the monument dedicated to the approximately 50,000 Jews from the northern port city who were killed during the 1941 to 1945 Nazi occupation of Greece.

The 10-foot-tall menorah-shaped bronze monument — in which a group of people are depicted reaching heavenward from the flames of the death camps — was erected in a central square in Salonika where local Jews were rounded up before being deported to concentration camps.

Greek Holocaust survivors, three Greek ministers, a U.S. congressional delegation, Israeli representatives and Jewish communal officials from around the world attended the ceremony.

Israeli Health Minister Yehoshua Matza, referring to Salonika's large prewar Jewish population, told attendees, "It is no coincidence that the city was known as the Jerusalem of the Balkans."

Greek government officials said the memorial would help ease a series of misunderstandings with Israel, and put an end to accusations that Greece fostered anti-Semitism.

"It is an important event of historical memory, but also a settlement of misunderstandings" between Greece and the Jewish state, Culture Minister Evangelos Venizelos told reporters.

Greece, which has close relations with most Arab states, did not recognize Israel until the early 1990s and has been at odds with the Jewish state over a number of issues.

Most recently, Athens was upset by a defence agreement reached

Continued on page 37

INSIDE

Recalling the vote to partition Palestine 50 years ago.
Please see page 9.

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Clinton appeals to Israel and the PA — please see page 35

The News in Brief

CANADA

Price Library Donated

TORONTO — The library of the late Rabbi Abraham A. Price has been donated to the University of Toronto library by his estate. His library consists of approximately 3,000 volumes and is especially strong in responsa and other legal works. It also includes several hundred books printed before 1800.

The collection is available for consultation at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library of the U of T, 120 St. George St.

National Gallery Gift

OTTAWA — The National Gallery of Canada's collection of European art has been enhanced by the gift of an early masterpiece, *The Departure of Abraham for Canaan*, by the Venetian painter Jacopo Bassano. The work was created in 1570-71.

The gift was made by Mr. and Mrs. Michal Hornstein of Montreal in honor of Shirley Thomson's tenure as director.

ISRAEL

Gas Masks in Israel

JERUSALEM — Anxious Israelis have been flocking to gas mask distribution centres despite official assurances that the crisis in Iraq does not threaten Israel.

The Israel Defence Force last week reported a five-fold increase in the number of Israelis who are filing into the centres, spurred by concern that Iraq might launch missiles armed with chemical warheads at Israel.

An army spokesperson said that some 10,000 people were lining up at the centres daily, compared to the 2,500 who came before the recent crisis between Iraq and the United States.

Pinochet Gets Invitation

JERUSALEM — An Israeli company has invited former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet for a private visit to Israel in a bid to sell military vehicles to Chile's defence forces. Pinochet, who ruled Chile from 1973 to 1990, is currently commander of the army.

The Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* said the Foreign Ministry expressed reservations about hosting Pinochet for an official visit.

WORLD

Name Change

DALLAS — At its 36th biennial convention, the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods (NFTB) changed its name to the North American Federation of Temple Brotherhoods.

NFTB, an affiliate of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, is a coalition of over 250 Reform Jewish brotherhoods in North America.

A Call for Unity

NEW YORK — Leading rabbinic, lay and Zionist Orthodox organizations have joined together to issue a far-reaching statement calling for civility, tolerance and Jewish unity.

In a full-page ad in the Nov. 17 edition of *USA Today*, the Orthodox Union, the Rabbinical Council of America, Emunah of America, Poale Agudath Israel and Religious Zionists of America urged continued support for "the Israeli government-appointed Ne'eman Committee, to find common ground among Jews" and appealed to the Jewish people to "keep debate within the family."

Rioters Damage Shul

BRUSSELS — Young rioters have damaged an Orthodox synagogue and injured one person in Brussels.

The rioters tried to set fire to the synagogue's wooden door and threw stones at the building, according to authorities.

Claims Conference

NEW YORK — Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, urged Holocaust survivors who believe they have claims against wartime insurance companies to participate in an investigation being carried out by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

For information, contact the NAIC Working Group at Insurance Commissioner Deborah Senn, Attn: Janice Friebaum, P.O. Box 40255, Olympia, Wash., 98504-0255.

U.S. Sanctions

WASHINGTON — An Israeli citrus company owned by a former Mossad official has been sanctioned by the United States for doing business in Cuba on land expropriated from Americans.

The State Department announced last week that officials of the company, BM Group, will be barred from U.S. territory as a result of the company's violation of the 1996 Helms-Burton Act. The law mandates sanctions against any foreign national who is deemed to be using property confiscated from Americans in Cuba after Fidel Castro took power in 1959.

Swiss To Begin Payout

WASHINGTON — Swiss banks are planning to start paying out some dormant accounts belonging to Holocaust victims by the end of November. The announcement last week by a Swiss official comes just weeks ahead of a conference that will examine the ways American public institutions should deal with Swiss banks.

Postponing Independence Jubilee Kickoff

JERUSALEM — Is Israel ready to celebrate 50 years of statehood?

"The plans are in a state of chaos, and unless something is done very soon to put them back on track, it could be a disappointing year," said one official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The source said the budget for the commemorations has been halved from $70 million to $35 million, but denied reports that it had been slashed to $14 million.

Jubilee planners have been facing budgetary problems, bureaucratic infighting and public indifference – complications that may force Israel to postpone the start of its 50th anniversary celebrations for several months.

Government officials concede that the majority of events have not yet been scheduled, even though festivities are supposed to be launched Dec. 23, the first night of Chanukah.

The array of problems has become so acute that Israeli officials are now seriously considering delaying the year-long series of events until Independence Day, on the Hebrew date of the 4th of Iyar, which falls next year on April 30, and scaling back their planned celebrations in the Diaspora.

Plans for the jubilee began to fall apart earlier this year, when key officials on the organizing committee started squabbling.

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Social service cuts put 'burden' on Jewish groups

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —The Mike Harris government's policy of cutting funds for welfare and other social services is putting an "intolerable burden" on Jewish agencies in Toronto, Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple, told the executive of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), Ontario region, recently.

Tzedek fights Tories' agenda
See page 7

"The provincial government is morally obligated to provide for the poor, weak and sick," Rabbi Marmur said.

Two groups, one of religious leaders, and another of ethnocultural organizations initiated by the CJC, are "frustrated" by Harris's refusal to meet them, he said.

Later, Harold Brief, a Congress executive, said Jewish agencies are awaiting a meeting with the premier to discusss urgent issues of underfunding for social services.

Rabbi Marmur said he was "alarmed" by the number of middle-class people who are taking advantage of a meal and a bed in the temple's "Out of the Cold" program.

"The problems of homelessness and hunger are as much in your neighborhood as they are downtown," he said.

The efforts of 40 churches and the temple to house the homeless will not be enough "and snow is on the way."

Religious leaders decided to speak out publicly because the situation is so urgent and because the premier refused to meet with them, he said.

Reform shuns racists: Manning

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Reform leader Preston Manning vowed to "do everything possible" to ensure that no one with racist or anti-Semitic views is allowed into the party.

Speaking at a Jewish Business Network (JBN) dinner, Manning said, as a boy, he learned this lesson from his late father, Ernest. He recalled how his father, while Social Credit leader during the Depression and later as Alberta premier, "purged" the party of a small element that held "conspiracy theories" about the cause of the country's economic collapse.

The elder Manning went so far as to fire one cabinet minister and some MLAs for their views, and was honored by B'nai Brith for his efforts, the Reform leader said.

"There are those with racist views who will pick on a new party, particularly in times of stress, thinking they can infiltrate and influence it. The best way to inoculate against that is to encourage people who believe in civil liberties and opposing racial prejudice" to join the party.

He encouraged scrutiny of the party's policy and members by anyone concerned that Reform is unfriendly to minorities. "Read our policies, talk to our people, ask the hard questions. If you can show us anything in our statement of principles or policy that is in any way discriminatory, we'll change it."

He boasted that the Reform caucus has more ethnic members than the Bloc Québécois, NDP and Conservatives combined. "We're making progress, but we're conscious that we have to be more representative."

It was a relaxed and conciliatory Manning who addressed the sold-out audience of over 200 at a kosher restaurant in Cote St. Luc. He expressed the wish that the Jewish community get to know him and his party firsthand and asked for its advice in the development of the party's positions. He invited the audience to ask questions on any concerns they have.

He noted that the Jewish community, with its strong tradition of family and volunteerism, could have valuable input into Reform's social policy.

He ventured that there might be a natural affinity between Jews and his party because both are concerned with reform. "In every field, from science and music to law and politics, Jews have been reformers in the sense of changing society for the better. They have had the courage to act and take all the criticism that comes from advocating systemic change."

Elsewhere, Manning reiterated the partitionist position that if "Canada is divisible by a democratic vote then Quebec is divisible by the same mechanism" – or any other province.

"The federal government must have a contingency plan in the event of secession, including the question of boundaries...If the consequences were clearly understood, it would cause the separatists to pull back and the rest of Canada to not say it doesn't matter one way or the other."

[Cont'd. on page 48]

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From the editor's desk

Unity issue coursed through GA events

Indianapolis sits upon the mid-western plains of the United States like a neatly stacked configuration of geometric shapes upon a long, smooth, billiard table. There is no confusing where the plains end and the cluster of shapes begins.

In every direction, the horizon is defined by the simple, symmetric joining of earth to sky.

The midwesterners who live and work in Indianapolis are polite and friendly and very proud of their city. They are quick to let you know that Indianapolis, with a population of just over 800,000 people is the 12th largest city in the United States.

It is often called the crossroads of America because it is intersected by more segments of interstate highway than any other metropolitan area in the country. And to further drive home the point – driving is a major pre-occupation in Indianapolis, by the way – for good measure they let you know that more than half of the entire population of the United States lives within a day's drive of Indianapolis.

Among Indianapolis' most celebrated sons have been Steve McQueen, Kurt Vonnegut Jr., Red Skelton and David Letterman.

The porter in the hotel undertook as a personal mission to ensure that I would not return to Canada without knowing that Crest toothpaste was developed at the Indiana University School of Dentistry and that Elvis Presley gave his last performance on June 27, 1977 in Indianapolis.

Two buildings dominate the city's downtown: the state legislature and the domed stadium. They are merely metres apart in a compact area of business shops, hotels, offices and the Indiana Convention Centre.

It was in Indianapolis, in the convention centre occupying an entire city block, that the 66th General Assembly (GA) of the Council of Jewish Federations was held two weeks ago.

Some 4,400 people from six countries attended the GA. Over the course of five days, delegates to the assembly participated in more than 350 different programs of discussions, workshops, seminars, forums, plenary gatherings and entertainment. Every "issue" of modern Jewish life and every aspect of lay and professional involvement in Jewish community affairs was explored.

But there was one issue which coursed through the five-day proceedings like a recurring bolt of electricity constantly charging the crackling air with heavy atmosphere. That issue was: preserving Jewish unity in the face of the anger and the anguish that the majority of affiliated Jews in the Diaspora feel over the legislative attempt by the Orthodox establishment in Israel to prohibit non-Orthodox participation on local religious councils and to codify Orthodox control of conversions in that country.

In response to the proposed legislation, the Reform movement has launched a number of legal challenges in the Supreme Court of Israel.

With legislation pending on the one hand and court challenges on the other, emotions within the three main religious streams are running high.

Those emotions were evident in every room where delegates met at the GA.

The following are some of the notes that I recorded during one of the key presentations on the subject.

* * *

Yaacov Ne'eman, Israel's Minister of Finance, chairs the committee created by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to try to find a solution to the "pluralism" impasse. He addressed a plenary session of the assembly and in plain, forceful language presented his views on the matter.

"I have the privilege and the responsibility to chair an historic seven member committee which is trying to grapple with issues that threaten to drive a wedge between many Jews in North America and the State of Israel."

Ne'eman is universally respected and lauded as a serious man, a man of honesty and integrity. Orthodox himself, he is accepted within all streams of Judaism. No-one doubted the sincerity of his words to us.

"Nothing is as important as finding way to heal the rifts which threaten to divide the Jewish people. The Talmud teaches us that one of the most important tasks of man, the reward of which he will only receive in the next world, is to strive for peace between his fellow man.

"History will judge us all by how we respond to this challenge and responsibility."

There was a sense among the delegates, confirmed to the North Americans by their Israeli counterparts, that if anyone can find a common path to compromise, it is Ne'eman.

"We have no choice but to find a solution. Failure to reach an understanding means the division of the Jewish people. The future of the Jewish people depends on the consent and successful conclusion of the committee."

These words were not the "run-of-the-mill" political dinner circuit presentation. They represented the highest policy formulation of the government of Israel on the highest risk issue affecting Israel-Diaspora relations. Because of this fact, the unambiguous way in which the minister spoke was quite impressive. In fact, some delegates inclined to a more pessimistic view of the outcome of the committee's work regretted that by being so atypically unhedging of his bets, Ne'eman had put too much pressure on himself and on the committee.

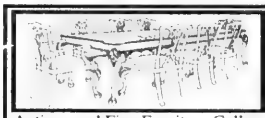
"When the committee was first formed, many thought that we should recommend some kind of 'technical fix' to this complicated problem. This approach would leave the basic problem unresolved and like a ticking bomb. The problem will only be compounded in the future. We felt it would be irresponsible to leave this controversy hanging over our head. The committee believed that we can and should resolve the problem today in order to unite the Jewish nation all over the world."

With these words, many of the people in the room sat up. Was the minister, was the government overreaching in its aims? By setting their sights so high, were they merely consigning the committee to certain failure?

"Let us all unite. Let us resolve our differences. We need an open dialogue. We must unite the Jewish nation so that we can confront the real problems that threaten our existence in Israel and in the Diaspora."

The deadline for the committee to report the results of its work to the Knesset is Jan. 31, 1998. It is the date all Jews around the world should mark on their calendar.

We wish them success. A great deal depends on it. - - - - *MBD*



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When governments cut back or charge more for services, this is really a form of hidden taxation. Smart investors realize that they need to rethink their goals and to make sure their "nest egg" will be sufficient to cover these additional costs. Seniors are particularly vulnerable, as healthcare cutbacks effect the people who use the medical system the most.

... to be continued

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Greater Toronto Area

Letters blame Jews

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Postal workers and educators have been the target of a letter-writing campaign in which Jews are vilified as the devil and accused of trying to destroy Canadian society.

The typewritten letters urge postal workers not to follow the plans of supposedly Jewish union leaders who "want to destroy the economy, the education, everything else with their strikes."

The letter to teachers and principals suggests that by striking, "you will be helping the devil, the Jews, only, not yourselves, your gentile people, your province or country."

Sgt. Dino Doria of the Metropolitan Toronto Police hate crimes unit said most Metro-area schools received the letters during the strike, but they are coming to the attention of the police as educators get back to work and check their mail.

Police have not yet established a link between the letters, he added, but "there probably is a link."

The letters employ similar language and appear to be the work of a single person, said Danny Fine, interim coordinator of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress.

While the letters repeat standard anti-Semitic stereotypes of Jews, they are not likely the work of racist organizations. "From the way they look, they're very rough, not polished," Fine said. In addition, the letter to the teachers ends with a compliment to the government of Ontario premier Mike Harris, not a position that would be taken by racist organizations, he said.

Anyone with information about the letters is asked to call police at 416-808-2222.

Varsity apologizes for anti-Semitic ad

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An ad from a notorious American Holocaust denier has left the staff at the University of Toronto student newspaper, the *Varsity*, with red faces.

Last week, the editor of the student-subsidized newspaper scrambled to explain how a publication that has made an issue out of refusing politically incorrect advertisements could run an ad questioning the Holocaust. The ad offered a $50,000 reward to anyone who could arrange a 90-minute prime time television broadcast of a documentary about Auschwitz. It was submitted by Bradley Smith on behalf of CODOH, the Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust. It refers to "the disputed Auschwitz 'gas chamber'" and calls the Shoah "the Jewish Holocaust story."

Meg Murphy, editor in chief of the *Varsity*, said the ad does not represent the editorial policy of the paper. In a front page editorial, Murphy apologized to "the university community" for failing to ensure that "hate literature is not propagated through the pages of the *Varsity*." She said she has also apologized to the Jewish Students Union on campus, as well as to Canadian Jewish Congress. In addition, steps have been taken to brief staff on bringing all new advertisements to the editor's attention, and the full value of the ad, $440, will be donated to the Holocaust Education and Memorial Centre of Toronto.

Despite the *Varsity*'s post-publication efforts, spokespersons for the Jewish community continued to ask how a Holocaust denial ad could be permitted to run.

Noam Samson, past president of the Jewish Students Union (JSU), said he was disturbed by the ad. "What bothered me most was that the *Varsity* is overly meticulous in not having anything that is not politically correct. Last year, they pulled a tequila ad because of its political content... I don't understand how something like this could pass through, how it could be overlooked and not checked for content.

Moshe Ronen, chair of Congress' Ontario region, said that while he applauded the measures taken by the *Varsity* in the aftermath of its publication, he said, "That doesn't explain how it got in. Someone did see the ad and if it was an oversight, heads should roll."

Murphy said an unfortunate sequence of events led to the inclusion of the ad. Ads that contain any political content generally are brought to the editor's attention, to make sure they conform to the *Varsity*'s "strict editorial policy," but that was not the case for the CODOH ad, she said.

A new advertising manager accepted the information for the ad and passed it along to a designer, who put it together. The finished product was faxed to Smith, who sent it back with some corrections. The ad ran in the paper without her seeing it, Murphy said.

"I've spoken to the staff. It's highly unfortunate that they didn't recognize it, but it's my responsibility," she said.

Besides the editorial retraction published last week, the *Varsity* also featured a news story by Murphy describing how the ad was accepted, as well as two articles, by Bernie Farber of Congress and Talia Klein of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights, about Holocaust denial.

Farber described Smith as "the college outreach point person on Holocaust denial."

In a story headlined "Holocaust-denier targets campus press," Murphy acknowledged that Smith is targeting Canadian student newspapers "as a means of generating publicity for his crusade."

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Greater Toronto Area

'Explosion of activity' at OSI, says Nazi hunter

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

Eli Rosenbaum

TORONTO — For U.S. Nazi-hunter Eli Rosenbaum, these are particularly stressful times. There don't seem to be enough hours in the day for he and his group of investigators and lawyers to get their work done.

As director of the Office of Special-Investigations (OSI), the U.S. Justice Department's Nazi-hunting and prosecuting unit, Rosenbaum has seen "an explosion of activity" in recent years corresponding to the collapse of the Soviet Union. The unit's historians have had unprecedented access to archival material in eastern Europe that contains "smoking gun after smoking gun." The archives are revealing rosters of killing units and copies of orders that make prosecutions possible, he said

In Toronto to address Canadian Jewish Congress' Ontario regional executive and the Jewish Civil Rights Educational Foundation of Canada, Rosenbaum said extra work is piling up at the same time that Congressional budget cutters have dictated the reduction of his staff from 51 to 27.

En route to Canada, Rosenbaum studied a file at a Washington airport and then approved launching a case to strip a suspected Nazi persecutor of his U.S. citizenship.

Adding to the unit's workload has been a foray into a new field of investigation. In the last year, the OSI has been asked to do much of the legwork connected with investigations into Nazi-looted gold.

Although the OSI's mandate is to prosecute war criminals, the U.S. government approaches the unit any time an issue related to World War II comes up, he said. As a result, the OSI has found itself involved in reparations issues, a federal inquiry into the limits of medical experiments and into Nazi-looted gold.

The unit has registered some important successes in the new areas, Rosenbaum said. It was able "to prove, definitively, that victim-origin gold was a component of gold shipped by the Third Reich to the Swiss National Bank during World War II."

The unit also found Nazi documents that showed Germany shipped "Juden schmuck" (Jewish loot) to Switzerland.

Other records found in the German Reichsbank contain "some very sickening entries of things unabashedly named dental gold" taken from death camp victims. That gold was smelted and most was sent to Switzerland where it was exchanged for Swiss francs used to purchase war material, he said.

Despite its new area of interest, the OSI continues to investigate war crimes suspects, launching new cases every year. In addition, 24 Nazi suspects, including some from Canada, were prevented from entering the United States last year when their names appeared on a 70,000-name watchlist.

Rosenbaum acknowledged that the OSI has experienced some rough patches in recent years. A U.S. court judgment in the case involving John Demjanjuk, accused of being Ivan the Terrible of Treblinka, stung the unit and affected morale. The court blasted the OSI for withholding evidence from the defence. (Demjanjuk was extradited to Israel on charges of war crimes but the Israeli Supreme Court overturned his conviction. He then moved back to the United States.)

"We've had only successes since then. We recently won a case and the judge, without prompting, went out of his way to compliment the OSI for providing every piece of evidence that helped the defence."

Demjanjuk, meanwhile, has not seen the last of the OSI. He's back in the courts to face allegations he served at the SS training grounds at Trawniki. "That's an independent grounds for deporting him," Rosenbaum said, adding the OSI had received a deportation order against Demjanjuk on that basis in the early 1980s, but it was put on hold pending his extradition to Israel.

In the fiscal year that ended in June, the OSI won seven cases and lost none. The unit currently has 16 cases before the courts.

Branson's emergency hours change

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The emergency department at Branson General Hospital will close at night starting Dec. 10, as a result of a shortage of emergency nurses.

A full-service emergency department will be maintained from 7.30 a.m. to 10 p.m., said Branson vice-president Brian Fenton.

"Only about 12 to 14 people come to the emergency in the night shift and not all of them are true emergencies," he said. About 100 visits a day are made in 24 hours.

But the rest of the hospital's services, despite difficulty in retaining staff, are operating fully.

Advised of a report that Branson may have to close earlier than the planned June 1999 date, Fenton said there is as much likelihood of a later closing as an earlier one.

"It depends on when the other three hospitals are ready to take on our patients," he said. "In some cases they may not be ready by the expected date."

The hospital is planning a public information program on the partial closing of the emergency service.

There are difficulties in keeping enough medical and other staff to keep the hospital operating, Fenton said.

"We have no problem with doctors who are going to other hospitals marked to take our patients, because the shift will be coordinated, but there is a problem with other hospitals who have an immediate vacancy and want it filled."

Meetings are to be held in November and December between officials of the hospitals concerned and Michael Delaney, a consultant, appointed by the Hospital Restructuring Commission.

By the end of December, Branson will have a clearer picture of the time lines involved in closing its services, Fenton said.

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Greater Toronto Area

Grassroots Jewish organization opposes Ontario Tories' agenda

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ontario Premier Mike Harris may have done more to galvanize grassroots political activism in Ontario than anyone in recent memory.

While large labor unions and community organizations have captured the headlines in opposing the Tories' budget-cutting agenda, smaller grassroots groups have also entered the fray. One such group is Tzedek, a collection of socially conscious Jews who believe the government's program is inconsistent with Jewish ethics and the teachings of the prophets.

About 40 supporters of the group recently held a candlelight vigil outside a Toronto hotel while the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem honored two Righteous Gentiles. The group held its rally to protest the presence of Harris, the evening's guest.

"Inviting Harris was inconsistent with the premise of the dinner," said Charlie Lior, a Tzedek spokesperson. Yad Vashem's promotional material stated that the Holocaust "'compels us to take action against the unjust suffering of innocent people everywhere,'" he said. "No matter what they say, this is not a government that has that as a priority."

Lior, a 46-year-old finance manager of a non-profit housing organization, and Tzedek spokesperson Shlomit Segal dismissed suggestions the Yad Vashem dinner was an inappropriate venue for a political protest. This was not a community event in which the premier is invited year after year, they said. Yad Vashem's advertising, they noted, featured a photograph of the premier and not a picture of those being honored.

While the group supports the goals and values espoused by Yad Vashem, it decided a protest conducted in a respectful manner was appropriate, they added.

The vigil was the latest in a sporadic series of events undertaken by Tzedek, Hebrew for justice. In December 1996, Tzedek co-sponsored a discussion group at the North York Public Library on the effect of government cuts on the Jewish community. It later hosted a cabaret night at the Bloor JCC during the Days of Action protest and it sponsored an educational forum in February 1996 at the Holy Blossom Temple on the impact of government cuts on community groups. Tzedek also participates in the Metro Network for Social Justice.

The organization traces its roots back two years, shortly after the Harris government was elected. At the time, Segal and two friends who work in social services "were very concerned by the provincial and federal cutbacks to health and social [services]." During their informal conversations, they surmised that there were many others in the Jewish community who shared their views but did not see an outlet for their concerns, Segal said.

Shlomit Segal and Charlie Lior of Tzedek

Through an informal network of contacts, the group began to grow and hold meetings that attracted about a dozen people at a time. Lior became familiar with the meetings through his wife Karen, who Segal had met at a feminist conference.

At the meetings, "a lot of people talked about how frustrated they were…and how our response would fit in with being Jewish," Lior said. "Some felt the cuts were inconsistent with Jewish ethics, while others believed the Jewish community does not live in isolation and that Jewish services were being targeted as well as others.

Response to their first program, the Holy Blossom forum, which attracted 200 people, surprised and energized organizers. But instead of formalizing the organization, the core participants in Tzedek decided not to change its status as an informal network of people who gather occasionally.

There are about 60 people on Tzedek's "phone tree" and from one to two dozen people attend meetings regularly. Their goal is to continue to educate the Jewish public about the impact of cost cutting while speaking out to protest the erosion of Ontario's social safety net.

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Dry Bones
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Coaxing compromise

The annual general assembly (GA) of Jewish federations from across North America concluded last week in Indianapolis with numerous displays of individual and collective resolve to find a solution to the "pluralism issue" in Israel before it evolves into a "unity crisis" throughout the Jewish world.

The pluralism/unity issue dominated the assembly. It was the chief subject of discussion and overshadowed the five-day proceedings for the 4,000 people who had gathered to exchange ideas and to air their views on a range of important topics.

As readers of *The CJN* know, the immediate crisis is a result of two legislative initiatives by the Israeli government's religious coalition partners to exclude non-Orthodox members from local religious councils and to ensure that conversions in Israel will be performed only by the Orthodox rabbinate. To counter these initiatives, the Reform movement has commenced litigation in the Supreme Court.

Emotions in both the Orthodox and non-Orthodox religious worlds in Israel and in the Diaspora are running very high. Differences between the two have turned into a serious divide; and now the divide is threatening to become a chasm.

To prevent any further splintering in the foundation of Jewish peoplehood and to bridge the still-bridgeable divide, the government of Israel appointed a seven-member committee chaired by Yaacov Ne'eman. The committee is charged with finding a compromise. And there was no misunderstanding the urgency and long-range significance of its work.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu set the tone immediately at the first plenary session. "We cannot, we must not allow this crisis to become a disaster. We cannot, we must not allow it to pull us apart. We are determined to reach a consensus between us. It will have to be a creative solution, a Jewish solution, allowing at once continuity and change, involvement and inclusion, alongside stability and purposeful evolution... You are not a third party looking in. You are partners at the table, partners in the common cause of Jewish unity."

Ne'eman spoke to the assembly the following day. "History will judge us all by how we respond to this challenge and responsibility," he said quite plainly. "We have no choice but to find a solution. Failure to reach an understanding means the division of the Jewish people. The future of the Jewish people depends on the consent and successful conclusion of this committee."

On the very day that Ne'eman addressed the assembly, five constituent organizations of the Orthodox establishment in North America sponsored a full page ad in *U.S. Today* under the banner headline A Call for Jewish Unity. "As Jews who are committed to unity as the underpinning of the existence of the Jewish people, and who value reason and civility, we applaud and encourage the efforts of the Israeli government-appointed Ne'eman Committee to find common ground among Jews concerning personal status issues of conversion, marriage and divorce," the ad began.

Everyone at the GA was hopeful that the committee will succeed. But not everyone was optimistic that it can. Pessimism may be only the smallest remove from realism; but the issues with which the Ne'eman committee is contending are so important and so far-reaching, that we dare not surrender to any feelings of pessimism.

The deliberations of the Ne'eman committee mark the first time since the founding of the rabbinate in pre-state Israel some 80 years ago that the three major streams of Judaism have officially sat at the same table. This is in itself an historic beginning.

Canadian Jewry must follow the example already set and urge our religious leaders to do everything possible to help our counterparts in Israel coax out compromise from this delicate situation.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Whoever persists in knocking will succeed in entering."
Moses ibn Ezra

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Nov. 29, 1941 the Merkaz Hatorah Yeshiva was founded in Montreal by a group of European rabbinical students saved by Canadian Jews during World War II. (Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Restoring the Klondike Jewish cemetery

On a ridge overlooking the Yukon gold rush city of Dawson, lies the well-kept burial lots of the Catholic, Anglican, Mason and Yukon Order Of Pioneers; and a sparsely wooded lot that hides the Jewish Bet Chaim (House of the Living) Cemetery. Established in 1902 by the Jewish Society of Dawson for the burial of Isaac Simons, a young prospector from New York who had drowned, the site has seven graves, but only one stone marker remains, the one for Samuel Packer, a Dawson merchant who died in 1918.

This coming summer will mark the 100th anniversary of the Klondike Gold Rush, and Dawson City will commemorate its founding with numerous centennial events. An effort to restore the Jewish cemetery will be made. All interested parties are welcome to help, and Jewish youth are invited to join the cleanup effort.

Dr. Norman E. Kagan
2378 Doswell Ave.
St. Paul, Minn. 55108

Another proof of soap from Auschwitz

Re: your article claiming there was no proof of soap being made from human remains by the Nazis in the concentration camps (*CJN*, Oct. 9). I have seen the article personally in Bistitza, Transylvania in 1946.

Returnees from Auschwitz brought the soap with them for burial in our city and it was called "RIF" zeif, which stands for Rein Judisches Feten, or Pure Jewish Fats.

The knowledge of this fact was widespread in our district.

Max Candel
Toronto

All Jews deserve religious freedom

Re: Richie Cohen's letter (*CJN*, Nov. 6) on "Israel has right to say who is a Jew."

Members of the Orthodox rabbinate in Israel are claiming that only their definition of who is a Jew is valid. They are also claiming that only they should decide who may participate in conversions to Judaism, who and how couples may marry, how individuals may be buried and who shall be eligible to serve on religious councils, in many cases despite Israeli Supreme Court decisions to the contrary.

They are urging the government to enact these beliefs and practices into legislative decree and insisting that if Benjamin Netanyahu fails to do so, their parties will leave the coalition and his government will fall.

The Israeli government may exercise its right to say within its boundaries, who is a Jew according to Orthodox definitions. However, if it chooses to do so, its definition will exclude most of Diaspora Jewry in the process and will have enacted the most divisive laws affecting all the Jewish people everywhere in the world.

The New Israel Fund (NIF) challenges these assertions in the name of Jewish diversity, in support of pluralism in Israel and Diaspora life and in fulfilling the dream of establishing a free and democratic Israel.

The New Israel Fund message is that religious freedom is the right of each and every Jew. Orthodox Jews must be able to observe their beliefs in freedom and dignity, with no interference from anyone. But all other Jews, too, must be accorded that same right. The New Israel Fund neither favors nor opposes any particular religious view. We are an inclusive organization and our supporters come from all streams of Judaism.

Dr. Ralph Garber, President
New Israel Fund of Canada
Toronto

Religious pluralism would divide Israelis

The Jewish people survived for 20 centuries only because of its religion, a religion based on observance of the Torah. The New Israel Fund is going on a campaign today to preach against "the Orthodox establishment" and for "pluralism and religious freedom."

I was shocked to read the inaccuracies and distortions in its full page ad (*CJN*, Nov. 13). The so-called "religious establishment" is not seeking *new* powers in Israel; it is seeking to maintain the status quo, i.e. one set of rules for Jewish religious observance. "For years the Orthodox establishment has determined how Israelis could get married or divorced..." Yes, and for 20 centuries Jews have been married or divorced according to these same religious laws.

The New Israel Fund forgot to inform us that the "Orthodox establishment" has also ensured that the day of rest in the Jewish state is the Jewish Sabbath, and that public institutions offer kosher food so that no Jew should ever be excluded. Let us not obfuscate the issue: the code words "religious pluralism" mean Reform Judaism; the New Israel Fund is appealing to us for our financial gifts to help promote the "religious" freedom offered by the American Reform Judaism establishment. This "religious pluralism" is a religious smorgasbord that may survive in America, but in Israel it would surely divide the Jewish people beyond repair.

In the words of Prof. Shlomo Avineri: "The synagogue I don't attend should be Orthodox." If an Israeli Jew goes through a religious marriage or a *get*, she/he wants to know that it is indeed valid in Jewish religion. There may be various ways of feeling Jewish, of living one's Judaism, and a Jew may choose not to follow religious practices, to go to the beach on Shabbat or dance in a disco on Friday night. There cannot however be *but one* Jewish religion.

Sarah M. Bauer
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

The vote that preceded the state

Fifty years ago on Nov. 29 the General Assembly of the United Nations voted in favor of partitioning what was left of mandatory Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab homeland. The outcome was not assured until the final moments. The drama was high, the tension leading up to the vote was at times unbearable.

The following excerpts are from two people who were involved with the birth of Israel.

'It was an incredible sight'

The voting took place at Lake Success in New York on Nov. 29. Like everyone else in the Yishuv, I was glued to the radio with pencil and paper, writing down the votes as they came through. Finally, at about midnight our time, the results were announced: 33 nations (including the United States and the Soviet Union) were in favor of the partition plan; 13, including all the Arab states, opposed it; 10, including Great Britain, abstained.

I immediately went to the compound of the Jewish Agency building, which was already jammed with people. It was an incredible sight: hundreds of people, British soldiers among them, holding hands, singing and dancing, with truckloads of more people arriving at the compound all the time.

I remember walking up to my office alone, unable to share in the general festivity. The Arabs had turned the plan down and talked only of war. The crowd, drunk with happiness, wanted a speech and I thought it would be wicked to dampen the mood by refusing. So from the balcony of my office I spoke for a few minutes. But it was not really to the mass of people below me that I talked; it was, once again, to the Arabs.

"You have fought your battle against us in the United Nations," I said. "The United Nations – the majority of countries in the world – have had their say. The partition plan is a compromise: not what you wanted, not what we wanted. But let us now live in friendship and peace together."

That speech was hardly the solution for our situation. Arab riots broke out all over Palestine the next day (seven Jews were killed in an Arab ambush on a bus) and on Dec. 2, an Arab mob set the Jewish commercial centre in Jerusalem on fire, while British police stood by, interfering only when the Haganah tried to take action.

We were, of course, totally unprepared for war.

(Excerpted from My Life, *by Golda Meir, G.B. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1975)*

Facing a great challenge

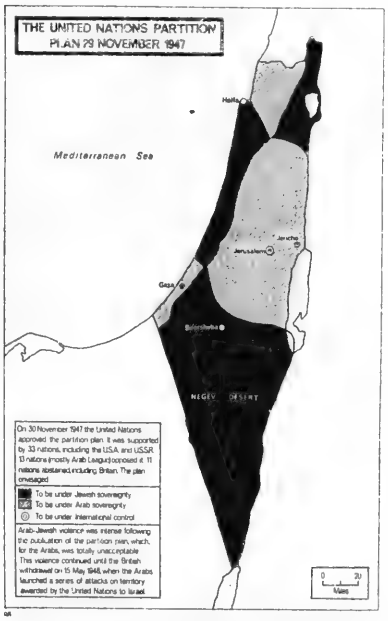
I write this on the day following the historic decision of the United Nations. As the year 1947 draws to a close, the Jewish people, and particularly the Zionists, face a very great challenge. Before another year is over, we must found a Jewish state; we must prepare a constitution, set up a government, organize our defences and begin to reconstruct the present National Home so as to make it capable of absorbing, according to the plan, some six to eight thousand immigrants a month…

[Our] goal is the building of a high civilization based on the austere standards of Jewish ethics. From these standards we must not swerve…

The prophets have always chastised the Jewish people with the utmost severity for this tendency; and whenever it slipped back into paganism, whenever it reverted, it was punished by the stern God of Israel.

Whether prophets will once more arise among the Jews in the near future it is difficult to say. But if they choose the way of honest and hard and clean living, on the land in settlements built on the old principles, and in cities cleansed of the dross which has been sometimes mistaken for civilization; if they centre their activities on genuine values, whether in industry, agriculture, science, literature or art; then God will look down benignly on His children, who, after a long wandering, have come home to serve Him with a psalm on their lips and a spade in their hands, reviving their old country and making it a centre of human civilization.

(Excerpted from Trial and Error: The Autobiography of Chaim Weizmann, First President of Israel, *Schocken Books, New York, 1949)*


THE UNITED NATIONS PARTITION
PLAN 29 NOVEMBER 1947
Haifa
Mediterranean Sea
Jericho
Jerusalem
Gaza
Beersheba
NEGEV DESERT
On 30 November 1947 the United Nations approved the partition plan. It was supported by 33 nations, including the USA and USSR. 13 nations mostly Arab League opposed it. 11 nations abstained including Britain. The plan envisaged
To be under Jewish sovereignty
To be under Arab sovereignty
To be under international control
Arab-Jewish violence was intense following the publication of the partition plan, which, for the Arabs, was totally unacceptable. This violence continued until the British withdrawal on 15 May 1948, when the Arabs launched a series of attacks on territory awarded by the United Nations to Israel.
0 20
Miles

Jewish History Atlas, M. Gilbert, Wiedenfeld 1969

Celebrating the morning after, from *The Jews in Their Land*, Doubleday, 1966

How they voted

For Partition

Australia
Belgium
Bolivia
Brazil
Byelorussia
Canada
Costa Rica
Czechoslovakia
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
France
Guatemala
Haiti
Iceland
Liberia
Luxembourg
The Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Norway
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
The Philippines
Poland
Sweden
Ukraine
South Africa
Union Soviet Socialist Republics
United States
Uruguay
Venezuela

Against Partition

Afghanistan
Cuba
Egypt
Greece
India
Iran
Iraq
Lebanon
Pakistan
Saudi Arabia
Syria
Turkey
Yemen

Abstentions

Argentina
Chile
China
Colombia
El Salvador
Ethiopia
Honduras
Mexico
United Kingdom
Yugoslavia

Absent

Siam

Opinions

In tribute and commemoration

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

Earlier this month, I was privileged to speak at a tribute celebrating the 85th birthday of an esteemed scholar, community leader and fellow columnist, Rabbi Gunther Plaut. The event took place on the second anniversary of the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin, against the backdrop of commemorative services and programs in Israel, at the Knesset, across the educational system and in the media. In a poll published that week 41 percent of Israelis said they felt the country had not learned the lessons of that tragic event and 47 percent said they felt it could happen again.

In a tribute to Rabbi Plaut, and to mark the anniversary of Rabin's assassination, I am sharing with you excerpts from my comments:

What is it that makes some people an icon, that sets them apart from many other accomplished leaders. Rabbi Plaut, in everything that you have undertaken, you have occupied the highest moral ground... There are three essential qualities that, for me, represent the living legacy you have given us: First, your abiding love and respect for your fellow man and woman, and your fellow Jew. Throughout your public life, you have fought for the klal, the whole. You accept the foibles of your people and the frailties of human nature, but you exhort us to rise above these and to compromise for the sake of the public good.

Second, is your profound sense of history. You know that we are but a moment in time on a vast continuum of history and human experience. You know that even as we chart our destiny, we live with the consequences of past decisions, and that in turn, the decisions we make will shape the future.

Third, is the positive, spiritual value you bring to your Jewish identity. You do not define your Judaism in response to external perceptions or persecution. Rather, your Jewish identity and pride come from deep within... For you, Judaism is an evolving truth that we define and redefine in each generation, as steadfast bearers of a unique heritage that is eternal...

And so we have turned to you for your leadership whenever the moment has been too joyous or too painful for simple words. And you have spoken *b'kol gadol*, in a great, strong voice. You help us feel the moment in celebration or in sorrow. You help us understand.

Just two years ago, your voice spoke to us as we reeled from the shock of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. On that fateful night when Israel lost its innocence forever, a limb was torn from us. If, indeed, a community is measured, not by how it agrees, but by how it disagrees, then Israelis feared that night that they had lost the ability to disagree. This was the dagger that pierced Israel's soul...

Rather than saying, as many do, that Israelis have been quick to forget that bloody night, I would argue that the Israeli community is still in a state of deep shock. That is why it seems fatigued, weary; and why it remains as divided as it was then.

To heal a trauma, you must believe that you can return to life and reaffirm your commitment to what was. Israel has not yet made that reaffirmation. I speak not of legitimate political differences about the future of the territories, nor of the equally legitimate debate about the contours of religious pluralism in Israel. I speak, rather, of the commitment to an overarching common purpose, to a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts, to a community, a kehillah.

If for Israelis, the challenge of earlier generations was the challenge of survival, then the challenge for today is the challenge of competing visions and coexistence. And for us who participate in that debate, the challenge is to rise above these differences and to find a continued commitment to an Israel that is forever.

The age of innocence is past for Israel, and with that loss, for Israelis and for us, comes the painful, mature recognition of that society's shortcomings. And we must decide if we can transform that early, romantic love into a more sober, sometimes tough, but lasting attachment...

Rabbi Plaut, you stand apart, unique in your embodiment of what so many of us feel we've lost – a sense of community and common purpose. Everything you stand for is the antithesis of the blow to Israel's soul that occurred two years ago. You have said that as a people we have never governed ourselves very well. It is precisely the quality of our governance, as a people and in the State of Israel, that is being tested today...

Two years ago, at that historic community rally when we came together to mourn a murder most foul, Gunther Plaut's strong, wise voice issued the ultimate charge to my generation of Jews and Israelis. "Just remember this," he said. "Whether we as a people shall live is *up to God*, but whether we shall live as one people of divided against each other *is up to us*."

We must be worthy of the task.

L'Affaire Diana

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Enough time has passed since the tragic occurrence in a Paris tunnel that took the life of the most highly publicized woman in the world. Not long thereafter, Mother Teresa died in India. The contrast between the two women was obvious and stark. I decided that since everybody was writing about them, I would bide my time and wait until my perspective had lengthened and emotion was more subdued. Then I dropped the idea of writing about them altogether; enough was enough.

However, the other day a newsletter entitled the *Prager Perspective* reached me, and I noticed that my friend Dennis Prager had devoted the entire issue to the princess. His subheading was "Why so much grief?" The popular public speaker, broadcaster, author and journalist concluded that there were nine different reasons why so many people exhibited so much interest and evinced so much grief.

The reasons he enumerates are the following: she was young; she was the mother of two young children; she was beautiful; fairy tales should not have an unhappy ending; she was a good soul; she was accessible and troubled; we care about those we know about; many people, especially women, shared Diana's pain; and she had charisma.

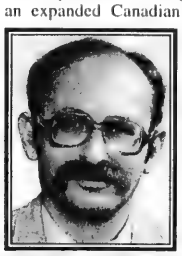
I'm sure Prager could have added some other reasons, chief amongst them the role played by the media. They jumped on it with unheard vim and vigor. Pretty soon everyone – even those who never worried or cared about Diana when she was alive – was drawn into the maelstrom of discussion, reportage, pictures and more pictures, headlines and broadcasts about paparazzi. The finger of guilt was pointed at them, at the allegedly drunk driver, and at the fact that only the one who wore a seat-belt survived and the others did not, which was portrayed as an indication that the rest of the passengers courted death subliminally.

The first of the nine reasons that Prager noted is, to me, the most cogent. In addition to being the most photographed woman in the world in her lifetime, the fact that she was young played, in my opinion, the major role in the reporting of her tragic death.

We live in a youth-oriented culture. Young is not only beautiful (disregarding the fact that old people also can be beautiful), for beauty is defined as identical with youth. Middle-aged people, let alone oldsters, have no attraction for the population as a whole. Youth has all the advantages, and even young people's lack of experience no longer counts. Where formerly the aged were accorded respect for their wisdom, that is no longer so. They are considered "over the hill" in every way and wisdom lies with the young, who, even lacking experience, have most if not all of the answers.

No wonder that Mother Teresa, an old woman, garnered little space, at least in comparison. And yet it is also a fact that long after the princess is forgotten, it will be the old lady that will still be remembered. The Torah says that the poor will remain with us and therefore caring for the poor will always be needed in the human condition.

The War Museum and the Holocaust



By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

A recent story in the *Globe and Mail* described a growing conflict about a proposed Holocaust gallery to be part of an expanded Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. According to Ian Inrig, dominion secretary of the army, navy and air force veterans in Canada, some Canadian veterans were opposed to the inclusion of the Holocaust memorial.

His group does favor a Holocaust memorial, but not as part of the Canadian War Museum, which should be devoted to Canadian military history. Save for the fact that some Canadian troops were involved in liberating the camps, there was indeed little direct link between the Holocaust and Canada's military experience during the war.

Opposing the veterans are officials of the War Museum. The chair of the fundraising campaign reportedly sees the Holocaust Gallery as "critical to explaining conflict in the 20th century." Another official feels the War Museum is the "appropriate place" to tell the Holocaust story.

A cynic might argue that one factor behind the museum's sensitivity to the Holocaust and the desire to include it as part of the expanded facility is the fundraising campaign. Some organizers might well feel that wealthy Jews could be more effectively solicited for contributions if they knew that a Holocaust gallery would be an important new element of the estimated $12-million expansion. Certainly Jewish philanthropists in North America have been eager contributors to Holocaust memorials and museums. Luckily, I am not a cynic...

Some years ago, I visited the impressive Australian War Museum in Canberra. By coincidence, I was in Australia over ANZAC Day, comparable to Remembrance Day, and was awed by the enthusiastic parade celebrating Australia's and New Zealand's war efforts. Perhaps the fact that Australians had actually been bombed by the Japanese and feared invasion makes them appreciate their veterans more. Whatever the reason, Canada's war museum and commemorations just don't compare. I welcome the expansion.

By further coincidence, there was a Holocaust exhibit on display in the Canberra museum's basement. I think it was not permanent, but there on loan. While at first it seemed incongruous, I realized that linking the Holocaust to the venerated Australian war effort certainly did not hurt educational objectives aimed at the wider non-Jewish community.

There are many possible ways in which the Holocaust can be memorialized. One is through a specific Holocaust museum, like Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Museum in Washington or the smaller one in Montreal. They are highly effective and pay due homage to the victims. But they risk perpetuating a distortion of Jewish history and experience by emphasizing six years out of millennia. Also, no matter how well presented – and they are – they may underemphasize universal themes or lessons.

A second way to memorialize the Holocaust is as part of a broad museum of Jewish history or civilization. This would recognize that the Holocaust, or even anti-Semitism, is not the totality of the Jewish experience. Like the first option, it would also accentuate the Jewish specificity of the tragedy at the risk of losing universality.

A third would be to include it in a more general museum, such as the Los Angeles Museum of Tolerance or a general museum of civilization. This would situate the Holocaust within a broader framework, suggesting that its lessons are generalizable, that it can be compared with but is not identical to other mass tragedies and that it represented a failure in basic human culture. While laudable, these risk diluting the Jewish essence of the tragedy. After much reflection, I am still undecided about whether it is best to emphasize the unique or the universal regarding the Shoah.

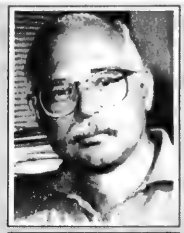
A fourth, as I saw in Australia and might develop in Ottawa, would be to place it in a military museum, either for pragmatic convenience or to stress a linkage between hatred and war. While the link is more of a stretch, I do not doubt that much good would ensue.

Reasonable observers can come up with their own favored option for Holocaust commemoration. But it would be tragic to see a growing rift between veterans and museum officials, and possibly involving the Jewish community, over this matter. The blessed memories of both the Canadian veterans and the European Jews who perished deserve better.

The Kirshner File

Palestine partition plan crowned Zionist diplomacy

Fifty years ago this week, on Nov. 29, 1947, the United Nations General Assembly, by a two-thirds majority, passed



By Sheldon Kirshner

one of the most significant resolutions in modern history — the Palestine partition plan.

The resolution envisaged a Palestinian and a Jewish state in Palestine, leaving Jerusalem and its hinterland internationalized. Most Jews regarded the controversial resolution as the apotheosis of Zionist diplomacy, but the Arab world expressed outrage and mobilized for war.

In May 1948, the Zionist leadership in Palestine, populated by 1.2 million Arabs and 650,000 Jews, unilaterally declared independence. In response, several Arab nations, spearheaded by Egypt and Syria, launched an invasion to snuff out the newly created state of Israel.

Against all odds, Israel prevailed, but not without sustaining severe casualties. Israel defended the territory it had been assigned by the UN, and gained still more by the time the fighting subsided in 1949. For the Arabs, the war — the first of six — was an exercise in humiliation. For the Palestinians, however, the war was a disaster, a lost opportunity of forming a sovereign state.

The seeds of the 1947 resolution were planted by Britain's decision to relinquish its League of Nations mandate in Palestine. Britain, in World War I, had wrested Palestine from the Ottoman Turks. But for Britain, Palestine proved to be more of a burden than a blessing, as the forces of Zionism and Arab nationalists repeatedly clashed.

Britain sought political solutions to defuse the friction. In 1936, the year the Arab Revolt broke out, the Peel Commission broached the idea of partitioning Palestine into Arab and Jewish enclaves. But the 1938 Woodhead Commission found the scheme unworkable.

Britain emerged from World War II exhausted and virtually bankrupt, with a manifest desire to rid itself of troublesome colonies. Palestine was particularly problematic. After 1945, the Irgun and the Stern Gang, exponents of Revisionist Zionism, escalated their armed attacks and campaign of terrorism against British rule. In 1947, the weary British government referred the problem to the UN and began evacuating civilian personnel.

Stuck with a hot potato, the UN established the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) to study the issue. Meanwhile, tensions continued to flare in Palestine.

In August, UNSCOP produced a majority and a minority report. The first recommended partition. The second called for federation. The Arab League, as well as the Palestinians, rejected both reports.

The two superpowers — the Soviet Union and the United States — had an impact on events. Moscow, eager to eliminate British influence in the Middle East, endorsed the "aspirations of the Jewish people to establish their own state." Washington, initially, was more circumspect. President Harry Truman and Congress were basically sympathetic to Jewish statehood, but the State Department and the Pentagon were concerned that a pro-Zionist policy would be prejudicial to American interests in the region. In the face of their objections, Truman wavered but finally came down on the Zionist side. The death of six million Jews in the Holocaust was certainly one important component in his deliberations.

Under the UN partition resolution, the Arab and the Jewish state were to be linked in an economic union and would share a common currency and joint railways and roads. The Jewish state would encompass 5,500 square miles and the Arab state would embrace 4,500 miles.

After much debate, the UN approved the resolution by a vote of 33 to 13. Canada, the United States, the Soviet Union, most European states and the Latin American bloc supported the resolution. Apart from Muslim and Asian states, Greece and Cuba voted against it. Britain abstained.

Infuriated, the Arabs resorted to violence to quash the dream of Jewish statehood. Palestinian irregulars carried out hit-and-run assaults on Jewish settlements. Soon, Arab armies joined the battle. In Arab lands, Jews were attacked.

On Nov. 15, 1988, the PLO, belatedly, recognized the partition resolution as a fait accompli. Two weeks ago, Yasser Arafat asserted that he would declare Palestinian statehood in 1999. Things have come full circle.

A child of the Holocaust

Poland has gone through a succession of governments since the collapse of Communism almost a decade ago. The latest Polish government, led by Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek, has a new foreign minister. He is none other than Bronislaw Geremek, a scholar, a deputy in the lower chamber of parliament, a former chair of the foreign affairs committee and, last but not least, a child of the Holocaust.

Born in Warsaw in 1932, Geremek is believed to be the first person of Jewish origin to hold that high-profile portfolio. He was brought up by a Catholic family in whose care he was entrusted by his parents. They were murdered during the German occupation of Poland.

A distinguished historian, Geremek was a confidant of Lech Walesa, Poland's former president, and a leading strategist of the Solidarity trade union movement, which set into motion the process which unseated Polish Communism.

Apparently raised as a Catholic, Geremek has never concealed his Jewish antecedents. Indeed, some regard him as a "Pole of Jewish background." When his appointment was announced, Henryk Jankowski, a prominent Catholic priest who does not have a reputation as a philo-Semite, reportedly declared, "The Jewish minority should not be accepted in our government."

Jankowski's outburst was criticized by a leading cleric in the Catholic church, but by then the damage had already been done. Such displays of blatant anti-Semitism, in a country where millions of Jews perished in Nazi concentration camps and ghettos, can leave the impression that the struggle for human rights and the battle against xenophobia and racism is woefully incomplete in Poland.

As far as Geremek is concerned, he is anything but unique. Thousands of Jewish children owe their lives to Poles who, at great risk to themselves and their families, hid them during the Holocaust. Some were reclaimed by their parents after the war, but others, like Geremek, were totally assimilated into Polish Catholic culture. Still others, the sons and daughters of Jewish Communists, have only recently come out of the closet.

These crosscurrents were the subject of a set of speeches delivered recently by Julian and Fay Bussgang during Holocaust Education Week in Toronto. The event was sponsored by the Jewish Genealogical Society.

The Bussgangs are ardent genealogists. During the course of several trips to Poland since 1993, they have met numerous people whose personal histories are remarkably like Geremek's.

Several years ago, a group of these individuals, ranging from a medical doctor to a priest, committed their experiences to paper. Now Julian Bussgang, an American born in Lvov, has translated their stories into English. Northwestern University Press plans to publish the collection next April under the title of *The Last Eyewitnesses: Children of the Holocaust Speak*. It should be intriguing.

Adults Only
65 and Over
(Youngsters 64 and under must be accompanied by an adult)

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SENIORS

Forest Hill Place
645 Castlefield Ave., Toronto

'The Real Theodore Herzl - The Legacy of Zionism'
Lecturer: Selma Sage
Thursday, December 4 - 2 p.m.

'Tea and Tours - Open House'
Forest Hill Place invites you to join us for tea and a tour.
Sunday, December 7 - 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

'Shalom Singers'
Thursday, December 11 - 2 p.m.

Call Marlene or Karen at (416) 785-1511 to reserve your place

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Books

By Bernard Baskin

Wartime reminiscences include dread adventures

***I Wish It Were Fiction: Memories 1939-1945* by Elsa Thon (Mekler & Deahl, $15 paperbound).**

Just 16 when the war broke out, the author, living in Poland, underwent a series of vicissitudes and dread adventures. These included the use of forged documents, the constant fears of a fugitive, life in the Krakow ghetto, the miseries of labor camps and the rigors of a forced march. Death was never far away.

Arriving one day at the Plaszow internment camp, she found an SS man guarding the gate, speaking on the telephone in a nearby booth. "Wanting only to continue his conversation, he waved the entire group of almost 100 people to the barrier. A Jewish policewoman urged the group to run as fast as they could from the Nazi. She explained later, 'I ordered you to run so as not to give him a chance to change his mind. You are the lucky ones. Yesterday a group of people were taken from the checkpoint directly to that hill and every one of them was shot."

Eventually, the war over, she made her way to a camp in Germany under American supervision. She emigrated to Canada from Argentina in 1980.

Each chapter in this absorbing volume of reminiscences is followed by a poem that evokes feelings and emotions of the years filled with danger and uncertainty. "It took courage to live with pain/ I begged forgiveness of those gone away/ My destiny was not to die."

* * *

***I Begin To Understand* by Shula Robin (Claremont Publishing, $12 paper).**

The poet of this slender volume is rich in years and wisdom. She responds to the joys of friendship, the compensations of music and the paradoxes of a conflicted society.

She is challenged by the gift of a computer, saddened by tragic events in Rwanda, replenished by the gifts of prodigal nature and comforted by her bed as "a constant and intimate friend."

She confesses to her readers: "I feel so small,/ a mere speck on earth,/ a remote relative,/ guest of Adam and Eve's/ Garden of Eden –/ grateful to be a part/ of the magnificent creation."

* * *

***Harduf's Transliterated English-Yiddish, Yiddish English Dictionary* by David M. Harduf (Israel Bookshop, $24.95).**

The author, a Toronto scholar and bookseller, is a tireless worker in the field of linguistics with over 25 books to his credit. In 1990, he was awarded the $50,000 (US) Bar-Ilan University Prize for his hand-produced Tanach.

The first portion of this useful and well produced dictionary provides every English word with its Yiddish translation and transliteration. The second portion provides the Yiddish transliterated word and its translation in Yiddish and English.

Anyone interested in Yiddish will welcome this friendly and most helpful guide.

Guest Voices

By SELMA SAGE

In Herzl's footsteps

One hundred years ago, Jews from Germany, Austria, Russia, Poland and other countries met in the Stadtcasino in Basel, Switzerland, in order to discuss a "new solution to the Jewish question" and to lay the foundation for the World Zionist Organization.

On the occasion of the centennial of that first Zionist Congress, I found myself in that same Stadtcasino at an academic congress held at the initiative of the University of Basel, in cooperation with scholars from Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv University, Prague, Bern, London, Warsaw, Essen, Heidelberg and Vienna.

I had come to Basel not only because Zionism has played such a major role in my life and in my father's life before me, but also to make a statement with my life. To be there in Switzerland at this time, when the Swiss have so rudely disrupted the Jewish consciousness by revealing that they had willfully withheld knowledge of Holocaust victims' bank accounts for 50 years, was an opportunity for me, along with other Jews, to be able to say to the Swiss, *am Yisrael chai*, the people of Israel lives, and we are here and we are alive.

Staying at the Drei Konige Hotel, that ancient (1086) and still glorious hotel of the Three Kings, I drank in the aura of Theodor Herzl, who had stayed in that same hotel 100 years ago. His room is preserved as it was then; even his laundry bill from his second visit in 1898 is framed on the wall. I peered from his balcony out onto the darkly flowing Rhine and felt Jewish history touching me. His room is opened only by special permission.

In Basel, I found paradox. Of some 1,500 Jews in attendance, about half were Israelis (a good portion of the Knesset and the Jewish Agency hierarchy among them). Large youth groups came from South America, from all over Europe (including Hungary) and from South Africa, but there were relatively few North American Jews.

When I went to the podium to congratulate Prof. Irwin Cotler of Montreal and tell him how proud he had made me feel as a fellow Canadian, he replied that we were the only two Canadians there, and were probably the only two who knew about the conference! (I did discover, when I returned to Toronto, that there were a few other Canadians present.)

The Basel Jewish community welcomed us to their synagogue, the same synagogue where Herzl had an aliyah in 1897, which he compared in his diary to a thrill equal to that of the Congress! An entire floor of the Stadtcasino was turned into an excellent kosher restaurant for our convenience. There is no kosher slaughtering permitted in Switzerland; so everything was imported from France. We appreciated this effort even more therefore.

Security was very tight. Jews are news, after all, and the Swiss wanted to avoid any incident by having all delegates wear special badges and by bringing in enough uniformed police and military to equal almost one guard per delegate – 1,080 soldiers for 1,500 delegates! That doesn't take into account, of course, all the Israeli military who were present too. One Swiss guard carried a clipboard which read "FBI Academy!"

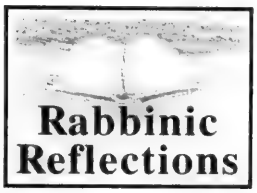
But the clearest message from the Basel Jewish community was that what I thought was black and white concerning Switzerland's "neutrality" was not so black and white at all. Germany's Black Forest sits directly on Basel's border and there is a railway station within Basel that was and is still officially German territory.

Borders in Switzerland, where they touch France and Germany, are not the same as Canada's border touching the United States. We in North America cannot extrapolate our understanding of borders to Europe. The history is different, the geography is different and the concept of neutrality is different. A nation can only be neutral, after all, if other nations allow it.

When we sat in the Stadtcasino and heard Maximillian Shell (a world renowned Swiss actor, but not a Swiss Jew) pause in his reading from Herzl's diary to say, "I must tell you from my heart that Switzerland does accept responsibility for history," we all cheered. When we stood to sing Hatikvah in that room, with Herzl's eyes looking into our eyes, we wept.

Later at the Kunsthalle (the symphony hall) we heard the Basil symphony play with Swiss klezmorim Yiddish melodies and songs of Israel. Eighty Jewish children from Basel sang *Al haNissim*, (For All the Miracles), a moment they will always remember. I knew then why I had travelled so far to share this event with other Jews. I did it for my grandchildren.

Selma Z. Sage lives in Toronto.



In the beginning...

By RABBI MAURY KELMAN

We currently find ourselves reading Genesis, the timeless bedrock of our nation that continues to elucidate and animate millions of lives thousands of years after the events.

Writers throughout history, from John Milton to Thomas Mann, have distilled Bereshit's teachings in their creation, making it perhaps the most widely read and discussed best-seller of all times.

As Jews, we study the messages of Genesis, not only when we read its 12 weekly portions in the synagogue, but throughout the year, comparing, for example, the often cryptic commentary of the 11th-century Rashi with the more expansive Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch of 19th century Germany.

Why? Is it the incomparable chutzpah of the first Jewish advocate, fearless while defending the people of Sodom before God? Or perhaps we are spellbound by the vision of Abraham leading his beloved son to the altar. Or is it the incomparable drama of the Joseph story that seizes our emotions and minds? Clearly, Bereshit encompasses all of these magnetizing nuanced narratives, which can guide the greatest of creative writers.

The uniqueness of the first book of the Torah, however, stems from the greatness of our forefathers and mothers, who truly remain alive after more than 3,000 years.

Generally, we may understand our ultimate role models in two distinct ways. Certain commentators and contemporary Jews feel that we cannot use regular tools to explore their lives. If Abraham seemed unwise in putting his wife in a difficult position in Egypt, it is only because we, as regular humans, cannot perceive Abraham's wisdom and surely have no right to judge him on our terms. The same is true in the few instances when we may detect a flaw in the protagonists of Bereshit – the problem is in our understanding, not in their conduct. We place our ancestors on a pedestal, offering a transcendent vision of human greatness.

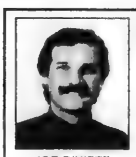
Others, notably Nachmanides, the great 13th-century Spanish rabbi, doctor and exegete, feel that it is indeed valid to view our forefathers and mothers as human beings who struggle to overcome the many obstacles placed in their paths. According to this view, they are not, as one contemporary rosh yeshivah explained "ossified statues of petrified tzadkut." Nachmanides, for example, feels that both Abraham and Sarah did err, albeit unintentionally, on certain occasions.

While both viewpoints are valid in Jewish tradition, the latter perspective may be more compelling to the contemporary Jew in day to day life. While the almost meta-human viewpoint surely commands our respect and awe, it may represent an unreachable goal for the typical person who does not spend the majority of his or her time studying Torah or contemplating God.

However, when we recognize Abraham as someone who wandered, in the words of Nachmanides, as a lost sheep before achieving greatness, or Jacob as a hard working shepherd who overcame seemingly debilitating obstacles to raise a successful family, our ancestors suddenly become more accessible to us. They had to work hard, often triumphing over internal doubts and past errors, to attain their lofty goals.

The vast majority of us can only dream about the accomplishments of our nation's architects. We can, however, gain strength and inspiration from our ancestors' dogged determination and their optimistic attitude in the face of hardships. We can transform our lives and achieve our personal, familial and community goals by continuing to study and to inculcate these characteristics in our own lives. Our goals are not to be like Abraham and Sarah, but rather in the same way that they fulfilled their specific missions, we must fulfil ours by converting our potential into reality.

Rabbi Kelman is the director of Kedma, an international organization for observant students, and rabbi of Kehillat Moriah in Jerusalem.2



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On giving tzedakah

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Rosh Hashanah is well behind us. But the other new year draws near and with it the last-minute impulse to donate to charity. So, I'd like to take a look at some of the sites on the Jewish Highway where you can pick up background information on charity and perhaps even leave some tzedakah behind.

Over the next three weeks, we'll examine some of the ethical issues in giving (and taking) money; get tips on how to inspire tzedakah in children; and even find locations on the World Wide Web which you can donate charity right from the convenience of your keyboard.

Actually, charity really isn't a very good translation of the word "tzedakah." According to Albert Vorspan, tzedakah literally means "righteousness. Tzedakah," he says, "is not an act of condescension from one person to another who has a lower social and economic status. Tzedakah is the fulfilment of an obligation to a fellow being with equal status." You can find this definition and others at **[http://www.jtsa.edu/melton/tzedaka/quotes.html]**.

In a very interesting overview of The Economics of Tzedakah **[http://swfs.org/5758erh.htm]**, Rabbi Gary M. Bretton-Garanatoor of New York's Stephen Wise Free Synagogue looks at the example set by Abraham.

"We know little of Abraham's early life, and one might wonder why Abraham was singled out to become G-d's partner in the Covenant. We learn from the text that, "Vayach'shveha lo tzedakah – G-d considered Abraham on account of his righteousness" (Genesis 15:6) **[http://bible.ort.org/bible/htm/genesis/torah/15061508.htm]**.

"Throughout the Torah, tzedakah, acts of righteousness, are tied to the Hebrew term mishpat, legal justice, so that we learn that doing what is right and just is a legal obligation."

One of the most thought-provoking articles that I came across did not address the giving of tzedakah but the taking of it. In When Good Money Comes from Bad People **[http://www.jtsa.edu/pubs/jtsmag/vol6iss3/forum.html]**, three professionals look at Jewish sources to help grapple with the ethics of accepting donations from morally questionable sources. What would you do?

Roger David Carasso asks a couple of other difficult questions in Directed Tzedakah: A Torah Look into Where Tzedakah Should be Given **[http://www.carasso.com/roger/charity.html]**. How much should you give and to whom? Similarly, Stewart Abrams asks Do American Jews have a Tzedakah Responsibility to Non-Jewish Poor? at **[http://www.mkorshalom.org/tzedakah.htm]**.

Finally, take a look at Arthur Kurzweil's Brother, Can You Spare a Dime: The Treatment of Beggars According to Jewish Tradition **[http://www.ajritz.com/jew/brother.htm]**. Kurzweil says that although "the organized Jewish community has gotten the mitzvah of giving tzedakah down to a virtual science," he has always been confused and inconsistent in his treatment of beggars.

He poses 15 questions, such as "What if they are all fakes or frauds?" "Shouldn't these beggars be supported by official agencies?" and "Should I buy them a cup of coffee because they'll probably spend it on booze anyway?" Kurzweil, who is not a rabbi, but a well-known Jewish genealogist, clearly spent a great deal of effort sifting through traditional sources which demand compassion for the needy.

For more definitions of tzedakah, see **[http://user03.blue.aol.com/jewfaq/tzedakah.htm]**, **[http://linex1.linex.com/~yrice/tzedakah.html]** and **[http://www.joi.org/edutain/rosh/tzedakah.htm]**.

Next week, we'll continue our look at tzedakah and the Jewish Highway with suggestions about how to decide who to help.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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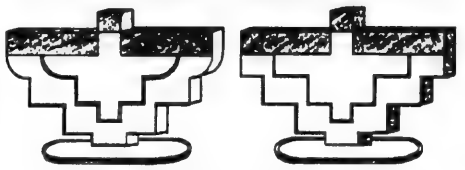
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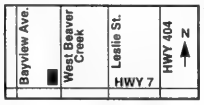

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Rabbi's spiritual odyssey included Buddhist sojourn

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Rabbi Alan Lew

TORONTO — "I'm a little slow on the uptake," joked Rabbi Alan Lew. "I had to go to a Buddhist monastery for 10 years before I figured out I was Jewish."

Ironically, it was his involvement in Zen Buddhism that led him back to his Jewish roots, he said at a recent program at Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

Rabbi Lew, the spiritual leader of a large Conservative congregation in San Francisco and president of the Board of Rabbis of Northern California, was the first guest three weeks ago in a weekly four-part, Thursday evening series on Fulfilling Your Spiritual Needs: A Personal Choice; Living Unique Lives – Jewishly. The participants are being interviewed by Michael Enright, host of CBC's *This Morning*.

(Last week's guest was Dr. Elliott Malamet, Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto faculty member and *CJN* columnist. The series winds up this week with filmmaker Simcha Jacobovici. Secular humanist practitioner Eva Goldfinger was the second participant.)

Meditation to enhance awareness isn't antithetical to Judaism, although there's a conflict between Judaism and religious Buddhist precepts, Rabbi Lew explained.

He said the Chassidim "used to sit for an hour to incline their consciousness to prepare for the act of prayer," according to the Mishnah. Kabbalah is also a contemplative tradition, he noted.

Zen meditation makes you more aware of yourself, said Rabbi Lew. "What I discovered to my shock was that a tremendous amount of my unconscious material was Jewish."

As a small child, the rabbi lived in Brooklyn, an "intensely Jewish" environment, but moved to a rural area of New York at age six. Judaism became an unimportant part of his life.

As a youngster, he would go into the forest and talk to God, he said. "Nothing I encountered in a synagogue matched these deep, passionate, spiritual feelings that I felt in the forest by myself.

"I wasn't trying to get away from Judaism,...[but] it never occurred to me to pursue those kinds of feelings in a Jewish context."

Rabbi Lew has since realized that Buddhism and traditional Judaism share an element of discipline he feels is important spiritually. But the low percentage of people practising Judaism on a disciplined, daily basis may explain why many are turning elsewhere for spiritual fulfilment, he suggested.

San Francisco is an extreme example. In the Bay Area, the vast majority of people never sets foot in a synagogue, he said. Beth Sholom, Rabbi Lew's congregation, has the only non-Orthodox daily minyan in the area, he told *The CJN*. Jews are more likely to turn to a therapist, a retreat or an ashram than a rabbi in times of need, he said.

"Unfortunately we've proven to be the wave of the future. Watch for this in your theatre too," he cautioned. "This is a serious disconnect."

He advises concerned parents to "inoculate" their children. "The more you give them of real substance before they go away, the greater the likelihood they'll come back."

His own "inoculation" was minimal, although he recalls his father's father, an Orthodox rabbi, visiting with "three magical satchels of Hebrew letters," he told *The CJN* in a separate interview. "Now I spend a lot of time meditating on Hebrew letters."

At California's Tassajara Zen Centre where Rabbi Lew studied, there was a group of Jewish students who would joke about being just short of a minyan. Among them was Rabbi Lew's closest friend, a former Orthodox Jew, who "shlepped" him to High Holy Day services every year.

Daily minyan is "the oldest trick in the Jewish spiritual book," Rabbi Lew said. "Davening is...a profound daily spiritual activity."

At Rabbi Lew's synagogue, there is a meditation hour before davening to enhance the experience. Meditation groups exist at most of San Francisco's large Conservative synagogues, Rabbi Lew said.

"Can the path to spirituality be achieved without religion?" asked Enright.

"Sure," said the rabbi. "But religion adds a lot, especially the Jewish religion."

In his mid-30s, after 10 years of studying Buddhism, Rabbi Lew was invited to be ordained as a Buddhist priest. "I couldn't do it."

After leaving Buddhism, he was newly engaged and planning his wedding. "It occurred to us that we're both Jewish – why don't we get a rabbi?" he recalled after the program.

Their rabbi introduced him to Torah study and the rudiments of the Shabbat service, and invited him repeatedly to give divrei Torah at his Santa Rosa congregation.

Then a freelance writer, Rabbi Lew served as "imposter rabbi" after the rabbi returned to his native France, and entered the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1982 at age 37.

"I have great faith in the tenacity of the Jewish spiritual impulse," said Rabbi Lew. "I think it will prevail."

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Greater Toronto Area

Edgar Bronfman honored on CCCJ 50th anniversary

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — When it celebrated its 50th anniversary recently, the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews (CCCJ) honored the contributions of its "First Families" – those with two generations of active Council membership.

At the banquet and silent auction held at the Royal York Hotel, Edgar Bronfman, chairman of The Seagram Company Ltd. and president of the World Jewish Congress, was also awarded the CCCJ's Good Servant Medal for his "extraordinary work on behalf of victims of the Holocaust."

The presentation was made by CCCJ president John Bankes, who noted that Bronfman was a member of one of the council's First Families.

"Bronfman speaks to us all of justice — particularly for those who can't speak for themselves," Bankes said.

Bronfman is also president of the World Restitution Organization, which is devoted to ensuring the return of communal Jewish property stolen during the Nazi era in eastern and western Europe.

Ned Goodman, former president of CCCJ and recently appointed chairman of the board, spoke of Bronfman's efforts on behalf of the victims of the Holocaust, and referred to the half-century in which CCCJ "fought to make sure that such history does not repeat itself."

In his acknowledgement of the honor, Bronfman said it wasn't just the Swiss or the French or anybody else, including Canada and the United States, who were responsible for harming Jews.

"The world has not learned its lesson of the Holocaust: anti-Semitism and anti-racism end up with

Edgar Bronfman

something like the Holocaust," he said.

He noted that hundreds of thousands of people are being murdered in Africa and Asia strictly for racist reasons. "I hope that some day the whole world can learn the lesson of the Holocaust so we can stop the killing of brother against brother."

In the United States, Canada, Britain, France and other countries, he explained, if there is a dormant bank account and nobody claims the money, it belongs to the state.

"In Switzerland, the money belongs to the bank," he said. "So what motivation has the bank to say, 'Sure this isn't ours, this is yours. Take it.'"?

There is now incontrovertible proof, he said, that at least 10 to 15 percent of the gold shipped from Germany to Switzerland contained personal gold from teeth and rings "and we are going to London to make sure this also goes to the survivors."

In addition to caring for the survivors, Bronfman said his dream is to rebuild Judaism, "so that we become worthy of their sacrifice."

Goodman paid tribute to the members of the First Families, saying that they "vowed to create an organization which would work with universality to fight prejudice, injustice, racism and the things which we stand for."

A video presentation featured personal comments from members of the First Families. Those honored included: John and Douglas Bassett; Allan and Edward Bronfman; Sam and Charles Bronfman; Sydney Cooper and Tobie (Cooper) Bekhor; Lady Eaton and John Craig Eaton; Bert and Sheldon Godfrey; Gerald and Peter Godsoe; Ned, Anita and Mark Goodman; Herb and Tanya Philipps; Sam and Dorothy Reitman; Leon Weinstein and Carol (Weinstein) Epstein; and Ray, Rose, and Jonathan Wolfe.

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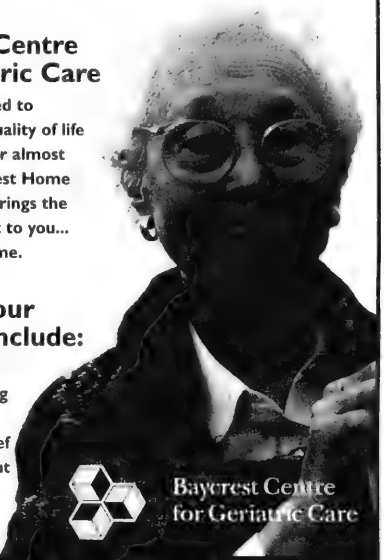

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JNF to honor Edward Bronfman

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Edward Bronfman, this year's Jewish National Fund (JNF) Negev Dinner honoree is a paradox.

As a quiet-spoken man, he shuns the limelight. His commitment to philanthropic causes, however, has brought him numerous honors.

On Dec. 7 at The Sheraton Centre Hotel, the Toronto community will pay tribute to Bronfman "in recognition of excellence in communal leadership and dedication to Israel."

Bronfman has the distinction of being the only Canadian to be chosen as JNF's honoree twice — in Montreal and now in Toronto.

Proceeds from the 49th annual JNF dinner will assist with land reclamation and development at Kibbutz Neot Semadar, established in 1989 in the Southern Arava of the Negev Desert, 70 km north of Eilat, says Tom Ungar, president of JNF Toronto.

"It is an unusual honor and a privilege to be associated with one as committed to worthwhile causes as is Edward Bronfman," says Donald Carr, dinner chair and campaign co-chair with Arnold Cader.

"That is all the more so because of his genuine humility, his concern for the sensitivity towards his fellow human beings, as well as his insistence on fully understanding and being in consonance with the charitable activities which he is asked to support."

Bronfman, said Carr, is "in every sense of the word, a gentleman, and everyone who comes into contact with him senses that immediately.

Edward Bronfman

He is the personification of the ideal candidate for a community's honor and esteem."

Born in Montreal, Bronfman attended Selwyn House and Bishop's College School and received a B.Sc. in business administration from Babson College in Wellesley, Mass. in 1950.

His parents, Allan and Lucy Bronfman were known for their generosity and communal involvement, and Bronfman said that he and his brother Peter, who died last year, could not "help learning to give to those less fortunate."

His eclectic communal involvements include being national co-chair of the Canadian Council for Christians and Jews; board member of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business; the Canadian Psychiatric Research Foundation; the Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research; and other health and social service agencies. He serves on the board of governors of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and is an active participant in the JNF and United Jewish Appeal.

In 1989, he established the private Edward Bronfman Family Foundation, dedicated to providing direct services to individuals through project-oriented endeavors.

Foundation head Dayle Rakowsky said it contributed to numerous Canadian, Israeli, and international institutions, whether educational, medical, social services, athletic, artistic or religious.

In an interview at his downtown Toronto office, Bronfman spoke enthusiastically about a recent visit he and his wife Marsha made to Kibbutz Neot Semadar.

He says that he was impressed by the "determination and idealism" of the members of the kibbutz. "We felt they must be typical of the pioneer spirit of the original kibbutz movement. They have created an oasis in the middle of the desert."

He described the farming of traditional crops at the kibbutz — dates, citrus orchards, olive trees, melons, flowers for export and vegetables — and their emphasis on organic agricultural concepts.

"This approach emphasizes [people] living in harmony with their natural surroundings."

Because of the torrid heat most of the year, members of the kibbutz work two shifts, from 5 a.m. to 11 a.m. and then from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Funds raised at the Negev Dinner will help develop the infrastructure at the kibbutz; develop the site as a tourist attraction with an artificial lake that will also serve as a reservoir; create an art studio; and be used for additional land reclamation.

Described by friends as "a proud family man," Bronfman, an avid skier and runner, has three sons, Paul, who is in the entertainment business; David, an entrepreneur; Brian, a mediator in Vermont; and a stepdaughter Lisa, who joined the family when Bronfman married Marsha Noik in 1991.

He says he's pleased that his five grandchildren are Hebrew day school students.

Bronfman, a member of Beth Tzedec Congregation, says that although he prefers to "remain inconspicuous," he agreed to accept JNF's tribute "because this is an opportunity for me to help further the wonderful work done by JNF and to raise funds for this outstanding project.

"If I hadn't accepted, I would have missed the opportunity to meet the dedicated people at Kibbutz Neot Semadar."

The recently appointed Jerusalem emissary to Toronto from JNF world headquarters, Col. Yaen Vered, will participate in the program. Vered has been appointed for a three year term.

Ben Prossin, executive director of JNF Toronto says, "Edward Bronfman is perhaps the best example of a person who has not chased honors but whom honor has sought."

Torath Emeth Jewish Center
(Viewmount Shul)
in association with
Ohr Somayach Institutions
presents:

a provocative evening with

Rabbi Yitzchak Breitowitz
Professor of Law, University of Maryland
On the topic of:

The Holocaust:
Can we forgive? Should we?
Saturday Night, November 29
8:30 PM
to be held in
Torath Emeth Jewish Center
1 Viewmount Avenue
Public Invited/Separate Seating
$5 admission
Information: (905) 886-5730

Ohr Somayach Toronto
Presents
An enlightening evening with
Rabbi Yitzchak Breitowitz
Professor of Law, University of Maryland
On the topic of:

Cloning:
Are We Playing G-d?
Sunday, November 30, 8:30 PM
in the
Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto
613 Clark Avenue W., Thornhill
$5 admission
Somayach@ MSN.com
http:// www. ohr.org.il
(905) 886-5730

Community Matters

CAMPAIGN COUNTDOWN BEGINS

Days of Decision

Your Time To Make A Difference.
December 7th-17th, 1997

Toronto's Jewish community is being asked to help propel UJA Federation's Campaign '98 toward one of its best years yet as it approaches the official closing on December 17.

The Days of Decision, from December 7 –17, will marshal hundreds of volunteers to raise as much money as possible before the campaign ends. They'll be contacting more than 4,000 UJA Federation supporters who have not yet made their 1998 pledge. To date, 23,000 donors have contributed over $30 million.

Even though UJA Federation continues to accept gifts after December 17, budget deliberations for beneficiary agencies begin in January. Days of Decision co-chairs Judy Engel and Colin Lewis point out that Jews in need count on UJA Federation's year-round support.

Days of Decision telethons will be held at UJA Federation headquarters, 4600 Bathurst St., as well as other locations around the city, including homes, offices and agencies. "This is an opportunity for volunteers who could not attend previous telethons to pitch in", explains Engel.

UJA Federation is also inviting children to experience the campaign excitement. On Sunday December 7, Junior UJA is organizing games and entertainment at the Lipa Green Building, to keep kids busy, while their parents are on the phone.

If you would like to help make calls on behalf of Jews in need all over the world please call (416) 631-5699.

Golden Praises Partnership

The United Way of Greater Toronto will be allocating $3 million this year to Jewish agencies, maintaining a strong partnership with the community.

The United Way provides funding for 10 organizations including the Bathurst Jewish Centre, Jewish Family and Child Service and Senior Care – all UJA Federation beneficiary agencies – plus the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care, in addition to UJA Federation support.

United Way President Anne Golden says the historically close relationship between Toronto's Jewish community and the United Way is mutually beneficial. "The United Way allocates more than 10% of our annual budget to Jewish agencies," explains Golden, "but in return Jewish leadership plays an important role in our organization."

During the early 1940s, the United Jewish Welfare Fund, UJA Federation's predecessor played an integral role in founding the United Way by providing expertise, staff and volunteers. "There would not be a United Way without the Jewish community," emphasizes Dr. Stephen Speisman, Director of the Ontario Jewish Archives.

Each year members of the Jewish community participate in the United Way Walk-A-thon.

Jewish Family and Child Service is the largest community recipient of United Way funding at almost $1.4 million a year for administrative costs and salaries.

Golden called Jewish Vocational Service, which provides a wide range of educational, employment and vocational training for both Jews and non-Jews, a "cutting edge organization."

Golden is "impressed" with the "innovative and creative programs" run by many of the Jewish agencies funded by the United Way.

That's one of the reasons why she believes "the partnership between the United Way and the Jewish community will continue as long as people need help."

Going the Extra Mile

Children with special needs and teenagers searching for their Jewish identity will be the beneficiaries of "plus giving" by UJA Federation supporters.

In addition to their annual campaign commitment, members of the Investment Division have undertaken to help fund a school for physically and developmentally challenged children. The Builders and Developers Division is supporting a program that takes high school students on a journey through post-World War II Jewish history.

The Investment Division, chaired by Harvey Naglie and Norman Levine, has already raised more than $85,000 for the Zareinu School which educates children with special needs. Proceeds from the Zareinu Fund will provide the school with resources to help subsidize the school's tuition - approximately $11,000 per child - and to help meet growing demands on facilities and programming.

"It's difficult to weigh the relative value of mitzvahs," suggests Naglie, "but what they're doing at Zareinu puts them on the very highest plain." Naglie says he and others were deeply moved by the presentation made to the Investment Division by Zareinu staff on behalf of the school. "It's an honour for us to be associated with them and to help meet their needs."

The Builders and Developers Division, chaired by Stephen Goldhar and David Peltz, chose the March of Living program as their special project, for which they have raised close to $60,000 dollars so far. Every two years, hundreds of teenagers from across Canada join thousands of their counterparts on an emotional tour of concentration camps and Jewish sites in Poland and in Israel.

Peter Ekstein, co-chair of the Construction Cabinet and a child of a Holocaust survivor, says the division chose March of the Living to make the mission more accessible to Jewish youth. "Hopefully the money we raise will help narrow the gap between what people can afford and the actual cost of the trip," says Ekstein. Last year more than 300 Toronto area high school students participated in the March.

Life Skills Interventionist Jordan Goldman works with Zareinu student Max Weinryb using clay.

LEGAL BRIEFING

U.S. defence attorney Robert Shapiro spoke to hundreds of UJA Federation supporters at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts on a recent visit to Toronto. (left to right) Riki and Howard Lichtman, Robert Shapiro and Abe Glowinsky. ***Photo: Stephen Epstein***

Community Matters

MISSION TRACES HISTORY

Hundreds of Canadians will relive some of the most decisive and dramatic events in Israel's history on UJA Federation's historic trip celebrating the Jewish homeland's 50th anniversary.

Mission 98 Israel at 50, February 23 – March 4, 1998 features first class accommodations, daily breakfasts, most other meals, all touring and entrance fees, and, according to Mission 98 Chair Sandra Brown, "a chance to see Israel the way only UJA Federation can show it."

In addition to visiting Israel's most popular sites – the kotel (Western Wall), Masada, and picturesque Lake Kinneret, Mission 98 participants will tour landmarks of Israel's heritage, such as Tel Chai, Ein Shemer and Acco where illegal Jewish immigrants and Jewish resistance fighters were held by the British, during the War of Independence. The fortress at Acco houses a museum commemorating the release of 41 Jews from prison by Israeli forces.

In marking Israel's 50th anniversary, participants will follow the courageous footsteps of Jewish fighters on the "Warriors Tour", climb through the Golan Heights and attend festive celebrations across the country. A gala Israel at 50 anniversary dinner will be held for the entire Canadian contingent at the Jerusalem Conference Centre.

"This is a once in a lifetime chance for our community to show our solidarity with Israel and to take part in one of the most pivotal events in modern Jewish history," says Brown. "If you've ever thought of going to Israel...this is the time."

So far, some 300 Torontonians have either reserved space or expressed their intentions to participate. For more information on Mission 98 call (416) 635-2883 ext. 308.

Canada Centre in Metulla, built with Canadian Jewish community contributions, is always one of the highlights of UJA Federation missions to Israel. Mayor Yossi Goldberg (left) welcomes UJA Federation Chairman Leo Goldhar to the popular fitness and recreation centre which houses an Olympic size skating rink and swimming pool.

PERSON TO PERSON

UJA Federation's Friend for Life

Motivational expert Jonathan Miller's infectious enthusiasm and inspirational power have been generating excitement around UJA Federation campaigns for years. But the veteran volunteer says what he's gotten back from all his hard work is just as valuable as what he's given.

Miller, who is president of his own motivation, sales and marketing company, realized he had a talent for inspiring others at an early age while growing up in Manchester, England. His commitment to tzedakah began at about the same time when Miller and a group of his teenage friends raised funds to help homeless Jews.

After coming to Canada for an extended visit with his brother in 1969, Miller decided to make Toronto his home and began selling women's dresses throughout the Windsor - Toronto corridor from the back of a truck. Miller's sales strength eventually led to ownership of a 13 store chain, which he sold in 1977.

Although he had been a UJA Federation supporter for many years, serving as co-chair of the Fashion and Textile Division, it wasn't until the 1992 campaign that Miller's unique motivational skills changed the way campaigners were being trained.

"Training was the poor cousin of campaign," explains Miller, who later became UJA Federation's senior trainer. "I believe campaign training should be an event in itself."

Miller, who always feels comfortable in front of a crowd, believes straight talk is the best strategy. "Look them in the eye and tell them what you want," he says. "That way you remove the tension from the conversation and the negotiation."

Today, even though his consulting takes him to Jewish organizations all over the world, including the U.S., Britain and Israel, Miller is always on hand to energize and encourage UJA Federation volunteers. "UJA Federation," he proclaims, "has a devotee for life."

Jonathan Miller

IN

There is nothing more heartwarming than bringing a smile to the face of a child. But, for many in our community, smiles are sometimes few and far between. Through the Junior UJA Tzedakah All-Star Team, a program initiated by UJA Federation, hundreds of children can smile more often.

A PROGRAM LIKE NO OTHER

The program, founded by Toronto mom Elizabeth Erlich two years ago, is a means for young children to donate birthday and holiday presents to needy youngsters. A Tzedakah All Star box in which children are encouraged to deposit unwrapped gifts is located in several Jewish day schools throughout the city.

To date, close to 2,000 gifts have been sent to Jewish Family & Child Service for distribution. "It's an excellent way to teach young children the principles of giving in a fun and easy to understand format," says Tzedakah All-Star Team past chairperson Karen Amato. "The support from the young kids has been incredible. They really have learned the meaning of sharing."

FROM EAR TO EAR

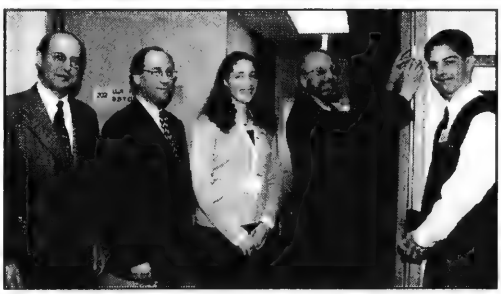
"The children who benefit from this project have so little – they beam with delight when they receive a new toy on Chanukah or their birthdays," remarks Jewish Family & Child Service spokesperson Florence Weinberger.

And the satisfaction gained from the presents stretches far beyond the recipients. Each child who donates a gift receives a note of appreciation from the Tzedakah All-Star Team and also becomes a member of the Junior UJA Club which entitles them to participate in special events throughout the year.

For Jacob Druck, 10, and his sister Jamie, 12, giving to others less fortunate is an important part of their lives. "There are lots of parents who are not able to give their children toys because they don't have the money," says Jamie. "It makes me feel good to know that I can bring happiness to somebody else."

"I've already donated games – and I'm going to continue giving," promises Jacob.

The Tzedakah All Star Team, is another example of UJA Federation funding in action.



UJA Federation and BBYO recently celebrated the opening of their new shared office space in York Region with the help of area residents and Jewish communal leaders .

***(left to right)** UJA Federation President Joey Steiner, Paul Bainerman, Chairman of BBYO's Adult Board, Sherri Rotstein, Co-President BBYO, Rabbi Jeremiah Unterman, Director of the Board of Jewish Education and BBYO Co-President Avery Benmergui.*

***Community Matters**, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org*

Community Matters

FUND FURTHERS JEWISH EDUCATION

The largest endowment fund created solely for Jewish education in Toronto is helping one of the world's most respected Jewish education systems become even better.

The Wagman Fund, administered by UJA Federation, was created in 1990 through the generosity of the late Toronto businessman Saul Wagman, to enhance the quality of Jewish education and access to it.

Since its establishment, the Wagman Fund has been used for teacher training through conference subsidies; the purchase of curriculum material and audio visual equipment; and the hiring of a consultant for children with special needs.

The most recent initiative made possible through the fund was the Board of Jewish Education's Professional Development Day, held earlier this month. Approximately 1300 day and supplementary school teachers attended the two day conference, devoted to Israel at 50. It focused on providing educators with tools and techniques to help them incorporate Israel into the classroom. Keynote speaker Dr. Avraham Infeld, Founder and President of the Melitz Centres for Jewish Zionist Education in Jerusalem, told teachers to "explore Israel's complexities" in order to "make it come alive in your teachings."

"The Wagman Fund gives us the opportunity to implement initiatives and programs we would not otherwise have the resources to do," notes UJA Federation President Joey Steiner.

"The most important role of the BJE is to develop the skills and talents of our educators," adds BJE Chair Shirley Worth. "High quality teachers and curriculum will result in high quality students and a bright future."

Shirley Worth

THE

SECOND ANNUAL

LOUIS LENKINSKI

MEMORIAL LECTURE

ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Louis Lenkinski

Ed Broadbent

Ed Broadbent, P.C., O.C.

Former NDP Leader and
Renowned International Human Rights Advocate

"SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS: WHERE HAVE WE BEEN AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?"

on

International Human Rights Day
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1997
7:30 P.M.
COUNCIL HOUSE
4700 Bathurst Street, North York

Admission Free

Sponsored by
Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region
in cooperation with
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

UJA FEDERATION

Volunteer Views

Volunteer Views *highlights dedicated volunteers and volunteering opportunities in our community.*

Just a little time

Richard Eichler believes when it comes to tzedakah, time is just as important as money. That's why, in addition to supporting UJA Federation and several other community charities, the 35 year old consultant volunteers as a big brother.

Eichler has been a Jewish Family and Child Service big brother to a ten year old boy, who has grown up without a father, for almost a year and half. Being a positive male influence in his young friend's life makes Eichler feel like he's making a difference.

A good listener

"I know how important it can be for him to have a man to talk to sometimes," explains Eichler. "With me, he can talk openly and comfortably about certain things in his daily life."

The two, who meet once a week, except when Eichler's work takes him out of town, usually go to a sporting event, a movie or some kind of show.

"He really loved *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat,"* recalls Eichler. "After the show, he was grinning from ear to ear and I was glad I could do that for him."

Jewish values

Although the Calgary native is also involved with State of Israel Bonds and Beit Halochem, Eichler says his role as a big brother is something very special and unique.

"It's a natural way for me to express my Jewishness and to give something of myself back to the community."

If you are interested in applying to be a big brother call Jewish Family and Child Service, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency at (416) 638-7800.

Days of Decision

Your Time To Make A Difference.

December 7th-17th, 1997

TEN DAYS. TENS OF THOUSANDS IN NEED.

It takes only a minute to improve a life forever. One minute to make a commitment to UJA Federation and hundreds helped by your gift alone.

Our community's response to Campaign 98 has been extraordinary. UJA Federation's Campaign Management Team extends its gratitude to more than 23,000 contributors who have donated over $30 million so far.

But we still have enormous commitments to honour. To the poor, the ill and the elderly. To Jews in danger around the world. To Jewish education. To Jewish values.

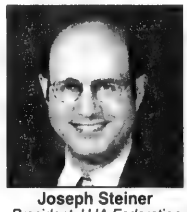
If you have not yet joined UJA Federation's family of supporters this year, please do so during the upcoming Days of Decision, December 7-17. Your gift is more than a matter of money. It's an umbrella of hope for thousands of people around the world.

Leo Goldhar
Chair

David Engel
Vice-Chair

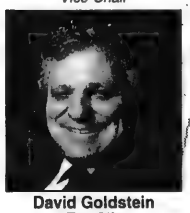
Glennie Lindenberg
Vice-Chair

Agi Mandel
Women's Campaign Chair



Joseph Steiner
President, UJA Federation

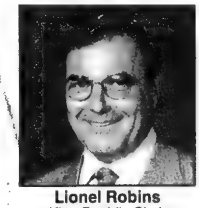
Judy Engel
Women's Campaign Vice-Chair



David Goldstein
Top Gifts

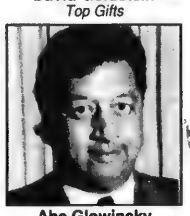
Lawrence Tanenbaum
Top Gifts

Michael Daren
King David's Circle

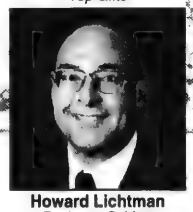


Lionel Robins
King David's Circle

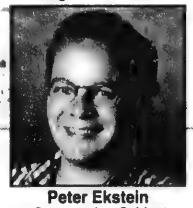
Norman Godfrey
Major Gifts



Abe Glowinsky
Business Cabinet



Howard Lichtman
Business Cabinet



Peter Ekstein
Construction Cabinet

Phil Rubinoff
Construction Cabinet

As we head toward our campaign closing, help us help them.

UJA FEDERATION

For One People. Forever.

4600 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M2R 3V2

416-631-5705 • 1-888-635-2424

www.feduja.org

NEW BEGINNINGS

Elana (a pseudonym is being used by request) is studying philosophy at university with her eye on a criminology career, thanks to Jewish Family & Child Service, a UJA Federation beneficiary agency. Before finding JF&CS, Elana, a single mother with three children, was desperate for financial and moral support. This summer, UJA Federation and JF&CS helped her two sons experience camp for the first time.

STARTING OVER

When Irene Lastman suffered a stroke over a decade ago, she converted all her energy into getting better through the Stroke Recovery Group at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, a UJA beneficiary agency. In July, nearly 100 people participated in a yearly dinner for group members and their spouses.

BEYOND ETHIOPIA

Fourteen years ago, Shlomo Molla, at the age of 16, literally walked into a new life. It was a dangerous 700 kilometre hike from Ethiopia to Sudan, for a flight to Israel, funded by the UJA Federation supported Jewish Agency. Today, Molla supervises Hebrew instruction for immigrants in Israel's north.

The Days of Decision. Your Time to Make a Difference.

Stephen Altbaum
Professions Cabinet

Howard Price
Professions Cabinet

Charles Winograd
Venture Cabinet

Harry Krakowsky
Community Cabinet

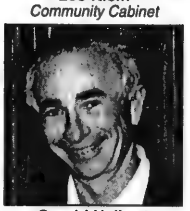
Les Klein
Community Cabinet

Michael Rosenberg
Societies Cabinet

Ralph Snow
Societies Cabinet

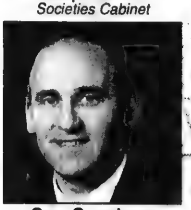
Les Aaron
Young Leadership Cabinet

Tammy Anklewicz
Young Leadership Cabinet



Gerald Halbert
Past Chairmen's Council

Rosanne Ain
New Gifts Cabinet



Gary Grundman
New Gifts Cabinet

Karen Miller
Partners

Howard Sokolowski
Partners

Barry Sherman
Legacy Chair

Greater Toronto Area

Entebbe pilot recalls mission for museum fundraiser

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Joshua Shani insists he was just "in the right place at the right time."

After a suggestion he's being too modest, Shani pauses. "I *was* the squadron commander," he allows. "Not to have been chosen would have been the end of a career."

Not only did his career not end, but it took off, and flew straight into the history books.

Shani was chosen to fly the lead plane in Israel's audacious 1976 raid on the Entebbe airport in Uganda, which resulted in the rescue of over 100 hostages, most of them Israelis.

It was a singular event in modern Israeli history, and it's something that will never leave Shani, now 52.

"It's something that is still very significant in Israel," the retired air force general told *The CJN*. "And I will never forget it. It's still very vivid."

Shani was in Toronto last week for a fundraiser for the Israel Air Force Museum, which exhibits one of the planes flown in the daring mission that captured the imagination of the world.

Shani recalls he was briefed about the secret operation a scant few hours before it began.

"I then had just 20 minutes to tell my squadron. They had a million questions. I told them we had to solve problems as they happened in real time."

Shani piloted the lead C-130 transport craft, one of three that appeared, guns blazing, over Entebbe at dawn on July 4, 1976. After a lightning strike, Israeli commandoes freed 103 hostages who had been held by Arab extremists for over a week.

Killed in the 15-minute firefight were three Israeli hostages and the commander of the rescue force, Yonatan Netanyahu, the older brother of Israel's prime minister.

All the hijackers and about 20 Ugandan troops were killed.

Shani's plane carried back some of those rescued. "I saw their faces …children, women, old people. It all happened so fast, they didn't understand. I can still see those faces."

Although retired, Shani is still in the air force reserves. "Israel is the only place in the world where you can be retired and reserved," he quipped.

Last week's gala at the Royal Ontario Museum raised $60,000 for the museum, located at the Hatzerim Air Force Base in the Negev. Also in attendance was Brig.-Gen. Ya'akov Terner, commander of the museum.

From left, Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Joshua Shani, Brig.-Gen. Ya'akov Terner and dinner chair John Sereny.

Jewish 'newspaper' targets local businesses

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Some local businesses are being targeted with high-pressure tactics employed by a York Region outfit that claims to publish a Jewish newspaper.

In recent weeks, local companies have received invoices warning they owe money for ads supposedly taken out in the paper.

The invoices threaten legal action unless the amount is paid within five days. Two of the bills obtained by *The CJN* say the company owes $495 for ads in the publication's "Holiday Edition – Jewish New Year."

Companies that received the threatening letters include generic drug giant Apotex Inc. and Pindoff Record Sales, which supplies retail music outlets.

Victor Goldman of Pindoff Record Sales told *The CJN* he was angry at the hotly-worded invoice. He said the ad in question was never authorized. He called the phone number listed and said he wouldn't pay.

Goldman then passed on the information to Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, which requested back issues.

Chrysler Canada approved an ad that cost more than $5,000, without checking the paper out.

But the agency that handles Chrysler's advertising, BBDO Canada, says it has requested a tear sheet of the ad, a third-party audited statement of the paper's circulation and several back issues before it pays.

Robert Cohn, chair of the ethics committee of the American Jewish Press Association (of which *The CJN* is a member), says operations like this are commonplace.

Cohn says unknown Jewish newspapers pop up all the time across North America and send out aggressively-worded invoices to unsuspecting businesses, especially large ones that might blindly pay them. Even a small return keeps the "boiler-room" operation in business.

Cohn, who publishes the *St. Louis Jewish Light*, says established Jewish newspapers should alert their advertisers to dubious ad solicitations; to have them turn over anything they receive in writing from such publications, especially invoices; and implore them never to pay an unknown invoice.

If unsure, an advertiser should demand to see a signed authorization for the ad and at least three back issues of the publication, Cohn added.

The invoices from the newspaper list an address and phone number in Vaughan.

The company's general manager told *The CJN* his paper is a monthly, put out by a Toronto-based publisher.

He promised to send *The CJN* a copy of his Rosh Hashanah issue, and said any further questions should be put in writing.

After questions were submitted in writing, he accused *The CJN* of "harassment," and being "afraid of competition."

He said ads in the paper were "verbally approved," and that his lawyer is taking all arrears accounts to court.

He said "the biggest companies in the world" advertise in the paper.

In 1993, the Bank of Nova Scotia alerted *The CJN* to a letter it received from a phantom Jewish newspaper in Los Angeles.

The letter threatened legal action unless the bank paid a $3,600 bill for an ad, which the bank denied taking out.

According to the bank at the time, the letter came from the same person who runs the Vaughan operation.

FORTINOS
Your Supermarket with a Heart!
LAWRENCE SQUARE

Fresh Broccoli .79 per bunch Product of U.S.A.

Gold's Borscht 1.29 ea. 32 fl. oz. jar assorted varieties

Glatt • Kosher Beef Cross Rib Shoulder Roasts or Steaks 2.99 lb. 6.59/kg

Fresh Atlantic Salmon Steaks 5.49 lb. 12.10/kg
Fresh Atlantic Salmon Fillets 6.49 lb.

Croyden House Matzo Ball Mix 127 g pkg. 1.69 ea.

Fresh from California Sunkist • Seedless Navel Oranges .79 lb. 1.74/kg Product of U.S.A.

EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Prices effective Sunday Nov. 23 thru Saturday, Nov. 29, 1997.
We reserve the right to limit quantities.

STORE HOURS
Monday to Wednesday 8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Thursday & Friday 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Greater Toronto Area

Cantorial concert to combine two traditions

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A cantorial concert scheduled for this Sunday, entitled East Meets West, will feature cantorial selections from both the Ashkenazi and Sephardi traditions.

The concert will be held at the Sephardic Kehila Centre at Bathurst and Steeles, on Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m.

But the Toronto Council of Hazzanim, which is presenting the event, does more than showcase the two great ethnic traditions of the Jewish people. It is one of the very few organizations to which professionals working for Orthodox, Conservative and Reform congregations all belong.

The council was formed in the early 1960s, by Cantor Nathan Stolnitz, who held positions in several Toronto congregations.

Past president Eliezer Kirshblum, chazzan of Adath Israel Congregation, said that the council should represent something very special to the Jewish community.

"The common denominator is that we are all Jews, and that we are all cantors. We put aside our differences. Out of respect for our professionalism, we sit legitimately with Orthodox, Conservative and Reform, Ashkenazi and Sephardi."

"Music transcends all boundaries," added current president Efraim Sapir, cantor of Beth Tikvah Synagogue. "[The council] represents what the Jewish world should get to in the messianic era."

The Toronto Council of Hazzanim has monthly meetings that deal with such matters as organizing concerts, chazzanut, voice care, what is new in Jewish music, allocation of funds, communal issues and professional development.

One of the most important aspects of the council is the Toronto Cantorial Trust Fund, of which Kirshblum is the chair. In the 25 years it has been operating, Kirshblum said, it has raised over half a million dollars for the Toronto Jewish community and for special causes in Israel.

An annual allocation is donated to the three cantorial training schools, the Cantorial Council of America (Orthodox), the Cantors Assembly (Conservative) and the (Reform) American Conference of Cantors.

As well, scholarships are granted to students studying for the cantorate or involved with Jewish music.

East Meets West will feature guest cantors Shlomo Amzalag of Montreal (affectionally known as Samy Elmohgribi – Samy the North African, explained Sapir) and Aaron Bensoussan from New York City, as well as Toronto cantors David Bagley, Paul Kowarsky, Yaacov Motzen and Armand Moyal.

Sapir and Kirshblum said that the Toronto cantorate is unique, partly because most chazzanim also do pastoral work, but mostly because of its vibrancy and cohesiveness. Much of this is due to the efforts of Kirshblum, Sapir said, calling his by-then blushing colleague "our compass and our anchor."

O.J.'s lawyer addresses UJA

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The polarization of blacks and whites in the United States following the sensational O.J. Simpson murder trial was caused mainly by the lawyers involved, Simpson's lead defence lawyer said here earlier this month.

"What was it that caused such hatred and division? A lot of the fault is due to the lawyers and their presentations," Robert Shapiro told a United Jewish Appeal program at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts.

The race issue played in the trial — pitting a black defendant and a mainly black jury against a legal system perceived as being run by whites — "was started by the lawyers," the high-profile Shapiro told a packed house of lawyers, accountants and businesspeople.

Although Shapiro didn't name him, he strongly implied it was his defence colleague Johnny Cochrane who played the race card "from the bottom of the deck."

It was also Cochrane, Shapiro recalled, who compared Los Angeles police detective and trial witness Mark Fuhrman to Adolf Hitler, and it was Cochrane who cozied up to the militant Nation of Islam.

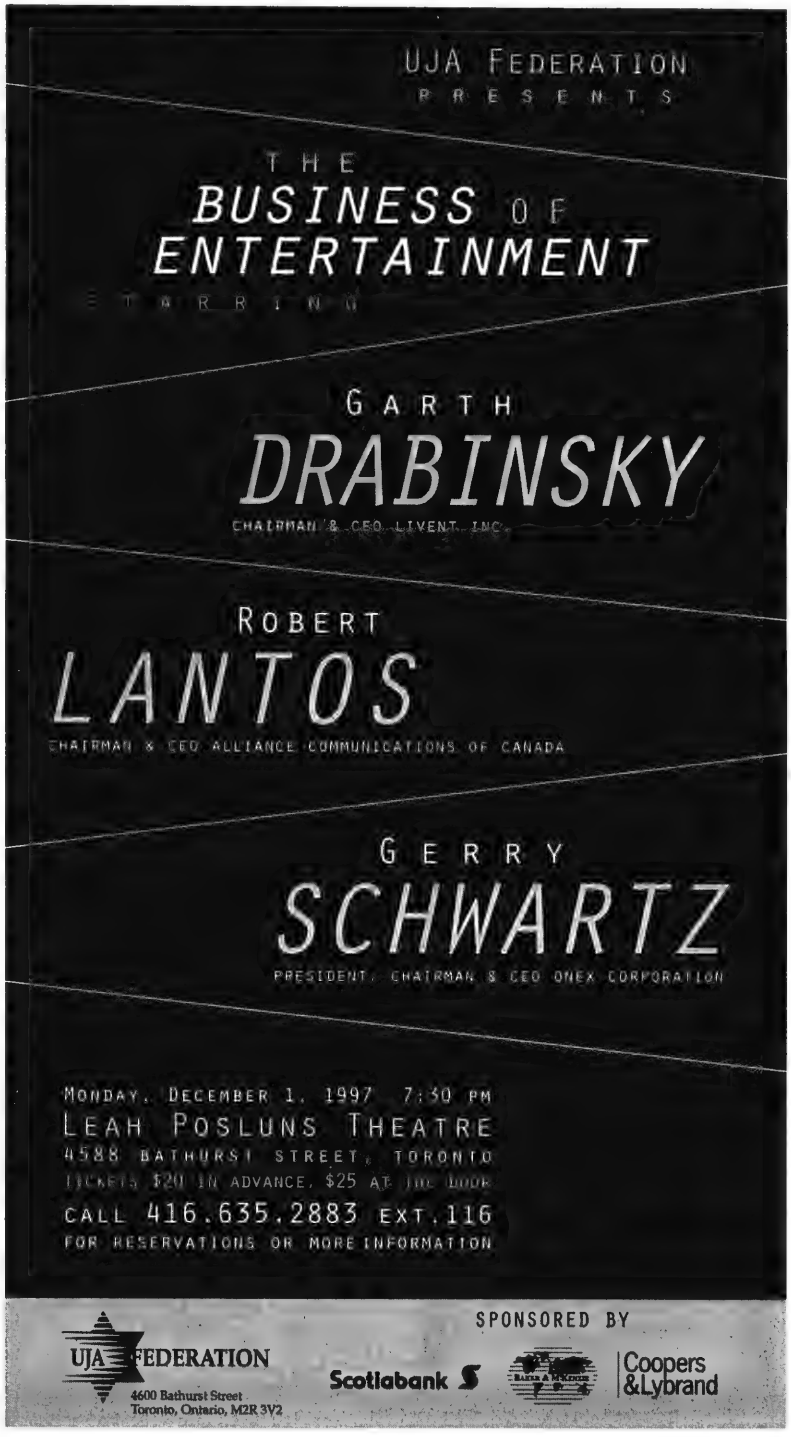
Shapiro hinted at his disdain for his colleague by saying, "Johnny Cochrane wanted to be here tonight, but this room isn't big enough for his ego."

Although he got plenty of anti-Semitic hate mail and his family received death threats, Shapiro said the Simpson trial "changed my life forever and certainly, for the better."

He said the trial's outcome "might have been different" had Simpson testified in his own defence.

Shapiro said he tried on the bloody glove Simpson was alleged to have worn on the night of the murders, and knew it wouldn't fit his client. "I told him to carry it like the Olympic torch. I told him to pull and tug on it" before the jury, he said.

"If you had heard the testimony the way the jury heard it, whether you liked it or not, your legal responsibility would be that there was reasonable doubt," Shapiro said.



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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Dec. 1 is deadline for Dec. 11 issue, and Monday, Dec. 8, is deadline for Dec. 18. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Thursday, Nov. 27

SINGLE PARENTS GROUP

Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Single Jewish Parents Group program (ages 30-50), Dream Vacations, presented by **Betty Shuckster** and **Marcia Herberman** of Travel 24 and cruise specialist **Robert Dykeman**, 8:30 p.m. at synagogue. $5. 633-5500.

Saturday, Nov. 29

THE HOLOCAUST

Torah Emeth Jewish Centre in association with Ohr Somayach presents **Rabbi Yitzchok Breitowitz**, professor of law at University of Maryland, speaking on The Holocaust: Can We Forgive the Germans? Should We? 8:30 p.m. at Torah Emeth, 1 Viewmount Ave. Separate seating available. $5.

Sunday, Nov. 30

LOX AND LEARN

Beth Tikvah Men's Club Lox and Learn topic is How to Respond to Hebrew-Christian Missionaries; speaker **Julius Ciss**. Spouses, guests, families welcome. Services 9 a.m., breakfast 9:45 (nominal charge), discussion 10:10.

CLONING

Rabbi Yitzchok Breitowitz lecture, Cloning: Are We Playing With G-d?, 8:30 p.m., Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto, 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. $5.

WOMEN'S ROSH CHODESH

Women's Rosh Chodesh Kislev celebration, Shaarei Shomayim Congregation. Shacharit 9:30 a.m. followed by shiur on Kohelet with **Rachael Turkienicz.**

Monday, Dec. 1

ORGAN DONATION

Organ Donation – A Last Act of Tzedakah? Medical, ethical, personal and halachic perspectives, panel discussion with **Dr. Edward Cole**, medical director, multi-organ retrieval exchange program, Toronto Hospital; **Prof. Bernard Dickens**, faculties of Law and Medicine, University of Toronto; **Mark Firestone**, organ transplant recipient; **Rabbi Wayne Allen**; 8 p.m. Beth Tikvah Synagogue.

ELI ELIEZRI

The Sephardi Network of UJA Federation and Petah Tikvah Congregation evening with **Eli Eliezri**, who masterminded the rescue operation of Sarajevo Jewry, 8 p.m., Petah Tikvah, 20 Danby Ave., North York. RSVP 635-2883, ext. 107.

Tuesday, Dec. 2

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Chug Tanach (Bible study group) meets 8 p.m. at Associated Hebrew Schools, Finch building. **Rabbi Pinchas Tessler** leads in exploring chapters 6 and 7 in the Book of Amos.

ADULT EDUCATION

Rabbi Moshe Stern discusses Risking Lives to Save Lives – How Far Can You Go?, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

Wednesday, Dec. 3

HIDDEN BRUISES

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood program, Hidden Bruises, a panel discussion on Violence Against Women and Children, with panelists **Gail Gould**, supervisor, Women Abuse Program, Jewish Family & Child Service; **Marsha Sfeir**, coordinator, Public Education and Training, Education Wife Assault. Moderator, **Rabbi Dow Marmur**, 8 p.m., Holy Blossom.

PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP

Are you offering a home to a troubled teenager within the Orthodox community? Jewish Family & Child Service support group for parents who have provided or are currently providing a family setting for an adolescent over 16 years of age meets 7:30 p.m., 4600 Bathurst St., Room 420. **Avraham Friedman** 638-7800, ext. 293.

[Cont'd. on page 25]

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300 g
319

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, NOV. 23 UNTIL SATURDAY, NOV. 29, 1997.

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

And What Else Is New

CORRECTION

In the Nov. 20 column, we listed an incorrect phone number for Yorkminstrels' production of *Guys and Dolls*. The correct number should be **622-1971**.

OHR SOMAYACH

Ohr Somayach, 613 Clark Ave. W. 905-886-5730.

Vices and Virtues: **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz** explains seven negative character traits and how to develop them positively. Also children's program with Plaster Playhouse. Tuesdays, 1:45-3:15 p.m. $7.50 per session (adult with child). **Karen** ext. 29.

Dialogue of Judaism: Bring the kids to Wonderkids Sports Centre, 34 Doncaster Ave., Unit 9, for an hour with a professional gymnast while you learn with **Rabbi Avraham Rothman**. Wednesdays 12:45-2 p.m. Class is free, fee per child $6. Karen.

Daily Talmud class, Rabbi Breitowitz, 6 a.m., followed by Shacharit service 7 a.m. Avram Rothman.

Weekly class on the parshah of the week, Rabbi Breitowitz. Thursdays, 7:45 p.m.

Ohr Somayach sends out free explanation sheet of the weekly Torah parshah in English. Phone.

SUPPORT GROUP

Baycrest Centre offers a support group for second generation survivors of the Holocaust to share experiences, identify needs and what can be done to help them and their aging parents. No fee. **Paula David**. 785-2500, ext. 2271.

AT BETH SHOLOM

Scholar in Residence Weekend with **Rabbi Ronald D. Price** on Taking the MTV Challenge: Raising a Now Jewish Generation: Media and Torah Values, Dec. 5-7.

Mysticism, Messianism and Hassidism – Personalities and Ideas scholar/lecturer **Aaron Nussbaum**, Thursdays Dec. 4 and 11, 8:15 p.m.

CASINO RAMA

Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel, Toronto chapter, day of fun at Casino Rama Tuesday, Dec. 9, leaving 9:30 a.m., returning 5-6:30 p.m. $12.50 lunch included. Reserve. **Gerald Berley** 449-6065 or **Sadie Bloom** 905-709-0859.

FIRST NARAYEVER

Two-part Kabbalah lecture at First Narayever Congregation, A Kabbalistic Experience of a Shabbat Dinner, **Rabbi Joel Hecker**, Sunday, Nov. 30, services 9 a.m., lecture 10:30 a.m.

Death and Mourning, **Michael Benjamin,** director, Benjamin Park Memorial Chapel, Monday, Dec. 1, 8 p.m.

Parshat hashavuah, **Rabbi Chezi Zionce**, Torah study class centered around weekly Torah reading., Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m.

CREATIVE DRAMA

Leah Posluns Theatre School Creative Drama for Young People:

Levels 1 and 2 classes for ages 8-13 run Sundays, 2-4 p.m. beginning Jan. 4.

Level 3 for ages 8-16 begins Monday, March 30, 6-8 p.m.

All courses run 10 weeks at a cost of $150 plus a $25 non-athletic membership in the Bathurst Jewish Centre. Pre-register. 636-1880, ext. 231.

ON BEING JEWISH

A Symposium on Being Jewish, two-part series with video, at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, introduced by **Johnathan Periman** and facilitated by **Henry Alkin**, Thursdays Dec. 4 and 11, 8 p.m.

PRE-CHANUKAH CONCERT

Toronto New Leadership Division of Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation concert for young families, Sunday, Dec. 14, 10 a.m. to noon, Bialik Hebrew day School, 12 Viewmount Ave. Entertainment by Treetop Kids and magician **Richard Lynn**. Gift for every child. $10. Proceeds to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Jerusalem. Reserve. 781-3584.

ADATH SHOLOM

Adath Sholom Synagogue, 864 Sheppard Ave. W. 635-0131.

Sisterhood Chanukah party, Tuesday, Dec. 23, 7:30 p.m., $3, entertainment included.

Synagogue New Years Eve gala dinner/dance, Wednesday, Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m. $50 per person. Reserved group tables available.

HEBREW CLASSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies registration for winter courses for adults, teenagers, preteens in conversational Hebrew, all levels, Monday mornings (intermediate I) Jan. 19-April 20; Tuesday mornings (beginners) Jan. 20-April 21; Wednesday mornings (intermediate II); Tuesday evenings (all levels) Jan. 20-April 21. **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

ART CLASSES

Koffler Centre School of Visual Art classes for adults and kids begin Jan. 5. Sunday and after-school for kids and teens: Painting, Ceramics, Mixed Media. For adults, Pottery, Sculpture, Painting and Drawing. Register. 636-1880, ext. 270.

JEWISH ARTISTS ON FILM

Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group and Beth Tzedec Senior Haverim present *Jewish Artists on Film – From Al Jolson to Jascha Heiftz*, speaker **Aldo Maggiorotti**, Wednesday, Dec. 10, at noon, Holy Blossom Temple. Light lunch $2. Reserve by Dec. 5 **Leslie** 789-3291, ext. 233, or **Lil Miller** 783-0944.

FAMILY CHANUKAH PARTY

Lunch, latkes, donuts, music, entertainment, dreidels, Chanukah gelt, friendly furry characters, Sunday, Dec. 14, 12:15-2:15 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Adults $5, children $3 (2 years plus). Please bring donation of non-perishable food for Daily Food Bank. Reserve. 633-3838

FOR SENIORS

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Dec. 3, *Showboat* ; Dec. 10, day trip to Magnotti Wines; Dec. 17, Casino Rama; Dec. 31, New Year's dinner/dance; activities – table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork, trips, bingo. Membership open $12. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Dec. 4 is Israeli movie, *The Balfer*, by **Gadi Igil**. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

LZA Seniors Club Miami trip 1998 information, **Libby** 782-2059 or **Belle** 633-5841. Ladies Folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m., Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. The Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning, Chanukah musical program Tuesday, Dec. 23, 1 p.m.; day cruises and vacation trips. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Alternative Therapy series, What Is Therapeutic Touch Anyway?, **Mary Rykov**, therapeutic touch practitioner, Monday, Dec. 1, 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Low Vision Support Group, Eye Catching Update on Diabetes, **Gail MacNeil**, nurse clinician/diabetes educator, Scarborough General Hospital, Tuesday, Dec. 2, 1:15-2:30 p.m.

Sonnee Cohen Memorial Lecture, Impressions of Diabetes – A Look at Diabetes Using Impressionistic Art, **Karen Barwise**, nurse/diabetes educator, Women's College Hospital, Thursday, Dec. 4, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Hearing Assistance Clinic, **Brenda Vernon** of Canadian Hearing Society, Thursday, Dec. 4, 1:15-4 p.m. Book appointment.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies. lectures, sing-a-longs, dances, bingo. Dec. 2 is a concert. **Anna**.

Movie, *The Beautician & the Beast*, Sunday, Nov. 30, 2:15 p.m.

Wednesday social Dec. 3 features Creative Choir, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Between Stages Reading Series in association with Volcano and Factory Theatre public reading of *Cherry Doc's* by **David Gow**, directed by **Richard Rose**, starring **R.H. Thomson** and **Ross Manson**, Monday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m.

South 'Y' Dance, Saturday, Dec. 6, 8 p.m. **Murray 'Squirt' Tonken, Jay Jackson, Bob & Roy Ellis, Jack Geldbloom**. $15.

Tom's Place sale of men's and women's designer fashions at 60 to 80 percent off continues to Sunday, Nov. 30.

Seniors Club, Thursday, Nov. 27, 2 p.m., You Can Do CPR (Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation) workshop, **Maureen McIlveen**, fitness coordinator. **Judy.**

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Laugh with the Habima Players presentation by the Habima Players Monday, Dec. 1 and Tuesday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m. Buy tickets in advance. $3. **Teme** ext. 364.

Senior Adult Services luncheon, entertainer **Marvin Rosenshein**, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 12:30 p.m. Teme.

Registration continues for September 1998 Tic Tac Two, Nursery, Junior and Senior Kindergarten and full-day daycare for children 18 months to 5 years. ext. 248. **CJC APPOINTMENT**

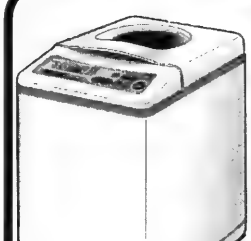
ABOUT PEOPLE

Shulamit Saltzman, Hebrew Subject Leader of the International Language Program at North York Board of Education, has been appointed education consultant for Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress.

In her new position, Saltzman will work with teachers, principals and lay leaders in the 40 Jewish day and supplementary schools throughout Ontario outside Greater Toronto and assist them through school visits, professional development days, placement services, regional conferences and distribution of educational materials.

Educated at Barnard College and Columbia University where she received an MA in education, Saltzman taught in several Hebrew schools in the United States before coming to Toronto in 1989. Married to **Rabbi Steven Saltzman** of Adath Israel Congregation, she is the mother of three.

Shulamit Saltzman



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From coast to coast

Winnipeg shuls, federation air disagreement

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — A statement published in the Oct. 27 issue of the *Jewish Post and News* by the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council's (WJCC) Multiple Appeals Commission (MAC) has stirred up a hornets' nest of controversy.

The paid ad slams all of the city's major synagogues and their rabbis for violating MAC's long established guidelines for fundraising within the Jewish community.

The Multiple Appeals Commission was created 10 years ago to bring order to Jewish fundraising activities in the city. Its guidelines stipulate that any organization mounting a campaign that will bring in more than $10,000 has to clear it with MAC. As well, most organizations are allowed to have a major fundraiser only every second year, the exceptions being the annual Jewish National Fund (JNF) Negev Dinner and YMHA JCC Sports Dinner.

Individual synagogues are also allowed to have one fundraising dinner a year. The beginning of September until the middle of October is reserved for the annual Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA) campaign. The only exceptions are the traditional JNF and Israel Bond Yom Kippur appeals in the synagogues.

For many years, some of the synagogues have also been conducting their own internal appeals for donations on Yom Kippur as well. It seems to have become an issue this year because the financially-strapped Rosh Pina Congregation – the city' second largest synagogue – decided to follow suit.

In his broadside, Dr. Michael Helper, MAC's chair, publically admonished the Rosh Pina, Beth Israel, B'nay Abraham, Herzlia and Shaarey Zedek synagogues for violating the MAC moratorium.

"The Shaarey Zedek [Winnipeg's largest congregation] didn't fund raise," Helper notes, "but it did conduct a feasibility study into a future capital campaign. That goes against the spirit of the moratorium."

Helper says that on becoming aware of the Rosh Pina's plans, he sent letters to all the synagogues before Yom Tov warning them against conducting internal campaigns in violation of the moratorium.

Rabbi Akiva Lubow of the Rosh Pina responded, on behalf of the Winnipeg Council of Rabbis, to Helper's finger-pointing with a letter to the editor that was printed in the *Jewish Post* on Nov. 12. Rabbi Lubow noted that the rabbis and congregational leaders have been meeting with WJCC representatives for the last two years about the issue of High Holy Days appeals.

The WJCC wanted to have an appeal for the CJA campaign included with Israel Bonds and the JNF appeals. The synagogues wanted to also include their own pitches for funding. Rabbi Lubow reported that an agreement had been reached to accommodate both sides at a meeting a few months ago.

"During and after that meeting, it came to my attention that three synagogues have conducted High Holy Days appeals in the past with no repercussions," he wrote. "The only difference between previous years and this year, and what would appear to be the only reason that MAC has this year taken any action, is that a fourth synagogue, Rosh Pina, also conducted an appeal," he charged.

Rather than protecting the primacy of the CJA campaign, he wrote, MAC should be concerned about protecting the primacy and recognizing the importance of every vital Jewish institution in the community.

"If ours is a community which needlessly chooses to pit the needs of the CJA against the needs of the synagogues, ours is a Jewish community without a future," he observed. "With one synagogue after another facing financial crisis and struggling to keep its doors open, where will Israel Bonds, the JNF and the CJA campaigns be conducted after all the synagogues have closed? Without the synagogue, where is the teaching to take place, where are the religious services to be held and where is the Jew to turn for spiritual fulfilment and to have his or her religious needs met?

"My biggest problem with the whole MAC approach is the notion that they have any right, whatsoever, to try to dictate to the synagogues when they may and may not conduct internal synagogue fundraising of any type."

David Bloomfield, president of the Beth Israel Synagogue, reports that his synagogue has been appealing for funds on Yom Tov for years. He also supports Rabbi Lubow in pointing out that the synagogue boards, not the rabbis, make the decisions about fundraising.

"The prime responsibility of any congregational rabbi is to serve the needs of the synagogue's members," Rabbi Lubow wrote.

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RAISING A NEW JEWISH GENERATION
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Pre-paid reservations by Wednesday, Dec. 3rd.
Lecture following dinner for adults -
for children a puppet theatre: *"No Strings Attached"*
Shabbat, Dec. 6th: Morning services 8:45 a.m. - Rabbi Price will speak from the pulpit
Sunday, Dec. 7th: Morning services 8:30 a.m. - followed by Breakfast. Teens and adults are invited to participate with Rabbi Price in the MTV Challenge - No Charge

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Deadline is Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.
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The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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גידי קורן

אמבר:

אתם לא היכרתם את אמבר. מידי יום חמישי בהיותה בבית החולים, היתה באה להצגת "יזנגות". היא נאבקה בסרטן כמו אדם מבוגר למרות שש שנותיה. בהרבה מן הפעמים היא היתה באה עם ילד קטן ונכה שגם הוא אושפז פעמים אין ספור, ודואגת לו, ופעם אפילו קנתה לו את קלטת שירי ההצגה. לפני שישה חדשים הגיעה ראשונה לפני כל שאר הילדים והוריהם ובעיניים זוהרות אמרה לנו שמחר הוא יום ההולדת שלה. תוך כדי הצגה הצלחנו לארגן לה מתנה, לעטוף אותה להעלות אותה לבמה בסוף ולהפתיע אותה עד דמעות. אבל היו אלה דמעות של אושר. השבוע סיפרו לנו שאמבר נפטרה. השתלת מוח העצם שלה נכשלה, ומלחמתה הגיעה לקיצה. ואנחנו בתוך הדמעות חשבנו כמה למדנו מימך אמבר איך ליהנות ממה שיש, ולא להתלונן על מה שאין. תודה אמבר, שנתת לנו לחגוג לך את יום הולדתך האחרון. היי שלום, אמבר, נוחי על משכבך בשלווה, ואמרי שם שלום לבן, מוישה ושאר הילדים שישבו על הכיסאות הקטנים בתיאטרון שלנו והלכו. אתם המלאכים שלנו, אתם טעם החיים. אנחנו נעשה כל שבידינו למצוא מרפא למחלות שלכם.

הקצין שנכשל במבדקי הקצונה:

קראתי בעיתון ראיון מרתק עם סגן הרמטכ"ל החדש, שאול מופז. עולה מהראיון שמשפחתו התיישבה מאילת בתנאים קשים והוא מצא את עצמו בפנימיה בנהלל עם כל המי ומי של ההתיישבות העובדת. ובעוד הם היו יוצאים לחופשות שבת, הוא היה, במקום לנסוע לאילת, עובד וחוסך כסף ברפתות של המשפחות של חבריו בנהלל. אבל זה לא הקטע שלכד את דמיוני אלא דווקא העובדה ששאול מופז, בהיותו צנחן, ניסה שלוש פעמים להתקבל לקורס קצינים ונכשל במבדקים. הוא התקבל בסופו של דבר משום שבשנת 1969, בהיותו מ"כ של כיתה ששכבה במארבים, הוא המציא סוג של מארב שהצליח יותר מהמארב שהיה מקובל עד אז, ושנקרא עד היום "מארב מופז". בעקבות המקרה הזה החליט מח"ט הצנחנים לשלוח אותו לקורס קצינים ללא מבדקים, והשאר הסטוריה. מופז הינו אחד הקצינים המבריקים, הזהירים והאחראיים ביותר שהיו לישראל. כולנו מכירים אנשים שהיו תלמידים בינוניים, וש"בחיים" הפכו להצלחה גדולה. היו לי מספר סטודנטים שבגלל הציונים שלהם לא הסכימו לקבל אותם למאסטר או דוקטורט, ומהעבודה איתם היה לי ברור שהם מצוינים. אז מה עושים? אסור לוותר. לרבים מאיתנו יש ילדים בגילאים של סוף תיכון- אוניברסיטה. אסור לוותר! לנסות שוב ושוב, כי חבל לוותר על קריירה שלמה רבת שנים בגלל בחינות כניסה. בסופו של דבר - האדם הרבה יותר מאושר כשהוא עושה מה שהוא באמת רוצה לעשות. אבל שיישאר בינינו.

מברוק לשמעון זר אביב :

מזה עשר שנים, ללא הפסקה, פותחים אלפי ישראלים את מכשירי הרדיו ביום ראשון בתדר 105.5 FM ב- 10 בבוקר לשעתיים שמחברות אותם לחוויה הישראלית, למה שקורה בארץ, ואולי יותר חשוב - למה שקורה בקהילה כאן. וכל זה קורה בגלל מסירותה של קבוצה קטנה מאוד של אנשים, ובראשם שמעון זר אביב. אני לא יכול לחשוב על שום אדם אחר שעשה כל כך הרבה להפוך אותנו לקהילה, להביא אותנו יחד, וכל זאת שלא על מנת לקבל תשלום או פרס כלשהוא. כל מכריו מוקיריו של שמעון יודעים שאם קורית צרה, קטנה או גדולה, אם צריך לעזור למשפחה נזקקת או לילד שזקוק לאשפוז- שמעון יעשה הכל כדי לעזור. תמיד בטוב לב, באהבת האדם, תמיד בלי להגיד מילה רעה על איש. אחרי עשר שנים רצופות של שידור, זה הזמן המתאים להודות לשמעון, לורה ולאלה שעזרו, ולהגיד להם שלולא מאמציהם לא היתה כנראה "קהילה ישראלית" אלה רק קבוצה של אנשים שהגיעה מן המזרח התיכון.

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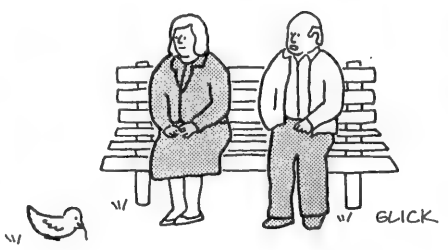

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Jewish Book Fair

Jewish women face sexism, anti-Semitism, says author

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The extent to which Canadian Jewish women experience anti-Semitism and sexism is shocking, says an author and associate professor of social work at McMaster University.

After interviewing a number of women on the subject, Nora Gold said she came away distraught and angry.

Gold, a contributor to the book *Celebrating the Lives of Jewish Women: Patterns in a Feminist Sampler,* (Harrington Park Press), edited by Rachel Josefowitz Siegel and Ellen Cole, spoke at the Jewish Book Fair. Also on the panel were contributors Sarah Taieb-Carlen, a professor at York University, and Rachel Schlesinger, associate professor at York University.

Gold, who interviewed women from a wide range of backgrounds, from ages 22 to 77, said she was not prepared for what she was told.

"One women was asked if she had eaten a non-Jewish baby. Another reported that a noose had been hung from her tree, and one woman said she was called a Jewish princess by her colleague. The women found these things shocking, horrifying and frightening," she said.

Important to note, said Gold, is that when these events were recounted to non-Jewish friends, they were trivialized. "That was a kind of second intimidation."

'Incredibly sad stories'

Most people reported that they felt most comfortable among their own, Gold said. "Feminists said they were most comfortable with feminists, but not non-Jewish feminists. This reduction of safe space is directly related to the oppression of women."

A lot of "incredibly sad stories" were told about sexism, Gold said.

"I was given a lot of examples of sexism at home and at work, where they felt they always had to prove themselves. They also talked about sexism in the Jewish community and mentioned Judaism as being a boys' club. They felt betrayed and put down because many Jewish men desire a gentile girlfriend."

Some women feel their bodies are "too Jewish" – big hips, large nose, frizzy hair – said Gold. "These women have been brought up to reject their bodies."

Schlesinger, who interviewed a number of immigrant grandmothers, said these women can transmit to their grandchildren what it was like to live in worlds that have disappeared.

"Many were upset about materialism. In their backgrounds, the Jewish community had been important, but here, they found that individualism is more important."

One grandmother, she said, worried that too little time was spent in the kitchen "because that is when the oral tradition was spread – when cooking and washing dishes. The oral tradition has now spread to the car," said Schlesinger.

Another grandmother, from Latvia, told Schlesinger that when she came to Canada, she found it difficult to light Shabbat candles in the open, because she stilled feared persecution.

Advocate for the disabled offers parents practical advice

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When Mark Nagler was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at age five, his parents were advised to put him in an institution.

Instead, they determined that he would have all the opportunities that they could get for him. And their efforts paid off, noted the author of 12 books, the possessor of a PhD and a professor at the University of Waterloo.

"If they had institutionalized me, I would have been dead," he declared.

Nagler spoke at the Jewish Book Fair about his recent book *Yes You Can; a guide to parents of children with disabilities* (Stoddart, 1997).

"Everyone has the potential to reach his maximum. And many surpass what others say is your maximum," Nagler said.

All parents, he said, dream of having a child who is a PhD or an Olympic medalist, but most of them are happy with a child who is just normal. Having a child who is "different," Nagler said, is very hard.

His parents became advocates for him. When the school board refused to admit him, "in 1945, they had 95 people picketing the school board," until they let him in.

Complain when mistreated

They insisted that the school provide assistance that he needed, and made sure that he was able to take exams orally, since he was never able to learn to write.

Parents must enlist the aid of those who can help, such as health professionals, and organizations that provide financial and other assistance, he said.

He urged that people listen carefully to disabled children when they complain of being mistreated.

"People have the attitude 'who would do anything to someone who is disabled.' In fact, they are more likely to be abused physically, sexually and politically. It is a tragic reality."

Nagler is adamant that children be integrated into the regular system wherever possible, using teachers' aides or special equipment, or training teachers to give prescriptions or injections if necessary.

It is also important, he said, to "train, educate and support your child to [deal with] the fact that sooner or later they will have to move out [of the parental home]."

You must maintain the dignity of the disabled, he said, including insisting that they have the right to ask for what they need, even if they have to ask three or four times.

Parents can burn out dealing with a disabled child, Nagler said, citing the Robert Latimer case as an example. "You have to organize yourself and associate yourself with support groups. Other parents can suggest strategies, and provide support and help."

Nagler gave a list of 12 criteria for parents dealing with a disabled child. Some of them were to not be surprised by trouble; look for partial improvements; heighten your powers of appreciation; be innovative and imaginative; and accept what can't be changed.

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On Campus

WLU unites students for Rabin memorial lecture

By HEATH APPLEBAUM
Special to the CJN

WATERLOO — Almost 100 students and faculty from Wilfred Laurier University (WLU), University of Waterloo, University of Guelph and University of Western Ontario gathered last week for the second annual Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lecture.

The memorial signifies a unifying force in the Jewish community.

Analysis

It represents the only annual event in the city that brings students from local universities, as well as local synagogue members, together for a common cause.

"It was an opportunity for us to do something very important together, to help build and strengthen the local Jewish community" said Beth Suraski, co-president of the Jewish Students Association (JSA).

The evening included a film documenting the events that have shaped the State of Israel, and Yitzhak Rabin's legacy to pursue peace in the Middle East; a candle-lighting ceremony in which Rabbi Nathan Langer from Kitchener's Orthodox Beth Jacob Congregation and Barb Sivak from Waterloo's Temple Shalom, lit yahrtzeit candles; a political analysis of Rabin's role in furthering the peace process, given by Prof. David Goldberg of the Foundation for Middle East Studies; and a synopsis of the modern Zionist movement as Israel approaches 50 years, given by Eli Rubenstein of the United Israel Appeal.

The event was a tremendous success for Laurier, said Rimma Barinshteyn, an executive member of the JSA. "It's reassuring to the Jewish students here that the community does support our work and our goal to strengthen the Jewish presence on campus."

Until 1993 there had never been an organized Jewish group at Laurier. The group's focus was clear from the outset — to create a pluralistic and non-denominational Jewish group on campus that would bring students together to express whatever connection to Judaism they had, whether by eating bagels, watching Woody Allen videos, organizing social events or leading Holocaust education and interfaith dialogue on campus.

This open-minded approach has served Laurier well in welcoming new students to get involved each year, creating a casual atmosphere where Jewish students can meet and just hang out.

In just four years, WLU has established a thriving Jewish student group that now serves over 100 students on campus, and coordinates events with the University of Waterloo's student group.

Sharing ideas and resources, and having a combined student population of approximately 300 students, has improved the quality of Jewish campus life in the city.

Laurier is also actively involved with Canadian Jewish Congress events. It hosted last year's conference of presidents of Ontario Jewish campus groups and participated in this year's Jewish Life on Campus session in Toronto, which allows graduating high schhool students to meet with Jewish leaders from Ontario universities and ask questions about campus life and specific academic programs.

While recognizing the success of Jewish life at Laurier in recent years, many obstacles and challenges remain for small university Jewish groups, who must cope with shrinking budgets, student apathy and the need to find new campus leaders each year.

At a provincial level, these small campuses are now benefiting from the emergence of Kol Hastudentim – The Ontario Jewish Student Voice.

Kol Hastudentim is an independent, student-organized and run council which collectively represents the Ontario campus communities through the involvement of 18 elected campus presidents.

The council has taken on the role of strengthening Jewish leadership development, coordinating province-wide programming, and promoting an inter-campus communication and resource link.

The remarkable story of perseverance on Laurier campus is that it has managed to nearly triple active membership, and organize dozens of cultural and educational events, despite the collapse of all university funding and an annual allocation of only $1,600 provided by the Council of Jewish Federations for programming on campus.

Subsequently, the JSA is seeking alternative sources of funding to continue its important community work, and while no private sponsors have stepped forward to support its cause, financial support was provided by the two local synagogues for this year's Rabin Memorial.

Ian Lubek, JSA treasurer said, "This could not have been made possible without the generous support of both Beth Jacob and Temple Shalom congregations, a clear sign that we must work together to achieve common goals."

Laurier looks forward to developing a closer link between students and the community on more joint projects such as the Rabin Memorial.

This is proof enough that Jewish continuity is alive and well today, not only in small communities, but on university campuses across Ontario where students represent the leaders of tomorrow.

Heath Applebaum, a WLU student, was founding president of the school's Jewish Student Association.

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From coast to coast

Outreach program discussed

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Harlene Winnick Appelman of Detroit, creator of Jewish Experience for Families, made her Canadian debut last month at the Asper Jewish Community Campus.

Over two days, Appelman shared some of her program ideas with representatives of Jewish organizations in the city, as well as with members of the general public.

The Director of Outreach and Education for the Jewish Federation of Metro Detroit, Appelman was brought to Winnipeg by the Jewish family education subcommittee of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council's Jewish continuity committee.

"Our goal in bringing Harlene in was to give us ideas about how to get Jewish families more involved in Jewish education, the synagogues and the community," says Judi Shuster, chair of the subcommittee.

"Our committee is also charged with encouraging the different organizations in the community to get to know each other and work together."

Appelman's first presentation was to organization representatives. She outlined a number of successful outreach programs that she has developed in Detroit. One pre-Rosh Hashanah program, for example, attracted 2,000 people. Apples and Honey and Lots, Lots More featured a variety of hands-on demonstrations, including how to blow a shofar. There were also bee keepers and honey producers, people dressed as bees and apples, storytelling for children and programs for all ages.

A Shavuot program she created centred on "gardening Jewishly," she said. Participants were encouraged to designate the corners of their gardens for the food banks and to plant flowers to decorate the Shabbat table and the sukkah in the fall.

In a presentation to about 85 parents and grandparents, she spoke about creating lasting values in a "throwaway world."

Appelman's presentations were the first major program arranged by the family education subcommittee, which was established early this year.

"We were very pleased with the response," says Shuster. "All the group representatives were excited about working together on joint community-wide programs."

Halifax couple honored

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — A lifetime of dedication by a husband and wife team was recognized recently at the Beth Israel Synagogue in Halifax.

Jayson and Ann Greenblatt were honored at a Chai Kiddush for service they gave unselfishly for more than 40 years.

Jayson Greenblatt, a retired defence scientist with the federal government, served a record 24 years on the synagogue's board of governors – as secretary, vice-president and for an unprecedented three separate multi-year terms as president. He was an active member of most shul committees over the years and a member of the chevrah kadishah.

"No task was ever too complex or challenging and even the most menial and humble tasks are carried out with dignity and dispatch," longtime friend Earle Bowman told the congregation. "He has been an innovator and [has] a genius for organization."

Greenblatt spearheaded some of the most successful UJA and Israeli Bond Campaigns in Halifax and has been a leader in Canadian Jewish Congress and the Weizmann Institute of Science.

Ann Greenblatt was instrumental in planning and equipping the kitchen of the new Beth Israel Synagogue when it was built in 1957. As president of the sisterhood, she took a major role in fundraising, adding fresh ideas and special decorative themes to make the Sisterhood Bazaar one of the most successful events the sisterhood ran.

Now in their early 70s, both continue to be active in synagogue affairs.

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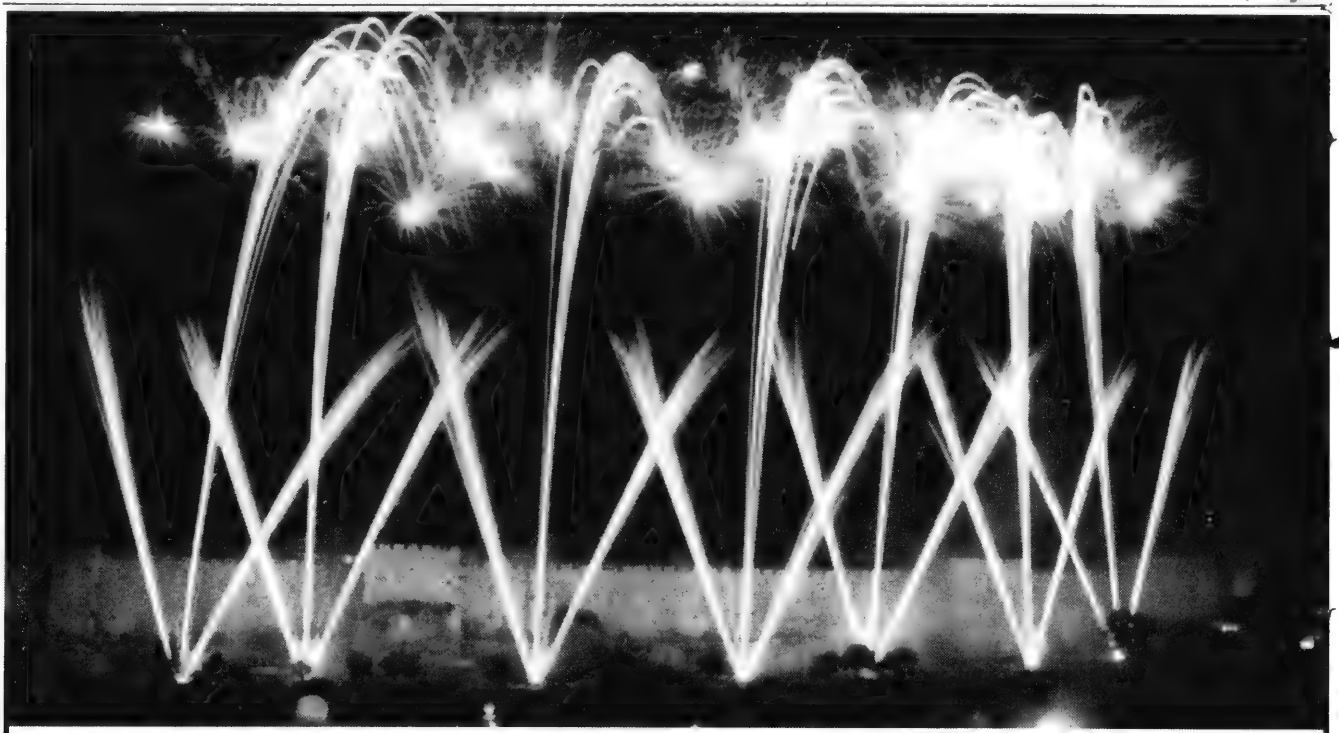

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Conversion bill to create new problems, CZF told

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — If the Knesset passes a new Who is a Jew bill delegitimatizing Conservative and Reform Jews by allowing only Orthodox converts to make use of the Law of Return, "it will open an abyss you cannot imagine," an Ontario academic told the recent annual Canadian Zionist Federation, eastern region (CZF) seminar.

"For the first time, there is the real possibility of saying that certain Jewish groups are treif," McMaster University professor emeritus Louis Greenspan told about 100 participants at the Beth Zion Synagogue.

"The Jewish people are facing a monster...[of] intolerance and misplaced zealotry."

Greenspan's comments were made in the context of the seminar's theme of pluralism in Israel 100 years after the founding of modern Zionism.

The theme also proved ample impetus for other panelists on the seminar, which included Canadian Institute for Jewish Research (CIJR) director Prof. Fred Krantz, McGill University Political Science Prof. Harold Waller, and Mooli Brog, education emissary for the Jewish National Fund (JNF).

'An abyss you cannot imagine'

Greenspan said after the 1967 Six Day War, when Israel occupied the West Bank, the pluralism that once existed to affirm Jewish unity was overtaken by the agenda of followers of Rabbi Zvi Yehuda Kook, who saw the takeover as part of the messianic redemption of the Land of Israel.

Those believers were willing to accept religious pluralism in Israel in the sense that they felt Conservative and Reform Judaism to be inconsequential. "They [the messianic Jews] don't care about them."

But at a political level, "God's politics, not human politics, now had claim over the sovereignty of all the land," Greenspan said.

He said Israel's Orthodox, which include some Jews who do not recognize the state, are still ready to use "the good offices of the state" to delegitimatize Conservative and Reform Judaism.

Two fundamental questions for Greenspan are: can a Jewish state be truly pluralistic, and can it be secular?

It's "problematic," is his answer.

A Jewish State, for one thing, can't be as Jewish, as "England is English," because non-Jews in Israel become Israelis, but not Jews.

The problem of Israel being both Jewish and secular resulted from compromises made by David Ben-Gurion. But they are coming to a head and are yet to be solved, Greenspan suggested.

Greenspan thought they would be one day, "but only after much struggle.

"The concept of a Jewish state in a democratic context is very tough. When there is a conflict, it has to be resolved in the courts."

Sponsors of the seminar included Bank Hapoalim, Canada-Israel Committee, Quebec region, CIJR, and JNF.

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New Chevra Kadishah in Ottawa.

Ottawa chevrah kadishah gets a new home

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — Over 400 members of the Ottawa Jewish Community recently attended a dedication ceremony for the new home of the chevrah kadishah (burial society) at 1771 Cuba Ave.

The original facility on King Edward Avenue, formerly the site of Adath Jeshurun Congregation, opened its doors as a memorial chapel in 1953, but is no longer adequate for the community's needs.

Ottawa's chevrah kadishah is operated completely by volunteers.

At the dedication ceremony, a plaque was presented to longtime volunteer Sam Petigorsky, who has served the community for half a century, following in the footsteps of his father.

The new facility, set to open on Dec. 2, is both larger and more modern than the old. It also features a room downstairs where kohanim and others can view the proceedings on television monitors.

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Endometriosis a chronic disease facing women

By DR. WUSUN PAEK

Endometriosis, a chronic disease, strikes about 10 to 15 percent of women.

The problem with its detection is that nothing about it is typical. There is a wide range of symptoms and even with treatment, recurrence is unpredictable.

TO YOUR HEALTH

A wide spectrum of women, from teenage to menopausal age (on hormones), are afflicted. To complicate matters, endometriosis may be present in an advanced stage with no symptoms, or may be mild with many symptoms including extremely painful periods.

Endometriosis occurs when tissue similar to the lining of the uterus (endometrial tissue) implants itself outside the uterus, usually in the pelvic area. It is most commonly found on the ovaries, but it can be found anywhere in the pelvis or abdomen, including the bowel and bladder.

As a woman goes through her menstrual cycle, the endometrial tissue outside of the uterus grows, just as the lining of the uterus grows.

Stimulation of the endometrial tissue may lead to bleeding and scarring, and on the ovaries, may evolve into a cyst called an endometrioma.

Most women experience some degree of menstrual flow through the fallopian tubes into the pelvic area. A widely accepted theory is that women with endometriosis have an altered immune system that is unable to dispose of these endometrial cells.

The most common symptom of endometriosis is pain. Typically, a woman may experience painful periods that gradually get worse with time. Other symptoms include painful intercourse, painful bowel movements and symptoms similar to a urinary tract infection. A woman may also have pelvic pain at other times in her cycle.

Another common symptom is infertility. Endometriosis is found in 30 to 40 percent of infertile women. Severe endometriosis can distort a woman's fallopian tubes or interfere with her ovaries, causing problems with ovulation. The alteration in her immune system may also be a cause of fertility problems.

Women who have endometriosis may take longer to conceive and may need assistance with reproduction. For women hoping to conceive, it is best to do so in the first six to nine months after treatment for the disease.

Because endometriosis is almost impossible to definitively diagnose without surgery, a doctor may initially prescribe traditional treatments for the pain such as the birth control pill or anti-inflammatory drugs. However, if the pain does not subside with such medications, this is a good indication that the disease may be present.

Surgery involves inserting a laparoscope through the navel, which provides a video image of the pelvic area.

It provides the surgeon with an opportunity to treat any endometriosis that may be present, by destroying endometriotic lesions and removing any nodules or cysts. Endometriosis can look like a lot of different things, so the surgery requires a specialist.

Even with surgery, there is no guarantee that all endometrial tissue can be removed. To help prevent recurrence or to complete treatment, various medical treatments can be prescribed.

Two of the most common medical therapies for endometriosis are analogs of a gonadotrophin releasing hormone (GNRH) and Danazol. These drugs create a temporary menopausal state by shutting down a women's monthly hormonal activity and consequently, stopping further growth of endometriotic tissue. They are usually only prescribed for six months because of possible side effects such as osteoporosis .

Common therapies

Another treatment often prescribed after surgery is the continuous birth control pill. With this treatment, a woman no longer gets her menstrual period. Women can stay on this treatment until she decides to have children.

In extreme cases, and if a woman is past her childbearing years, she may undergo a hysterectomy, which in addition to the removal of the uterus, will remove as much endometriotic tissue as possible. This type of surgery is reserved as a treatment of last resort.

Although endometriosis is not easily detected, once a diagnosis is made, a woman can be attuned to early symptoms and seek medical assistance as soon as a recurrence occurs.

Women may also help control the disease through good nutrition and exercise.

Since endometriosis is a disease that affects every woman differently, it is important to remember that what works for one may not work for another. Through regular consultations with a specialist and self-education, the disease can be controlled.

To Your Health is a regular monthly column prepared by a partnership of Mount Sinai Hospital and the Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

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Features

Holocaust poems set to music

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The Toronto Children's Chorus, under the leadership of founder/music director Jean Ashworth Bartle, recently performed the world premiere of *For the Children*, a commemoration of the experiences of Holocaust victims and survivors.

The commissioned work, composed by Robert Evans and funded by the Laidlaw Foundation, sets to music the poems of children imprisoned at Terezin in North Bohemia, a Nazi holding camp. Narrated by Jan Rubes and Laura Cameron, and accompanied by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the cantata formed part of the concert, *Terezin Remembered*, held at Temple Sinai.

Choir members, Rubes and Cameron, a child about the same age as the children in the poetry, recounted conflicting sentiments of courage, despair and optimism held by the children.

"The world's abloom and seems to smile. I want to fly but where? How high? If in barbed wire, things can bloom, why couldn't I? I will not die," was written by one Terezin prisoner.

Another child, Franticek Bass wrote "The rose, the rose, how marv'llously sweet is smell, The scent wafts far over the countryside, This rose, the scent wafts far, The sweet, familiar scent drifts 'er the sorrowful fields, Alas, already it withers, the rose, the scent dies, that wonderful fragrance, that resplendent rose. That rose, the rose."

Evans says, "I had these poems translated and was immediately seduced. They sang. I felt as though I had to follow the children in their voyage from home in Prague to their deaths in Auschwitz. I wanted to explore their stark reversals of emotion – from joyous reflection to the imminent possibility of death from disease, malnutrition or exhaustion.

"The wonder and awe of a birdsong, a mouse or a butterfly, while they had tears streaming down their faces at having witnessed some atrocity...these children had the ability to turn around and see some new image for what it was, not as a reflection of what it had just been."

Complementing the 30-minute, 18-piece cantata was a medley of works entitled *Songs of Hope*. Selections included *Time*, by Srul Irving Glick, *Somewhere* by Leonard Bernstein and *Here's to Song* by Allistair MacGillivray and arranged by Lydia Adams.

Paul Mathew is working on music to highlight the silent film era.

Pianist Paul Mathew carries on family musical tradition

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Like his grandfather and father before him, Paul Mathew, 45, is carrying on the tradition of a musical family, recently forming a new band, Soul of the Gypsy.

His late grandfather, Gershon Berul, played in the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, while his father, Bill Berle, former musical director at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, is still active as an orchestra leader.

Recognizing the resurgence of nostalgia, Mathew, a pianist who also plays other instruments, is working on a live show highlighting the music of the silent film era, from 1915 to 1929. He hopes to have mimes emulating the famous comics of those days.

His first venture into show business was the successful *From Broadway to Klezmer* at the Leah Posluns Theatre in October, where he led a 10-piece show band.

With *The Soul of the Gypsy*, Mathew hopes to capitalize on the liking for klezmer music, which had its beginnings in gypsy tunes. Colorful costumes are available if desired.

He says tastes have changed greatly since he first organized his own band at the age of 20. "Today, at 90 percent of bar mitzvahs, there is a disc jockey instead of a band, and even though there is still live music at a majority of weddings, disc jockeys are making inroads there too, as is very evident in the United States."

In large part, he attributes this to the fact that the bar mitzvah boy or bat mitzvah girl makes the decision about the kind of music needed, instead of the parents who still foot the bill. At weddings, the bride and groom make the decision, even though parents still pay, he says.

This is a negative development in Mathew's opinion because it means the end of music for every generation at these events. "For anybody over 50, forget it."

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Clinton urges Israel, PA to move on peace talks

By HILLEL KUTTLER
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton has called on Israel and the Palestinians to "intensively" tackle the next set of issues to move the peace process forward.

In an extraordinarily blunt appeal to both sides, Clinton castigated them for putting brinkmanship ahead of cooperation, and urged them to "realize the need for urgency," because "the window of progress will become smaller with time."

Clinton made his comments at a White House ceremony at which he accepted the 1997 Man of Peace Award from a foundation established in honor of the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and his successor Shimon Peres.

The event drew a high-profile audience that included former secretaries of state Warren Christopher and Cyrus Vance; Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel; Joint Chief of Staff Gen. Harry Shelton and his predecessor Gen. Colin Powell; the ambassadors of Israel, Jordan, and Egypt; and officials from the Arab and Jewish-American communities.

With Peres and Leah Rabin at his side at the East Room event, Clinton spoke about his close relationship with Rabin. He mentioned that on a table in his office one floor above sits the kippah he wore at Rabin's funeral, along with a stone from the grave site, and one of the last photographs taken of the two together, of Clinton adjusting Rabin's bow tie.

Clinton restated the so-called four-part agenda that the administration had identified in September as necessary for proceeding beyond the interim-phase negotiations: security cooperation, the IDF's required redeployments, a "time-out on provocative actions," and moving to final-status talks.

"By addressing these issues, we can establish for Israelis and Palestinians that peace will bring tangible benefits. By speeding the progress on this track, we can move closer to invigorating negotiations between Israel and Lebanon, and Israel and Syria, to establish a lasting and comprehensive peace," Clinton said.

"In recent months, you have to acknowledge, at least, that the pace of change has slowed and that the bonds of trust have eroded on both sides," he said. "The answer is not to bemoan the present condition, but to renew our resolve to move forward."

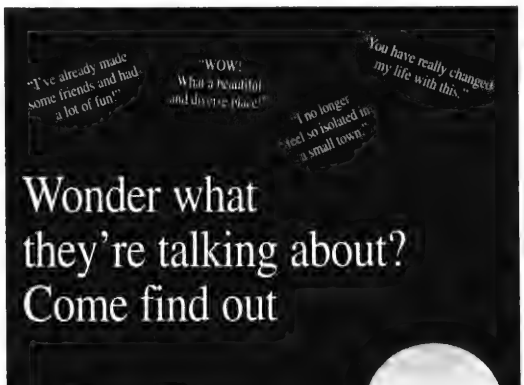
Clinton paid tribute to Peres for having "stayed true to the path" of peace after Rabin's assassination and added, "We know from experience both before and since that progress is possible and progress is difficult, that barriers fall only if people show a consistent and constant will to move forward, guided by and bound to several principles...Israelis and Palestinians must embrace the spirit at the heart of the Oslo Accords, not jockeying for advantage but working together for the benefit of both sides.

"Both sides must dedicate themselves to building confidence step by step, through a series of agreements on issues affecting both Palestinians and Israelis. Both sides must refrain from actions that undermine the joint pledge they have made to strengthen security. Both sides must approach each other as partners joined by the prospect of peace and security. And both sides must live up to the letter and the spirit of their obligations."

In a briefing later in the day, State Department spokesperson Tom Foley said the United States is "impatient...with the lack of progress on the tough issues" of the four-part agenda. "We want to see progress. And we're hoping that the leaders in the region will demonstrate the commitment to treating each side as partners and to taking each other's needs into account and to taking bold steps to meet each other half way," Foley said.

A TASTE OF CANADA

Canadian ambassador, David Berger (left), and Tel Aviv mayor Roni Milo alongside Corporal Oonagh Enright, an RCMP equestrian instructor from Ottawa. They were at the opening of A Taste of Canada, at Tel Aviv's Sheraton Centre. [Edgar Asher-Israpet photo]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Lieberman leaves Israel's PMO

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's right-hand man, Avigdor Lieberman, has resigned as director-general of the Prime Minister's Office.

A statement from the office said Netanyahu was saddened by Lieberman's decision to hand in his letter of resignation Sunday, adding that the premier regretted the departure of the person who had stood by him for many years.

But some senior Likud ministers welcomed the move, blaming Lieberman for recent upheavals in the party.

Commentators said Lieberman's departure could be viewed as further confirmation of Netanyahu's eroding control over his own party.

They noted that while Netanyahu and Lieberman were parting over some differences of opinion, it was widely believed that Lieberman was leaving his post to bolster support for Netanyahu within Likud, an activity he was officially prevented from doing because of his position as a civil servant.

Lieberman's departure is believed to have been precipitated by Netanyahu's announcement last week that he had decided to put a referendum before all of the Likud's rank-and-file members on whether or not party primaries should be held to determine the slate of Knesset candidates in the next election.

Lieberman is widely believed to have been behind a Likud party convention decision earlier this month to cancel the primaries, returning selection of Likud legislative candidates to the party's central committee — which is stacked with Netanyahu supporters.

The controversial decision was described as undemocratic by several Likud ministers, Knesset members and party officials.

It also sparked moves by party rebels to take control of the party and perhaps support a no-confidence vote in the government.

Netanyahu's announcement of a referendum, presumably a bid to appease those critics, apparently angered Lieberman, who was not consulted on the matter. Lieberman, a controversial figure in the prime minister's office, has been caught up in some of the scandals that developed during Netanyahu's tenure.

Earlier this year, the attorney general and state attorney, citing a lack of sufficient evidence, closed an investigation into Lieberman's alleged role in connection with improprieties surrounding the short-lived January appointment of Jerusalem lawyer Roni Bar-On as attorney general.

Lieberman also went head-to-head with the Israel Broadcasting Authority when he presented inaccurate revenue figures for Israel Television before a Knesset committee.

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LA rabbi played key role in meeting

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES — Last week's hastily arranged meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and King Hussein of Jordan came about in a most intriguing way.

While driving to a doctor's appointment Nov. 13, Rabbi Marvin Hier, founder and dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, received a call on his cell phone from Hussein, then in Washington, saying he was sending his personal aide to Los Angeles on an important mission.

The next morning the aide, Gen. Ali Shukri, arrived at the Wiesenthal Centre carrying a message from the king. It said Hussein wanted to restore his country's frayed relationship with Israel and could meet Netanyahu at Hussein's London home on Nov. 18.

According to Hier, Shukri stressed four points motivating the monarch: to re-establish high-level intelligence exchanges; to assess the outstanding issues of Palestinian airport and seaport facilities; to discuss a possible moratorium on Hamas terrorist activities; and to cement the personal relationship between Hussein and Netanyahu.

Hier said he immediately got in touch with Yoram Ben Ze'ev, Israel's consul general in Los Angeles, who conveyed the invitation directly to Netanyahu.

The details were finalized Nov. 17, when Hussein phoned Netanyahu as the prime minister was touring the Wiesenthal Centre's Museum of Tolerance.

Hier said he and the king had established a warm personal relationship when the Jordanian monarch toured the Wiesenthal Centre last year, and that the king had invited the rabbi to visit him at the Mayo Clinic during his recent illness.

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The Week in Israel

Nov. 17

• Israel's attorney general Elyakim Rubinstein asked U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno to free Jonathan Pollard. Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein will meet Pollard on Nov. 24.

• Israel and Jordan agreed to start negotiations on a free trade agreement.

Nov. 18

• Senior Israeli and Palestinian negotiators held talks in Jericho on outstanding aspects of the 1995 Interim Agreement, including an airport in Gaza and a safe-passage route between the West Bank and Gaza.

Nov. 19

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and King Hussein met near London in their first face-to-face talks since the failed assassination attempt on Khaled Meshal in Jordan in September.

Nov. 20

• One yeshivah student, Gavriel Hirschberg, was killed and his friend, Benny Dil, was injured in a shooting in Jerusalem's Old City.

• Ariel Sharon gave President Bill Clinton's national security adviser, Sandy Berger, detailed maps of Israel's proposed final-status borders.

Nov. 21

• In an effort to stave off a revolt within his own party, Netanyahu proposed going to the party's general membership of more than 200,000 to ask them whether the Knesset list should be chosen by a primaries-system vote or by central committee selection.

• Israel announced it will block an attempt by the PA to conduct a census in East Jerusalem.

Fifty Years Ago in Palestine
(Nov. 21)

JERUSALEM — The first British freighter to be assigned to the task of evacuating British military supplies from Palestine arrived in Haifa today and is expected to begin loading next week. It was learned that other ships, totalling in all some 300,000 tons, are expected to complete the withdrawal of British forces and their supplies within six months.

With files from the JTA.

Arabs boycott Israel

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

The decision by most Arab states to boycott the fourth annual Middle East and North African economic conference, held in Qatar from Nov. 16 to 18, was yet another jolting reminder of Israel's growing isolation in the Arab world since Benjamin Netanyahu's election as prime minister in June 1996.

Despite strenuous efforts by U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine to head off a boycott, the PLO and all but six member states of the Arab League – Qatar, Oman, Jordan, Tunisia, Yemen and Mauritania – stayed away from the conference in Doha.

Conspicuous by their absence were Egypt (the host of last year's forum in Cairo), Saudi Arabia and Morocco, which hosted the first meeting in Casablanca. Upset by the boycott, Israel sent a lower-level delegation, led by Trade and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky rather than Foreign Minister David Levy.

Significantly, the conference began and ended with statements critical of Israel's stance toward the Palestinians.

Launched in the afterglow of Israel's rapprochement with the PLO in 1993, the conference was originally designed to foster closer relations between Israel and its Arab neighbors and to bring foreign investment to the region.

Four years on, the first goal has been partially met. But Israel's hopes of integrating itself into the area have all but been dashed on the rock of Arab anger with its policies and Arab fears of Israeli economic domination.

Netanyahu came into office with a promise that he would be faithful to the Oslo accords, which he had consistently reviled. Aside from fulfilling Israel's pledge to redeploy from Hebron, Netanyahu has not pushed the peace process forward.

Contrary to the agreements signed in 1994 and 1995, he has not given the Palestinians a safe passage route from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank; he has not released all Palestinian prisoners; he has not let the Palestinian Authority (PA) open an airport and a seaport in Gaza. Neither has he satisfied Palestinian demands for substantial withdrawals from rural sectors of the West Bank.

But worst of all, from the PA's point of view, he has begun building in Har Choma, reinstated grants and tax breaks to settlers living beyond the Green Line, expanded existing settlements, claimed at least half of the West Bank and ruled out the prospect of a sovereign and independent Palestinian state, the Palestinians' holy grail.

In the face of these policies and pronouncements, the sputtering state of Israel's bilateral negotiations with the Palestinians, the cessation of talks between Israel and Syria and the suspicion and mistrust in which Netanyahu is held by Arab leaders, the Arabs have tried to turn the tables on Israel.

In October 1996, four months after an Arab summit in Cairo warned Israel to hew to the principle of trading land for peace, and less than a month after the worst Palestinian rioting in the territories since the Six Day War, Qatar postponed the opening of a trade office in Tel Aviv.

Two months later, Tunisia and Oman put relations with Israel on hold, and last March, at the behest of Syria, Arab League foreign ministers approved a resolution freezing the further normalization of relations with Israel.

Last July, at the United Nations, Arab states circulated a draft resolution seeking the curtailment of Israel's participation in the General Assembly. The petition failed.

More recently, Morocco pulled out of a Davis Cup tennis match with Israel, then cancelled a meeting of Mediterranean countries which it was to have hosted in Marrakech.

On the eve of last week's economic conference in Doha, Hosni Mubarak, the president of Egypt, claimed that Israel had broken its promises with respect to the peace process.

These developments, in tandem with the three suicide bombings which have rocked Israel since March, have thrown the Middle East back to the bad old days, and postponed the dawn of a new and hopeful era in the region.

Holocaust memorial unveiled

[Cont'd from page 1]

between Israel and Turkey. Greece and Turkey have long been engaged in disputes over territorial rights in the Aegean Sea and over the divided island of Cyprus.

Some Jewish leaders maintained that the monument was delayed for decades by successive governments in Athens and by the Greek Orthodox Church.

Last year, a Holocaust memorial was unveiled in the northwestern Greek city of Kastoria to commemorate local Jews who perished at Auschwitz.

The monument was erected at the place where the Nazis, on March 24, 1944, gathered Kastoria's 1,000 Jews for deportation to Auschwitz. Only 35 survived the Holocaust.

At the start of the 20th century, there were some 75,000 Jews in Salonika — about half the city's population.

During the occupation of Greece, the Nazis destroyed nearly all of Salonika's Jewish sites. Approximately 67,000 Greek Jews were exterminated by the Nazis.

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Harbourfront Authors Festival

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

The 18th International Harbourfront Authors Festival recently brought an eclectic mix of writers to Toronto from all over the world. No Israeli writers were included this time, but there were still plenty of Jewish authors, an assortment as diverse as the literary world itself.

* * *

American writer Erica Jong, best known for her sexually explicit 1973 bestseller *Fear of Flying*, came to peddle her seventh novel, *Inventing Memory: A Novel of Mothers and Daughters* (HarperCollins, $35.50), a four-generational family saga stretching between Russia circa 1880 and America in 2005.

"I was never much interested in my roots until I hit my 50th birthday," Jong admitted before her reading. "I grew up in an assimilated family. No one cared much about religion until they got very old and began muttering prayers in Hebrew. And the same thing happened to me."

The book borrows a line from Isaac Bashevis Singer, who once said the Jews were "a people who can't sleep and who don't let others sleep." According to Jong, "That's the best definition of the Jews that I've heard."

Since *Inventing Memory* contains letters, journal entries and various other literary contrivances to advance the story, Jong called it a "collage novel," and says this scrapbook approach has become the great American literary format of our age.

Inventing Memory may be true to its name in an unintentional sense, since Jong seems to dip into the soup pot of life in Russia and the soup pot of life in America with the same ladle. For this reader, she mixes up the tastes of both and essentially reinvents her characters' familial past for modern consumption.

* * *

American literary critic Alfred Kazin spoke on the subject of his latest book, *God and the American Writer* (Knopf, $35), namely, the supreme relevance of God to public discourse in America in the last century versus God's supreme irrelevance to public discourse today.

Whether they were believers or not, writers like Nathaniel Hawthorne, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Emily Dickenson and Herman Melville were consumed with issues of God and morality, Kazin said. Slavery, the supreme issue of the day, inspired an intensely moral and religious literature.

"[Stowe's] *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was viewed by [Abraham] Lincoln himself as the book that started the Civil War," he said.

Kazin said he once heard a southern critic say that Ralph Waldo Emerson – the essayist who advanced the notions that organized religion is hypocrisy and that God is within – "was responsible for Hitler, that his ideas led to a public disorder."

He described Melville's *Moby Dick* as "the greatest story that speaks of America's relation to God.

"Whatever people [in America] believe about religion today, there's a marked lack of intensity as compared to the 19th century," he said, adding that some groups still seem concerned with the burning issues of Lincoln's time.

"Only the other day the Southern Baptists issued an apology for their support of slavery," Kazin noted. "Then, to show how busy they are, they went right out to convert the Jews."

* * *

Arnon Grunberg, a 26-year-old native of Amsterdam, wrote the novel *Blue Monday* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, $31) on a dare. It has sold 70,000 copies in Holland and been republished in various translations.

Blue Monday has been compared to Philip Roth's *Goodbye Columbus*; Grunberg's often-pixilated protagonist, also called Arnon, is a sort of Jewish Casanova who vividly records his colorful and occasionally hilarious adventures and misadventures with a series of prostitutes.

Grunberg has a tight writing style that is colorful and hip, and he says he works hard to make the writing seem effortless. "The most important rule about writing about sex is you should not attempt to do it when you are dying to have sex," he advises.

* * *

Wallace Shawn is known to many for his roles in movies like *My Dinner With Andre* (which he co-wrote), *The Princess Bride* and several Woody Allen films.

He is also an avant-garde playwright whose latest work *The Designated Mourner* (Noonday Press, $14) opened in London last year and has been made into a film starring Mike Nichols.

Interviewed on stage by Toronto actor Clare Coulter, the curmudgeonly actor-writer admitted that when he works, "I don't start with the idea and then write the piece. First I write and then I have the idea."

Shawn's plays often confront painfully difficult and ugly elements of the human condition. While many critics have been perplexed and disgruntled by them in the past, some are now starting to react with favor, even excitement, according to Shawn.

"At first my writing got almost entirely bad reviews, and the second time out it was almost the same, and it kept being like that," he said, adding that something happens when playwrights stick with their chosen craft and don't give up.

"After a long time almost everybody begins to think, 'Why is he still around? There's got to be something there.' Some critics called [my play] *The Fever* 'ridiculous garbage' 10 years ago, and now they're saying it's 'a fine masterwork.'"

* * *

Toronto author Anne Michaels, whose year-old first novel *Fugitive Pieces* (McClelland & Stewart, $19.99) has won many prestigious awards, sold hundreds of thousands of copies and been translated into many languages, says the subject of the Holocaust drew her in like "a black hole of history.

"I think that certain questions hunt you down until you can't escape," she told interviewer Evan Solomon. "I think at a certain point it becomes harder to not write than to write. This was certainly the case here. The characters were extremely vivid and came to me with an astonishing intensity."

In response to a question about the difficulties of writing of experiences that weren't her own, she quoted "the famous dictum by Adorno – 'No poetry after Auschwitz.' [What Adorno was saying is that] one does not write about this. When he made that statement, I think it was extremely important, not only because it was showing respect for the dead and respect for the events themselves, the enormity of them, but in that statement he was also saying, 'Silence is the only response right now, let's hold our tongues and think about this.'

"Now time has gone by and the participants in these events are dying. And the questions remain – they won't go away – and the moral imperative is shifting. Whereas they used to say, 'I must not speak about this because I have not lived it,' now they say, 'I must speak about this because I have not lived it.'"

Travel, Arts & Business

Stage-struck actress loves theatre

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

Niki Landau has no illusions about life on the stage.

TORONTO — There may be more money in film and TV, but Niki Landau loves the stage and she's going to stick with it, come hell or high water.

Currently she is appearing as Amanda, a gangster's daughter who plans to murder her evil father in George Walker's comic play *Criminal Genius*, part of the Suburban Motel series at Factory Theatre. It continues in repertory through December (504-9971).

The Toronto actor, daughter of Sy and Barbara Landau, has no illusions about life on the stage. "I've managed to survive so far, but there is no such thing as making it in Canadian theatre. You can easily become quite forgotten. But in the last couple of years, I've been working with amazing and fascinating characters."

She has one major regret, that *Kindertransport*, in which she played one of the children sent off to England to escape the Holocaust, has not yet been produced in Toronto. She appeared in *Kindertransport* in 1995 for the Winnipeg Jewish Theatre and was in the same play in Saskatoon for Persephone Theatre.

In that play, the 25-year-old actor plays Eva from age nine to 17, a girl who changes her religion and identity to escape, is raised by a non-Jewish woman in England and can't become reconciled with her own mother later.

A graduate of York Mills Collegiate, Landau took acting lessons from the late Judy Silver at the Leah Posluns Theatre and at the age of 10, played in *The King of Petticoat Lane* at that theatre. She has dedicated her performance in *Criminal Genius* to Silver.

Still determined to make the grade in Canadian theatre, she left Toronto to take a theatre performance course at Concordia University in Montreal.

While in Montreal, she appeared as Portia in a National Film Board production of *Shylock*, which examined the question of Shakespeare's anti-Semitism and included a panel discussion on the subject filmed at the Saidye Bronfman Centre.

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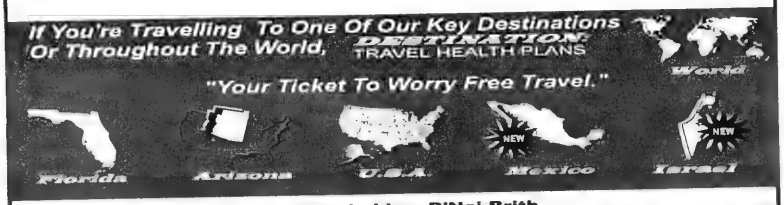

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

GODFREYS WIN PRIZE IN ANGLO-JEWISH HISTORY

Sheldon and **Judith Godfrey** of Toronto have become the first Canadians and only the second North Americans to win the coveted prize for the best Anglo-Jewish History from the Jewish Historical Society of England.

The Godfreys won the A.S. Diamond Memorial Prize for their book *Search Out The Land: The Jews and the Growth of Equality in British Colonial America, 1740-1867*, published by McGill-Queens University Press.

Sheldon is a lawyer and businessman with a postgraduate degree in Canadian history, and a past chair of the Heritage Canada Foundation.

Judith Godfrey is a former vice-chair of Ontario's Conservation Review Board. *Search Out The Land* won the Joseph and Faye Tanenbaum Award as the best Canadian Jewish history of 1996.

* * *

Hebraica at Sotheby's: A manuscript fragment of the Prophets dating from 1100 CE, three leaves from a 14th-century Bible and several 14th-century manuscripts of Exodus are among the Hebraic items included in a sale of Western manuscripts and miniatures at Sotheby's London on Dec. 2.

The Hebrew manuscripts are from the Comites Latentes Collection, formerly on deposit at the National Library, Jerusalem, and from the estate of the late Neil F. Phillips.

Also on sale are a commentary on Aristotle by **Averroes**, circa 1500; concordances to the Bible and the Talmud by **Abraham ben Meshullam**, dated 1575; and an 18th-century megillah. A full catalogue may be obtained for about $35 from Sotheby's, 0171-314-4444. Fax 0171-408-5909.

* * *

Bloor JCC Reading: The Bloor JCC Between Stages reading series, in association with Volcano and Factory Theatre, present a public reading of *Cherry Docs*, an explosive new play by **David Gow**. In this high-octane drama, a Jewish lawyer works with a neo-Nazi skinhead accused of a racial murder to prepare a defence for his trial. Dec. 1, 7 p.m., Bloor JCC, 750 Spadina Ave. at Bloor Street. Free admission. 416-924-6211.

* * *

Governor General's Award: Jane Urquhart, author of *The Underpainter*, is the winner of the Canada Council for the Arts Governor General's Literary Award in the category of English-language fiction. *The Underpainter* (McClelland & Stewart, $29.99) tells the story of a minimalist painter who is drawn back into his past in the World War I era. The award was announced Nov. 18 in Ottawa.

The award is another major feather in the cap for M&S's chief fiction editor, **Ellen Seligman**, who was responsible for bringing last year's immensely successful novel *Fugitive Pieces* by **Anne Michaels** to the attention of the world.

* * *

More Book Talk: At the recent opening party of **Heather Reisman's** mega-bookstore Indigo in midtown Toronto, mayor-elect **Mel Lastman** offered congratulations, noting the huge square-footage of Indigo and reminding Reisman not to neglect her tax bills.

Still hoarse from his non-stop mayoralty campaign, "Hizzoner" gave his charming spiel, stopped to chat briefly with **Al Waxman**, then ambled out to his chauffeur-driven limousine (licence plate: 1 MAYOR), which was parked by a fire hydrant and guarded by a policeman.

Greg Gatensby, director of the Harbourfront International Festival of Authors, was among the huge crowd at the Indigo opening. He told me of his surprise and puzzlement that Israeli author **David Grossman** had agreed to appear at the Jewish Book Fair but had declined an appearance only a week earlier at the larger Harbourfront fest.

Perhaps the Harbourfront dates had clashed with Grossman's schedule? "It's doubtful," Gatensby said. "We invited him eight months before."

***

Call for art submissions: Jewish Campus Services is planning a Jewish students arts festival for early March. Looking for submissions of original artwork by Jewish college and university students dealing with two topics: Discovering our Jewish identity or Israel's 50th anniversary. Deadline for proposals is Dec.1. Call 661-8925.

* * *

At the Galleries: An exhibition of art by **Norman Laliberte**, consisting of acrylic and oil paintings and mixed media works, is on view at the Odon Wagner Gallery, 196 Davenport Rd., Toronto. Laliberte's vibrantly colorful works are whimsical, surreal and life-affirming: his central imagery is characterized by fruits, hearts, stars, rabbits and flowers. Thru Dec. 24. 416-962-0438.

* * *

Milestones: The comedy club Comedywood, 800 Steeles Ave. W. at Bathurst, recently celebrated its second anniversary. Top names at the club so far include **Richard Lewis**, **Mark Price**, **Margaret Smith**, **Dean Haglund**, **The Incredible Boris** and **Howie Mandel**. 905-761-0543...

A postgraduate student of journalism, **Hedi Ann Newman** of Thornhill recently won a scholarship for "highest academic standing, natural talent and leadership skills" from the Canadian Association of Broadcasters.

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BIBLICAL MILITARY HISTORY

Published earlier this year by Stoddart, *Battles of the Bible* (320 pages, $34.95) revisits the major biblical military campaigns, such as the invasion of Canaan by the Israelites under Joshua, the conquest of the kingdom under David and Solomon, the split of the kingdom into Judah and Israel, and the Maccabees' successful rebellion against Seleucid domination.

This is a second, considerably revised edition of a significant work of scholarship first published in 1978. It was written by two eminent Israeli military historians and commanders: the late Israeli president Chaim Herzog, and Tel Aviv University archeology professor Mordechai Gichon. Both had served in senior posts in Israel's military establishment, and thus were able to show the continuing military importance of various biblical sites from ancient times to the present day.

The book provides an essential key to understanding the military campaigns of the biblical era, when the struggle for independence and survival overshadowed all other aspects of daily life. It also takes into account current historical and archeological research, as well as modern trends in biblical scholarship.

Featuring dozens of maps, drawings and photographs, *Battles of the Bible* enlivens and modernizes a complex subject, making it accessible to the average reader.

* * *

Laromme Jerusalem Hotel: This famous deluxe hotel is celebrating Israel's 50th birthday with some special winter guest packages. Parents visiting children who are students in Israel are upgraded to maximum rooms and receive homemade chocolates upon arrival. Students may share their parents' rooms free and enjoy a complimentary breakfast. Parents who stay seven consecutive nights receive the eighth night free and the student joins them for a bonus Friday dinner or Saturday lunch.

As well, the Laromme offers a 30 percent discount on the Israeli room rate for Israeli families who join their overseas families for a Shabbat at the hotel. Israeli grandchildren receive a 50 percent discount on Friday dinner and Saturday lunch.

For more details, contact the Laromme Jerusalem Hotel (phone 02-6756666 or fax 02-6756777) or any travel agent specializing in Israel.

Vancouver Holocaust Exhibit: Open Hearts – Closed Doors, an exhibit that opened this month at the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, marks the 50th anniversary of the arrival to Canada of 1,123 Jewish children who were orphaned by the Holocaust.

The exhibit chronicles the lives of these children as they emerged from the events of the Holocaust into displaced persons camps and orphanages, and eventually boarded ships to Canada.

It presents a snapshot of Canada's treatment of other immigrants, including the forced return of persons from India aboard the Komagata Maru, the Asiatic Exclusion Act and the Japanese internment. #50 - 950 W. 41st Ave., Vancouver. 604-264-0499.

Kosher Safari: If you think an African safari consists of only lions, elephants, rhinos, zebras, buffalo and antelope, take another look. Thanks to the Norcross, Georgia-based adventure travel company Global Explorers you can enjoy kosher meals, daven daily and observe Shabbat in the bush.

Global Explorers' 12-day Kosher Safari and Wildlife Experience includes a safari in a private game reserve and a visit to a kosher guesthouse in Cape Town near nature reserves, botanical gardens and other attractions.

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Three trips departing from New York are offered in coming months: Jan. 18 to 30, Feb. 22 to Mar. 6, Mar. 22 to Apr. 3. Land costs are from $3,485, with a single supplement of $850; airfare is additional. 800-923-2645. Web site, [www.globalexplorers.com].

Travel Briefs: Vienna's Museum of Fine Arts (Kunsthistorisches Museum) presents what may be the ultimate Bruegel exhibition anywhere, Dec. 10 thru Apr. 14, 1998 ...

Israel In Real Time, a travel guide offering detailed information on many subjects for travellers to Israel, is available at no charge from the Israel Government Tourist Office, 800-669-2369...

Eat Your Way Through New York: A Kosher Dining Guide details kosher restaurants as well as Judaic attractions and synagogues in New York.

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-EXCH./SHARE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
358 BRIDAL
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
386 DANCING
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
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435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND-HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
483 SKIING
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
548 WORD PROCESSING
550 WORKSHOPS

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

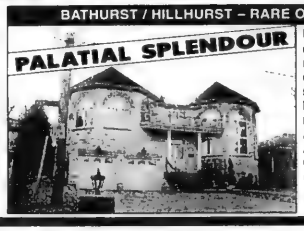
"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

CLANTON PARK

Charming 3 bdrm. on 50 x 150 ft. lot, close to shuls, park, highly desirable location, family SOLD Great buy at only $269,000! CALL NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / HILLHURST – RARE OFFERING



Upper Forest Hill, custom-built, luxury finishes, cathedral ceilings, 4,500 sq. ft. (approx.) + basement, dramatic curb appeal. A MUST SEE! Asking $949,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

BATHURST / VIEWMOUNT – FOR SALE OR FOR RENT

Custom built, stunning quality craftsmanship + finishes. 4200 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. 9 1/2 ft. ceilings on main floor, Neff designer kitchen. Live your dreams NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE

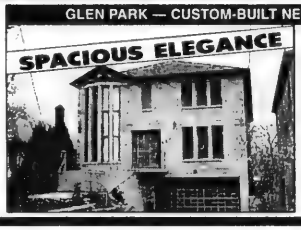
Detached bungalow! Renovated + decorated! Gleaming hardwood, new eat-in kitchen, finished floors, basement, a great deal at only $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — STORE FOR SALE – REDUCED!!!

Vendor says SELL! Popular retail strip, vacant, ideal for user, only $149,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

GLEN PARK — CUSTOM-BUILT NEW HOME



Luxurious upgrades throughout, hardwood floors in bedrooms, European kitchen, oak trims + baseboards, approx. 3,400 sq. ft. + bsmt., fabulous location, asking $629,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

ALAN NEWTON

REAL ESTATE LTD. REALTOR

BATHURST-CENTRE "RENAISSANCE COURT"
$1,399,000 - 1st Ad! Outstanding family home on 1/2 acre treed lot, magnificent finishes throughout, finished lower level, park 4 cars in garage, circular driveway. *Lora Yakobson

• • •

FOREST HILL "BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME"
$1,650,000. Stunning residence to be built! Tall ceilings, spectacular maple kitchen w/moldings, friezes & pillars, incredible breakfast rm., half enclosed in tall french doors overlooking very private backyard, large family room, 3 marble ensuite bathrooms, plaster cornice moldings & high baseboards. Superb attention to detail, 2 car garage.

• • •

UPPER VILLAGE "TO BE TOTALLY RENOVATED"
$995K! Best Street! 60.5'x125' lot, 4 bdrms., all ensuite, new wiring, plumbing, electrical, air, maple kit., bathrooms, hdwd. flrs., windows, approx. 3,300' + fin. basement, double garage, stone & stucco elevation.

• • •

NEW HOMES UNDER CONSTRUCTION & TO BE BUILT
Bathurst & Centre, from 3600 to 4200sq. ft., custom built, gorgeous lots, loaded with extras! *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

• • •

BATHURST VILLAGE - SHOWS GREAT!
Fab. 3 bdrm. bungalow with den, dble. garage, finished basement, hardwood, air, ensuite, must be seen! *Ted Waxman

• • •

BAYVIEW-WILLOWBROOK - FAB. RAVINE LOT!
100 ft. front! Gorgeous home approx. 3,000', prof. fin. lower level has w/o garden, hdwd., ceramics, motivated! $449K.*Helen Gould

• • •

ARMOUR HEIGHTS "RARE FIND" DON'T MISS!
4 bdrms., 2 storey, main floor powder room, huge living & dining room, great lot, finished basement, large rooms. *Becky Wener

• • •

FANTASTIC VALUE IN ROSEDALE NORTH
4 bdrms., family room, fin. bsmt. (except brdlm), steps to Rosedale School. Immaculate, priced to sell! *C. Fleischmann or *S. Tamin

CONDOMINIUMS FOR SALE

BATHURST-ANTIBES TOWNHOME $163,500
3 bdrms., fin. bsmt., attached gar., appls. + + + *Ted Waxman

• • •

BATHURST-STEELES UPGRADED TOWNHOUSE
2 bdrm., thousands $$ in extras, hardwood floors, 5 appliances & more! For more information call * Ziva Zimmer

• • •

BATHURST-CENTRE CONDO – $174,900!
Immediate poss., 2 bdrms. & solarium, faces West! *Helen Gould

• • •

* Sales Representative **Associate Broker

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Paul Slavens

REAL ESTATE INC. REALTOR

RESULTS RESULTS RESULTS

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FINE HOMES

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE
$519,000. Stunning home with curb appeal. 3 bdrms., 4 baths, skylights, glass block, mouldings, stained glass. Finished lower level w/rec.rm. & nanny's rm. Central air. **Natalie Schacter.

• • •

RIDLEY BLVD./AVENUE RD.
$214,900. Lovely 2 bdrm. condo. Sep. dining room, white eat-in kitchen, crown mouldings, french doors, + whirlpool in master ensuite. Parking. Fabulous amenities. *Edie Winberg.

• • •

DOUGLAS AVE - $479,000.
Avenue Rd./Lawrence. Totally reno'd 4 bdrm., 4 bath home across from park. Stunning main flr. fam. rm. w/ vaulted ceiling + walk-out. Fin. lower level. Central air. *Edith Weiss.

• • •

LOWER VILLAGE - $749,000.
Handsome Tudor offers loads of potential. 4 bdrms., 4 baths. Main floor family rm. w/built-ins. Fin. lower level. Secluded garden. Private drive & garage. Terrific location. *Edith Weiss.

• • •

STUNNING CONDO - $369,000.
Spectacular 2,600 sq. ft., 2 storey residence. 3 bdrms. Beautiful reno'd master ensuite. Marble foyer & separate dining rm. 2 balconies. Sweeping views of the city. *Carol Cotton.

• • •

BAYVIEW/YORK MILLS - 1/3 ACRE
This magnificent property has been featured in "Canadian House and Home" & boasts main-floor family rm. +panelled library, gourmet kitchen, tennis court, swimming pool & cabana w/change rms. Triple garage. *Barbara Kaplan.

• • •

LESLIE/STEELES - $328,000.
This Wycliffe-built, special "Bungalow Townhome" features 3+ bdrms., multi fireplaces, custom upgrades + sumptuous lower level. Double garage. *Heather Sherman.

• • •

COUNTRY ESTATE - $498,000.
Contemporary 4 bdrm. home on almost 50 acres. Private tennis court, swimming/skating pond. Triple garage. Property backs onto Nottawasaga River. Call *Larry Dahlke.

• • •

CHAPLIN ESTATES - RENTAL
$2400/mo. Eglinton/Avenue Rd. 45 ft. frontage, 3 bdrms., fam. room & sun room on main. Fireplace. Private drive + attached garage. Call *Bernard Pike.

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Move-in 4+ bdrm., grg., A-1! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

AVENUE RD. & ST. CLAIR
4 family home, good income + + Russell Pearsall* 488-2875

ARMOUR HEIGHTS – LUXURY CUSTOM HOME
Highest quality + finishes, $769K. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE
Custom new home being built with high quality extras. B. Westbrook* 226-1987

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE – "LOADED"
Gorgeous 4+1 bdrm. + lib. & fam. rm. Sammy Roth** 488-2875

BATHURST/YORK DOWNS
80'x310' ravine lot, wonderful family home. $699K. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

SANDRINGHAM DRIVE
Magnif. reno on large lot. $639K. B. Westbrook*/P. Pollock* 226-1987

NORTH PROPERTIES

19 SILVERGROVE RD. – BAYVIEW AREA
Ravine lot, stunning reno home. Julie Golman* 488-2875

RICHMOND HILL – RAVINE – ONLY $359K
Cust. approx 3000 sq. ft. w/out. Must see! O. Guvenal* 226-1987

THORNHILL – ATTN: 1ST TIME BUYERS!
Stunning 3 bdrm., fin. bsmnt., mdrn kit. Sammy Roth** 488-2875

BATHURST & CARRVILLE
Approx. 3000 sq. ft., 4+1 fin. w/out lower office & home. A 10+ O. Guvenal* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

PENTHOUSE CENTRAL/S. VIEW $369,900
Choose your paint colour! Open concept. S. Slater* 488-2875

2 BDRM ON SUBWAY – 1ST AD WON'T LAST
5 appl., sol., balc., move-in. Mark Cowan* 226-1987

BATHURST/STEELES – TRIDEL BUILT
Beaut. reno'd 2 bdrm., den & solarium. Patti Pollock* 226-1987

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

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5 HOUSES FOR SALE

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Celebrating our 40th Year!

SHAWANAGA TRAIL $2,198,000
Gracious Tudor Estate overlooks the Mississauga & Credit Valley golf course. 8500 sq. ft. Elise Kalles**

YORK MILLS/BAYVIEW $1,250,000
Luxury custom - Wonderful for entertaining & family living. Huge lot. Must see! S. Stern* & M. Alberga*

BATHURST/LAWRENCE $279,000
Perfect pkg., 6 room bungalow. Fin. In-law apt. Beautiful reno shows 10+. Hdwd. & ceramic floors. Gert Kerbel*

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BATHURST WILSON CONDO
$128,900 spac. 2 bdrm., corner unit, 2 bths., 2 w/outs to balc., mod. kit., appls., A-1 Buy!

FINCH WILMINGTON
Cust. built [SOLD] rm., split lvl., 3 bths., fin. [SOLD] dble gar.

BLUE FOREST AREA
5 bdrms., 4 bths., L-shape liv. & din., w/out to deck, fam. rm., kit., built-in appls., fin. bsmnt., dble drive gar.

LAWRENCE ALLEN RD.
Tri-plex, 2-[SOLD] + 1-1 bdrm., fully rented. Great buy & location.

BATHURST MANOR
Renovated 3 bdrm. bung., 2 bths., mo[SOLD], fin. bsmnt., move-in cond.

SHEPPARD AVE. WEST
Store + apt., strip plaza location, buy or rent,don't miss.

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

CLANTON PARK
Spacious + very well-maintained 4 bedroom backsplit on generous 51' x 154' lot, central air, hardwood floors, huge private backyard, quiet street.
Call **Jacob Florans,** Sutton Group Admiral Realty, **739-7200**

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Lawr,55',spac lrg 3 bdrm bung,bright,upgrades,new deck & kit,fin bsmt. **Private**. 782-1984

Open House: Sun., Nov. 23rd, 1-4pm, 18 Patrice Cr.,Thornhill, 3 bdrm, beautif. mod. kit, new carpet, dble gar, close to synagogues, $289K. 905-882-6792

24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY

York Mills/Bayview,No agents Private. 416-948-5555.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Finch, Savoy, cornr, 21st flr, approx. 2600',3 bths, whirlpl, marble,extras galore! 736-8007.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

BOCA WEST COUNTRY CLUB SOUTH FLORIDA AT IT'S FINEST
Country Club • Sports & Fitness Pavilion • New Clubhouse • 4 Golf Courses • 39 Tennis Courts • Fine Dining • Incredible Lifestyle! Don't miss out on some great values!!
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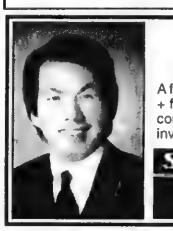
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Gorgeous Miami Beach studio apt. facing the ocean, pool surrounded by Palm trees, just a few feet from sand. Unit just decorated with new furniture, appl's. Perfect for vacationing families. Toll free: 1-800-832-5784 or 305-821-9404, ask for Nelsys.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE



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A few well-priced resales available: 2 bdrm. + fam. + sol. or balc., over 1,700 sq. ft. A couple of suites for rent. For our updated inventory, call Santee Leung, F.R.I.
Santee Realty Inc.
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(24 hrs.)

BATHURST-TORRESDALE
Just reduced! $229,000. End unit condo over 1600 sq. ft., family rm., gorgeous, upgraded, must be sold.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

Bathurst-Torresdale, 2 bdrm. condo., upgraded.**Private Sale.** $160,000. Call 416-661-9982.

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Yonge/Sheppard, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, 5 appls, pkg, walk to subway, avail. Jan. 1. $1400. incl. all util., n/smkr. Call 221-6436.

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

1 bdr in a 2 bdr condo for rent, facil, $475/mo. 905-709-6207.

Looking for prof F, 23-30, to share great 2 bdrm in Yonge/Egl. highrise, n/smkr, n/pets please! Karen, 545-1361.

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Atkinson/Clark, beautiful 2 bdrm, brand new lge. bsmt apt, close to TTC & shul, sep entr, female pref., n/smkr & n/pets, $875. inclus. Call 905-886-2625

Bath. Manor, sunny renov'd. 1 bdrm. bsmt. apt. with eat-in kit., high ceilings, n/smkr., $625., avail Jan. 1st. 416-636-0641.

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Ft. Laud., 1 bdrm + conv, 1 1/2 bth, encl. sun rm, avail Jan. for the season, $1100./mo U.S. 905-886-1150.

Miami, Hallandale, 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bths., ocean view, $1800./mo. U.S. 416-638-7257.

N. Miami Beach, Arlen House, fully furn & equip, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, high flr, ocean view, **seasonal,** avail mid-Dec. 1-905-527-7897 or 305-949-0114.

N. Miami Beach, Avilla South condos., 172nd St. & Collins, 1 blk from ocean & Rascal House, steps to synag. & shops, 1 bdrm, 1 Fla. rm, 2 bths, $1500./mo. U.S., avail. Feb./Mar/Apr. 905-771-0071.

Oceanfront, Pompano Beach, spotless 2 bdrm, 2 bth, all amen., for the season. Serious only, $2300./mo. U.S. 443-8909

West Palm Beach, Lands of The President, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, Jan.-April. 905-881-9979

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

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Hallandale, beautiful 2 bdrms., 2 bath, magnificent view, all amenities, 3-4 mos. 783-3213.

Palm Beach condo., oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, furn., immed. occup. 416-504-4267.

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Delray Bch, Kings Pt., 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bth condo, for people 55+, all conv.,close to shul, min. 4 mos. **or sale**, avail immed. 561-498-9354-Fla. or 905-731-5435.

150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION

Cars/Vans transported by encl railcars/auto carriers across Canada, Florida, U.S. locations. **SEARAIL 1-800-282-9892.**

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Vendor will consider offers between $559K & $648,876. Updated 2800 sq. ft. year-round retreat. 2/f/p's, 5 walk-outs, gazebo, boat house, heated pool, gorgeous lot 125'x300'. Vacant.
Call: PATTIE HARPER
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190 VACATION PROPERTIES

SNOW OR "SUNBIRDS". Deluxe Beverly Hills (L.A.) condo., luxury 2 bdrms, 2 bths, Dec., Jan. - thru April or monthly. All amen, pool, terrace, gym, valet pkg, full secur. bldg.
Call Ellen, 212-581-3890

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Investors/partner req'd. Young bldr./engineer, 10 yrs. in bus., requires investor/partner. Bldr. desires to expand bus. & take advantage of excell. real estate market. Good opportunity for retired person. If inter., an interview can be arranged.782-3004

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FUNDRAISER
Israeli hospital seeking solicitor in Toronto area, P/T, retiree welcome.Fax résumé to: **248-354-5625.**

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, Israeli Organization seeks a F/T person to join a fast paced office environment. Requirements: excellent **verbal & written English communication** skills, strong organizational skills, excellent inter-personal skills, judgement & initiative, computer **knowledge** - prof. in a Windows environment, basic bookkeeping (Lotus 123 for Windows), **University degree,** exper. in Public Relations or Marketing are advantageous. Interested applicants, please fax résumé to:416-961-3962. Only suitable candidates will be contacted.

West coast Yeshiva Day School (K-7), currently seeks exper., dynamic F/T, P/T Teaching couples. Excellent salary/benefits/moving expenses. Kiruv/outreach opportunities. Phone 604-731-7184 or fax: 604-731-8861.

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Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School in Hamilton is seeking experienced Judaica & Hebrew teachers. Please fax your résumé to the attn. of: Deborah Winters, at 905-528-2994.

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Cleaning lady looking for days work. Call Nina, at 635-8223.

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Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personaly interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
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Available: prof. cleaning ladies, nannies, housekeepers,party helpers. Exper. with refs. & legal. 905-771-7882.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

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Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674** or **416-224-9907. #1 Domestic.**

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255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Looking for a mature lady to babysit 2 days/wk, incl. 1 evg., begin. Jan.,for 2 small children, refs req'd.905-669-4341,Thrnhill

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Mature HCA, willing to work in home or inst. Please call Ms. Samuels, at 416-748-8744.

Mature HCA, willing to work in home or inst. Please call Mrs. Brissett, at 416-740-3840.

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265 PEOPLE SEARCH

My brother, JACOB R. LEON a.k.a. JACOB LEVY: please contact me at this address: URGENT! Michael Leon at DRK Centre Tårnby, Lojtegårdsvej, 97-99, #38, 2770 Kastrup, Denmark.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

If you're swept away by British charm, like good conversation, & need someone who's warm & caring, we should meet. I'm a handsome 5'6" JM, in my 40's, interested in a JF, 30-40. CJN Box 6993.

JM, 50, attr, would like to meet an intell., attr lady, 35-45, who is **romantic,** a good cook, enjoys music, travel & **Jewish values,** for a relationship leading to marriage **(children welcome). Serious replies only.** Photo if possible. CJN Box 6984.

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ARDITTI, Perla - on Nov. 6, 1997, late of 7420 Bathurst St.
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NISSEN, Jack - on Nov. 8, 1997, late of 7250 Yonge St., #1609.
BORSOOK, Frances - on Nov. 9, 1997, late of 1035 Eglinton Ave. W.
MANDLE, Rose - on Nov. 9, 1997, late of 29 Westoverhill Rd.
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TILE, Samuel - on Nov. 9, 1997, late of 645 Castlefield Ave.
WINTRAUB, Sally - on Nov. 9, 1997, late of 250 Eglinton Ave. W., #250.
ZISKINDER, Barry - on Nov. 9, 1997, late of 622 Essa Rd.
ROSENBERG, Mania - on Nov. 10, 1997, late of 5 Purdon Dr.
HANDLER, Helen - on Nov. 11, 1997, late of 3131 Bridletowne Circle, #1704.
PRECHNER, Sandra - on Nov. 11, 1997, late of 3270 Bathurst St., #704.
BERK, Seymour - on Nov. 12, 1997, late of 6030 Bathurst St., #1404.
FINKELSTEIN, Goldie - on Nov. 12, 1997, late of 12 Bolingbrook Rd.
LASKO, Anna - on Nov. 13, 1997, late of 22 Shallmar Blvd., #811.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

TANNER, Goldie - on Oct. 19, 1997, late of 282 St. Clair Ave. W.
THUNA, Rae - on Oct. 22, 1997, late of 2 O'Connor Dr.
ARONCZYK, Rose - on Nov. 3, 1997, late of 15 Wyandot Ave.
MOSTOV, Carl - on Nov. 3, 1997, late of 24 Frontenac Ave.
CHTRAKHMAN, Riva - on Nov. 7, 1997, late of 6250 Bathurst St., #1427.
SILVERBERG, Morris - on Nov. 7, 1997, late of 31 Four Winds Dr., #203.
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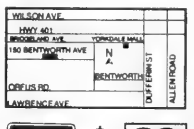

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KRUGER, Howard - on Nov. 13, 1997.
WANK, Rachel Rene - on Nov. 14, 1997.
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GREENING, Susan - on Nov. 15, 1997.
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Recipe offered for correcting Canada's soccer woes

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

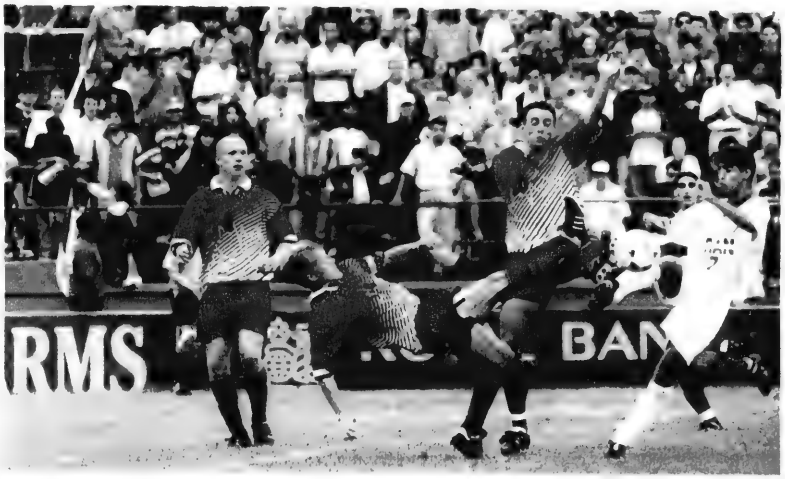
TORONTO — Few people around the world would associate Canada with excellence in soccer, but nevertheless, the national team's poor showing in World Cup qualifying matches is driving Canadian soccer fans crazy.

Canada's recent 3-0 drubbing at the hands of the United States was only the latest in a long series of embarrassing losses suffered by the national soccer team. Once again Canadians will be spectators, not participants, when the World Cup convenes in France next summer. In Canada's only World Cup appearance seven years ago, the Great White North failed to score even one goal against world class competition.

So what ails the national team? Is Canadian soccer really that bad?

Martin Scott is a soccer aficionado of the first order. President of the Maccabi (Toronto) Soccer Club, last year he also served as administrator of the Toronto Services Soccer League, the nation's largest soccer circuit with more than 160 teams.

Scott admits to "total frustration" at the national team's poor showing. Not content to limit himself to energy-depleting handwringing, Scott offers this prescription for turning around the national program:



Canadian national team members (in red) in action against Iran. [Les Jones - Covershots Inc. photo]

* * *

Soccer Canada is in trouble. To clearly assess the current state of disrepair and disrepute, one must begin at the top. Leadership in Ottawa has proven itself to be much like the Canadian national team, disorganized, unmotivated and without a clear mandate or style. The lack of professionalism manifest in decisions taken by former coach Bob Lenarduzzi and the Canadian Soccer Association's president, K. Pipe, have effectively put the Canadian team into a vortex, with dissent both on and off the field.

In perhaps the most multicultural country in the world, Canada should prove an ideal source for the development of players with inherent national characteristics of their or their parent's homeland. So why isn't it working?

We are supposed to be operating under a "pyramid of play," which is a wonderful concept that is being executed by the CSA with the same degree of quality as a national team set piece. The pyramid of play is supposed to channel upwards elite players, competing ultimately against their peers.

Unless a knowledgeable recruiter/developer/coach is in place with CSA's backing, the pyramid of play is meaningless, as the wrong players are coming to the top. It is high time to go with a pro. Hire an experienced, international head coach on a six- to eight-year contract, with wide-ranging powers to glean, assemble, train and conduct Canada's national effort. Get Pipe out! Do an autopsy on the entire body because the body is dead.

The pyramid is flat at the top, with many leagues throughout the GTA that can all legitimately lay claim to having some of the best players in Canada. Each ethnic-based team has support from their community and in many cases their soccer team is the ultimate expression and focal point of their cultural identity.

With the Canadian National Soccer League (CNSL) joining the Ontario Soccer League in 1998, the opportunity does exist to begin to take a step towards a better semi-pro future, which sadly, seems the best Canadians can hope for.

Drawing their best players to the CNSL will be a difficult task. The reputation that an internationally known leader will bring to the national team will help convince these players and their supporters that this league can and will be a conduit to the national team or other international opportunities.

The double-edged sword of volunteerism also serves as a roadblock to the development of soccer in Canada. On the one hand, soccer today could not be the number 1 participation sport in Canada without countless people helping out at all levels of the game. On the other hand, soccer's amateurish status is reinforced by the very nature of the volunteer structure that guides it. With so many participants, is is not reasonable to assume that a small per person fee increase in the cost of participation could go a long way in making our game become more professional?

Some progressive soccer clubs have shown the courage and foresight to have made such appointments recently, mostly in the form of head coaches.

In soccer associations, on the other hand, far too many individuals achieve power or control as the direct result of years served and allegiances developed, as opposed to quality, insight or experience that a paid employee could bring to the table. Referee associations are also rife with petty politics and a general lack of professionalism. The three worst things about soccer in Canada just may be coaches, referees and administration. That's unfortunate, because the talent in term of players here is potentially world class, at least in the top 32.

* * *

Scott is keeping his organizational talents in gear this winter. He's entered the Maccabi AKs (alte kackers) in an over-35 league at the Hanger, a mega-sized indoor soccer facility operated by soccer maven Francois Glasman. Younger players with the Maccabi Soccer Club, many of whom represented Canada at the Maccabiah Games in Israel last summer, are participating in First Division Play at the Hanger. Scott is also working hard to put together a five-team invitational tournament next August that will feature Maccabi Toronto, Maccabi Montreal, Maccabi Glasgow and two regional Maccabi teams from the United States.

Bet you never thought you could have the Stanley Cup at your Barmitzvah.

Well, at the Hockey Hall of Fame you can!

The Hockey Hall of Fame is a spectacular venue for any function, but particularly for a batmitzvah/barmitzvah. Elegantly catered by Al Salomon, Stephen Field and the team at Marigolds & Onions, your event is sure to be truly unforgettable. For a FREE guided tour and more information call Janice Barrina of the Hockey Hall of Fame at (416) 360-7735 or Al Salomon of Marigolds & Onions at (416) 256-4882 today!

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The Inside Back

Tom's Place

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TOM'S "LAST ON THE LIST" SALE!

'Tis the season for gift giving, but why leave yourself out? Nov. 26th-30th, the Bloor JCC will host the **Tom's Place** million-dollar inventory clear-out. With prices 60% to 80% off Tom's already lower-than-retail prices, you too can afford a new look for the holidays! Best of all, your purchase is a present to the Bloor JCC because a portion of the sale proceeds on Thursday, Friday & Sunday will be donated to their capital campaign.

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HERB CAPLAN
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KAHLUA SWEET POTATOES

WE SELL GE FOR LESS

1 16 oz. can chunk pineapple in juice
1/4 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup white sugar
1/2 cup Kahlua
1/2 cup water
4 peeled sweet potatoes halved lengthwise

To prepare marinade, bring first five ingredients to a boil, reduce heat and simmer for 10 minutes. Place sweet potatoes cut side down in baking dish. Pour marinade over potatoes and bake for 1 hr. at 375°F. Alcohol evaporates during baking.

About jobs

Dear Lisa,

I am intelligent, honest and reliable. I also have a lot of practical work experience. So why can't I find a job? What are employers looking for today?

Dear Reader,

Recent studies across North America indicate that more than anything else, employers are looking for "soft" skills.

This includes skills like flexibility, adaptability, optimism, assertiveness and ability to manage stress, solve problems and get along with others.

In an age of computerization, does it make sense to stress "soft" skills? Many employers say yes.

Technology has dramatically increased the number and level of complications in the problems we must solve at work. This means that many jobs require teamwork.

In times of economic depression, optimism is the skill that will encourage a high level of sales.

These and other "soft" skills make up one's Emotional Intelligence (EQ), which is a new measurement that is proving to be a strong indicator of success in life.

The EQ was originally developed by Dr. Reuven Bar-On and is just beginning to be used by career counsellors. Read anything you see that talks about EQ – it's bound to become increasingly important.

Job Search is a monthly column by career educator Lisa Galet Klug. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

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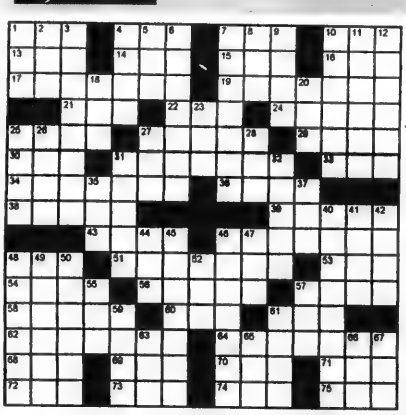
The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. Tzitzit site
4. E. Lazarus specialty
7. Digit
10. Lillian Florence Hellman
13. Solomon's find
14. Hebrew letter
15. Alenu
16. American Mossad
17. Lake Kinneret?
19. Prime Minister Begin
21. God to Simeon
22. Greenberg award
24. Shofar blast
25. Shavuot food
27. Bohr
29. Plague
30. Dershowitz org?
31. Dorothy Parker
33. "Sea" to Wiesel
34. Haman's hanging partners
36. Dead and Red
38. Succeed
39. Vacation from Tsahal
43. Divorce documents
46. Rosh Hashanah hope
48. Container
51. City between Ebal and Gerizim
53. That one
54. Bohr's research
56. Singer Cantor
57. Mama __ Elliott
58. Items on Schindler's List
60. Employ
61. Friend
62. Kaddish language
64. "Pentimento", writer Hellman
68. Adam to Abel
69. Break the ninth
70. Tay-Sachs carrier
71. Writer Rand
72. Sighs
73. Boxer Kaplan
74. Arkia milieu
75. Sever

Down

1. Chazzer (Eng)
2. B.C.E. word
3. Bugs Bunny voice
4. Accords city
5. Reason for shiva
6. Philistines and Edomites
7. First and Second
8. Shema ender
9. Writer Ferber
10. Toast
11. Vicious
12. Macabee symbol
18. Noodge
20. Everyone
23. Old soldier
25. Adam to Eve
26. Shofar source?
27. Not: comb. form
28. Tel-Aviv to Hebron (dir)
31. Chuppah holders
32. Old Jerusalem?
35. Portion (abv)
37. Prophesize
40. Jehoram's wife
41. Vavs (Eng)
42. Gabbai catch
44. "__ Promise", by Potok
45. Like Samson by Delilah
46. Israelite battle gear
47. Pitsel (Eng)
48. Shatner homeland
49. Tallit collar
50. Israelites in the Wilderness
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57. White Sox' Abrams
59. Dr. Jonas
61. Neil Simon specialty
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65. Calligraphy need
66. Affirmative
67. Avdat to Ashdod (dir)

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 46.)

Scholar remembered for making Torah study sweet

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO – A candy stuffed into information kits symbolized the approach to Torah study of renowned scholar and teacher Nehama Leibowitz, who died last spring.

Classes with Nehama, as she was affectionately known, always started with a candy, so that students would realize the sweetness of Torah study, said Judith Shapero, chair of a recent conference entitled Life and Legacy of Nehama Leibowitz.

Shapero spoke at the first evening of the four-day conference, which was sponsored by Beth Tikvah Synagogue, the Centre for Jewish Studies of York University and Jewish Campus Services, and supported by the Sally and Morris Justein Endowment Fund.

Evening keynote speaker Marla Frankel, of the Melton Centre for Jewish Education in the Diaspora at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, gave a brief overview of Leibowitz's life and teachings.

Born in Riga, Latvia, in 1905, Leibowitz was born to a wealthy family, and together with her brother, studied with private tutors. Her doctoral thesis was written in Germany, where she worked on a translation of the Bible with Martin Buber.

After marrying Yehuda Lipman, a much older man, the couple made aliyah in 1930.

Besides her regular teaching classes, Leibowitz, who was awarded the Israel Prize for Education in 1957, began to prepare weekly study sheets on the Torah portion of the week. Originally sent to 15 women from various kibbutzim, they proved immensely popular, and were eventually sent around the country.

The first sheets were designed for those with experience and knowledge in Torah study, Frankel said. Later, Leibowitz prepared study guides for those less knowledgeable. These were translated into many languages and sent around the world.

An Orthodox woman, and neither an "activist nor a feminist," Leibowitz achieved fame in what is usually considered a male preserve. She taught both men and women, and was asked to join the staff at Yeshivat Or Torah, a yeshivah presided over by Rabbi Shlomo Riskin.

Frankel taught a sample lesson that illustrated Leibowitz' technique of studying traditional texts together with both ancient and more modern interpretations.

Frankel said that "although she herself was Orthodox in practice, she never demanded [Orthodox practice] in her students." Her teaching and writing never reflected any political view, said Frankel.

Leibowitz was able to strike a balance between the explicit religiosity espoused by Rabbi Yosef Ber Soloveitchik (public expressions of religion such as kashruth) and Martin Buber's implicit religiosity, stressing the importance of one's own search for faith.

A video presentation *The Life and Legacy of Nehama Leibowitz* offered a tribute to her by Toronto educators who had studied with her.

Racists shunned

[Cont'd. from page 3]

If Quebec voted 50 or more percent for separation "on a fair question," there would doubtless be a large number of Quebecers who would petition Ottawa to stay under Canadian law, Manning said.

"Parliament would have no alternative but to respect that request."

Manning admitted he is trying to strike "the delicate balance between not appearing to feed [the partitionist movement] and sticking his head in the sand..."

"Partition would be a huge problem but it's part of the reality; so that's another reason not to get into" Quebec secession, he reasoned.

Manning said the national unity debate will never be concluded unless the "equality of citizens and provinces in law," which is as important to Canadians in the rest of the country as recognition of its uniqueness is to Quebecers, is included in any resolution.

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Florence Wilder 33
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Judy Stein Consultant 12
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Lynne Meredith Elkind 33
Marla Kay 30
Raquel Sananes-Grad 12
Risa Gold (Oziel) 33
Sarah Cherry 35

DECOR

Artistic Creations 32
Entertaining Xtras 26
Happy Days 29
Party Exchange, The 11
Perlit Novelties 14

ENTERTAINMENT

Ho Ho Entertainment 28
Ka-boom Interactive Parties Inc. 14
Mark Hebscher's Sports Fantasy 25
Wonderkids Sports Centre Inc. 28

ESTHETICS

Anna K. Salon & Spa 16
Carol Wise Make Up Artist 35
Kim Abrams 11
Marla Baker Make Up Artist 29
Marsha Baker Make Up Artistry 33

FASHION

Adele Wechsler 13
Beatties 9
Kidstreat 29
Wayne Clark Boutique 36

FLORISTS

Designs By Karen Baker 28
Greenleaves & Petals 24
Le Bouquet 33

GIFTS

A Show of Hands 24
Karats Fine Jewellery 11
Tri-Versa-Global 31

KETUBOT

Ketubah, Haftorah by Karny Vorona 9
Ketubah Ketubah 33

MISCELLANEOUS

Eté Salon 29
Eva Goldfinger, Jewish Clergy 14
We're Having A Party - Party Planning Show 4

ONE STOP PARTY SHOPS

Candyman, The 22
Liteworks Novelties Inc. 27
Party Supply Depot 25

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Horvath Photography 13
Mark Stern Photography 30
Neil Meirovich Photography 31
Party Shots 32
Photos By Arnold 25
Sibulash Photography 10
Stuart Moscoe Photography 6

RENTALS

Aurora Party Rentals 31
Higgins Party Rentals 26

INVITATIONS

Barbara Mortfield Invitations 35
Heather Hennick - Invitations Plus 32
Invitation House 14
Please Reply 12
Printed Word, The 30
Stationery Plus/Gilda Lefton 28

MUSIC

Aelita & Friends 30
Fabulous Harvey Seigel Band/Speak Easy Jazz Band . 5
Fern Lindzon Piano & Vocals 35
Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band 33
Hu-Tsa-Tsa Klezmer Band 32
Kenny Simon Band, The 35
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Kloda Productions 3
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Nova Sounds Entertainment Group 22
Nu-Rhythm Band 17
Paul Zurin Band, The 13
Reflections 31
Russ Myers Band, The 28
Shelley Miller Band, The 8
Shelly Ovdat Band 29
Spilly Entertainment 28
Times Square Entertainment Group 26

VIDEO

ABC Video Productions 6
D.M.S. Video Productions 20
Images International 35
Redstone Pictures 25
Twins Photo Video 33
Video Affairs 11
Video Excellence 12
Video Productions By Josh 14

Food Glorious Food

FOOD/CATERERS

Centre Street Deli 22
Levy's Catering* 22
Malmar Fine Foods & Catering* 6
Paradise Banquet Centre* 8
Prestige Fine Cuisine* 24
Sonny Langer's Vegetarian Dairy Catering ..30
Tri Elm - The Sephardic Centre* 16
Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers* 11

FOOD/WHERE TO PARTY

Acqua Ristorante & Bar 25
Atlantis Complex 16
Baycrest Hospitality Services* 23
Beth Radom/Freda Tobler* 31
Captain John's Harbour Boat Restaurant ..24
Estates of Sunnybrook 34
Hank's Diner & Ballroom 15
Marriott Eaton Centre 10
Novotel North York Hotel 17
O Mei Restaurant 6
Ontario Science Centre 34
Pickle Barrel 7
Radisson Plaza Hotel Toronto 23
Rinx, The 20
Rock 'n Diner, The 26
Royalton Banquet & Convention Centre, The* .13
Scaramouche Restaurant Pasta Bar & Grill 32
Splendido Bar & Grill 28
Sutton Place Hotel, The 5

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FOOD/SPECIALTY

Chocolate Charm* 31
Gateaux Gil 12
Ilya Du Pain* 11
Kosherland Fast Food Ltd.* 23
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PARTY PLANNER

Mister Disc Jockey provides total entertainment

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

By now, you've probably heard the phrase "total entertainment." It sounds interesting, but what does it mean?

For a wedding, bar mitzvah or any milestone celebration, you want the best entertainment you can get, so why not investigate? Is it anything like virtual reality?

Yes and no. It does involve creating a total imaginary environment, but the performers are live artists, not images on a screen.

It means state of the art set design and audio-visual technology, plus the time-honored artistic values of good music and performance. It challenges the senses and imagination, lifts the human spirit, and takes the audience somewhere they never expected to go.

Ed McMurtry of Mister Disc Jockey (905-886-4488) pioneered seamless entertainment, where each phase of an event flows smoothly into the next. Now he has gone a step further, uniting seamless decor with interactive entertainment to create total entertainment.

In this concept, the guests are totally in the setting. They see the stage not as a stage, but part of the scene. The waitresses transform into dancers, taking part in the show. And the DJ's role is as flexible as that of any other performer. Sometimes he's the emcee, sometimes not, but he's never just a DJ. Whether disguised or hidden in the wings, he's one of the cast.

Total entertainment requires a coordinator, to get musicians, singers, dancers, actors and other artists working together. To find the best coordinator for your party, keep traditional performance values in mind, while staying abreast of recent developments. Lighting and visual effects, for example, are a specialty all their own, so choose someone who is up on the latest progress in this area.

You need someone who can deal with the unexpected – not only rare glitches like a lead singer coming down with laryngitis, but more common problems like bad weather or a fussy audience. The biggest surprise for a coordinator would be an event in which nothing surprising happened.

Of all kinds of events, McMurtry finds bar mitzvahs most demanding. One must entertain three or four generations, not just the kids – and sometimes be a sort of bouncer/diplomat. At a corporate event, if someone chucks a chair through a window, the thrower is arrested and fired. If this happens at a bar mitzvah, they blame the DJ.

The best entertainment companies are versatile. They can handle everything from a quiet, intimate gathering to a corporate gala. With professionals of this calibre, you can establish a long-term relationship. They can entertain at a wedding, where decorum is of the essence, or provide high jinks at a bar mitzvah, while keeping a lid on the rambunctiousness.

Look for someone with competent, experienced staff, who rehearse regularly and work closely with the best independent professionals in fields like decor. (In a visually sophisticated era, decor is crucial. The younger the audience, the greater the visual sophistication.)

Don't underestimate details. Party favors are a good example. They are souvenirs, emotional anchors the guests take home with them.Through them, the memory of one day or evening is preserved. This is why, for a party favor, a 40-year-old will charge across the floor just as fast as a 14-year old.

The interactive aspect of your entertainment starts six months to two years before your party, when you pick up the phone to dial a coordinator you've heard good things about. You should be giving each other input and feedback from that moment on.

Set your expectations high and let the professionals you hire give their best. A successful event is fun for them. It enhances their professional pride and it is the source of their good reputation and economic survival.

It's important to keep abreast of the times but the criteria for a good party are what they've always been. Do your guests stay until the latest possible hour? And do you, however tired you may be at the end of a long day, feel as good as your guests? With total entertainment which lives up to its name, your answer to both questions will be yes.

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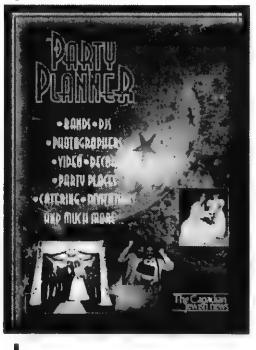

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PARTY PLANNER

Get referrals when choosing florists, experts say

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

With so many florists to choose from, how do you know which is best for you? Then, what overall plan should you follow in working with them, up to and including the day of your special occasion?

Susan Perelman of Aviv Flowers (256-2554) and Elaine Birnbaum of Greenleaves & Petals (905-709-4080) have these suggestions to help you.

Before booking a florist, work out your budget range and decide which aspects of floral decor are absolutely essential, and which you can be flexible about. Consult everyone who has a key role in hosting the event and give yourself room to change your mind. Then the florist will be able to offer ideas that match your tastes and budget.

Besides recommendations from friends, get referrals from caterers and consultants. If you see floral arrangements you strongly like or dislike, Perelman says, find out who created them. This helps narrow your choice. Then pick three or four florists, make an appointment with each, and get their undivided attention for an hour.

Give them all the information they need. Show pictures that illustrate your taste in flower types, colors and arrangements, and get the florists to show you pictures of their work. Look at the flowers in their fridge, Perelman urges. Even if they aren't what you're looking for, they give an idea of the company's overall quality level.

Finally, she advises, have the terms of your business arrangements put in writing.

Birnbaum recommends picking someone who offers additional forms of decoration or "props" coordinated with floral arrangements, like balloons and linen. Together, these items contribute to the tone of the event. You may want flowers for adults' tables at a bar mitzvah, but jazzy non-floral centrepieces for the kids.

Besides the florist's talent, consider rapport and comfort level, and how you like his or her style. Can the florist be creative within the limits you set? Are you at ease telling each other what you like? You want input and ideas, but with no pressure. Out of professional pride and the desire for repeat business, Birnbaum says, no good florist will push you to spend more than you want.

Your florist should be a good, enthusiastic listener and able, says Perelman, to take a vague idea from you, develop it, and make it so clear and visible that you exclaim: "This is exactly what I want!" Also, Birnbaum encourages you not to be wary of your own original ideas. There's no mainstream anymore; anything goes.

The florist, Perelman emphasizes, complements the event, but does not set the tone. Flowers have to match the setting; if the florist does not know the location, he or she should make a point of going to see it. Will it be outdoors or indoors? A garden wedding, for example, might have fewer flowers. Inside, room shape, size, lighting and decor influence what floral colors show best.

The nature of the event itself is crucial, Perelman says. Flowers at a wedding, for instance, should complement the bride's gown. As a rule, Birnbaum says, a wedding means elegance, while a bar or bat mitzvah cries out for flamboyance.

After your first meeting with your florist, schedule another one fairly close to your celebration, when the florist should present samples of arrangements. Then meet again just before the event to arrange finishing touches. Finally, your florist should be present at the event.

Perelman and Birnbaum both put high value on trust. Suppose that you choose a type of flower, but when it comes in, its quality is poor. You have to feel safe trusting your florist as the expert to pick a replacement. Birnbaum thinks it advisable to strike a balance between trusting your florist, and making sure you have adequate input.

Book six months to a year ahead, advises Perelman – a year, if your event will take place in a busy season. For a wedding or a bar or bat mitzvah, Birnbaum advises, find your florist as soon as you've booked the venue. That gives you time to make sure the flowers match the joy of the occasion – and in busy seasons, to be certain the florist you want will be available.

Other advertising florists are: Designs By Karen Baker, 905-886-8100; Le Bouquet, 905-660-0512.

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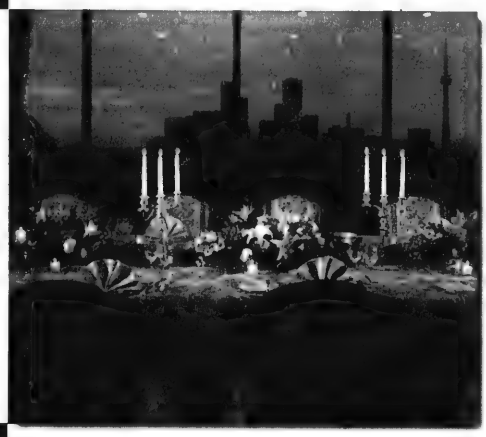

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Is Charlie a man or a dummy?

By DAYNA SHERECK
Special to The CJN

Automaton: Most of us have heard of the term, but not too many know what it means.

For some the term brings associations of explosives, something atomic. My own association was something automatic, like a certain kind of car.

In reality, there is nothing dangerous about it. No weapons, no bombs, not even cars! The actual definition of an automaton is a "person or machine that acts or appears to act in an automatic or mechanical way."

Charlie The Real Dummy, a half man/ half machine (automaton), is becoming the latest novelty at parties, corporate events and trade shows. Companies can ensure their products or services will be noticed by having Charlie The Real Dummy at their booth.

The fascinating thing about Charlie is that people can't figure out whether he is real or not. They can stare in amazement for hours and walk away still not knowing what it is. Typical comments are usually, "He looks real but no human could do this."

Charlie can be brought out just about anywhere and is sure to get attention. Children stare in amazement watching his body move mechanically back and forth. One kid says, "He's real!" Another says, "He's fake!" Then both change their minds.

Charlie The Real Dummy. Man or machine?

Grownups make bets, but no one ever wins, because no one ever knows. Charlie has been know to fall down flat, like a board, so the question is: Could a human do this?

Charles Abeziz is the creator of Charlie the Real Dummy. A Sephardi Jew from Toronto he developed Charlie The Real Dummy while on a working holiday in Paris in the mid '80s.

Charlie performed at the Cannes Film Festival in 1989 and the Supergames of 1993 and became a success in Western Europe. Now Abeziz is back in Toronto developing his business for a North American clientele.

"We had a tremendous amount of success in Europe, far exceeding our expectations as a company," Abeziz said. "Now being back in Toronto is refreshing and we are ready to conquer a new market."

Charlie The Real Dummy has recently worked for American Express, Shoppers Drug Mart, Blockbuster video and Rogers Cantel.

So, is Charlie a real person or a wonderful creation? Abeziz won't give away his secret. To try to find out for yourself call 256-4236 or e-mail [www. value network. com/charlie].

At the ROM and The Hockey Hall Of Fame, kids' parties are history

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

In the past few years, children's party entertainment has become more sophisticated. If you aren't up on what's available, your kids will tell you themselves, so keep a step or two ahead of them.

Let Al Solomon at the Hockey Hall of Fame (256-4882) and Connie McDonald at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) (586-5762) clue you in on historic new ideas for kids' parties.

Usually, the word museum still calls up images of ancient objects under glass, solemn guards in uniform and signs commanding Do Not Touch! Also, many of us don't consider an institution like the Hockey Hall of Fame a museum in the same sense as the ROM. Hockey is a contemporary sport, not ancient history.

Museums, however, have changed a lot in the past few decades. The ancient objects and glass cases have not been removed: the purpose of a museum, after all, is to preserve the past. But how? Do we lock the past away and look at it only through a transparent shield? Or do we bring it to life, recreating it as something that was once alive?

Alongside traditional displays, contemporary museums offer ways to fuse education and entertainment, to bring out the "active" in the stock phrase "interactive learning."

The Hall of Fame, for example, is intensive, honing in on one facet of history to show you everything there is to know about hockey. The ROM offers an extensive spectrum through millions of years of human and non-human history.

The ROM offers special birthday entertainment, McDonald says, so that "the museum comes alive."

The party begins with a tour of a choice of galleries, conducted by knowledgeable guides, followed by a craft activity related to the tour. The kids can make anything from a dinosaur to an Egyptian necklace.

Solomon describes the Hockey Hall of Fame as "a fun museum where kids can touch stuff." Entering it is like stepping into an imaginary world.

At any party, logistics can be a challenge, especially when you have to keep your rambunctious youngsters happy, busy and out of trouble. Both ROM and the Hall of Fame meet this challenge by offering, under one roof, entertainment, venue, and that all-important element of every kids' party – food.

The ROM's Birthday Club package includes a birthday cake. Extras include a birthday gift for the guest of honor, and a loot bag for every child guest.

At the Hall of Fame, of course, the kids' eats are hockey-style, the stuff you'd find at a hockey game.

Both museums offer separate adult meals as well.

The Hockey Hall of Fame highlights an important part of Canadian history, namely, our favorite sport. It also promotes values that are integral to sports, like self-discipline, fair play and teamwork. Kids can not only see historic games on film, but can become a team and replay great moments.

Extras offered at the Hall of Fame even include bar mitzvah cakes in the shape of the Stanley Cup, with the child's name on it – the kind of detail that can make a party memorable.

Parents at either the ROM or the Hall of Fame can get involved with the kids or enjoy some activity of their own. Often, they join in with the children. So try something different for your kids' party: something so great that not only they, but you and your adult guests will want to come back.

Other advertising entertainment places are: Mark Hebscher's Sports Fantasy, 905-660-5775.

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PARTY PLANNER

The rebirth of Klezmer music

Hu-Tsa-Tsa is one of many bands leading a klezmer revival.

Style arose from generations-old folk melodies

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Not long ago, klezmer was a rarity, beloved of a few tradition-conscious musicians and historians, but in peril of dying out. Now it's very much alive again, bands have not only revived the tradition, but are earning a living as professionals.

Klezmer, says Jordan Klapman of Klapman's Klezmer Band (654-0854), is a little like jazz in that it improvises to embellish a melody. Jonno Lightstone of Hu-Tsa-Tsa (651-7521) adds that like jazz, it arose from generations-old folk melodies, often hard to trace in origin, and played at first by musicians without formal training. Also, there is cross-pollination with swing and big band music.

Unlike jazz, though, klezmer stays very close to the melody and avoids star solos. In this, it resembles traditional Celtic music. Its major creative challenge is how elaborately can you embellish or ornament the melody while keeping it clearly audible?

In the early 1900s, as musicians became more sophisticated and better trained, ornamentation became a high art. There are many traditional ornaments, some derived from classical music, but most, like the *krechts* (a sobbing or sighing sound), are of Jewish origin.

There are what Lightstone calls klezmer dialects. As Romanian musicians came first to America, their style is best known here, but there are many great Hungarians and Russians. The later the musician, the greater the American influence, but the songs are the same. Recording flourished between 1910 and 1929, and New York and Philadelphia were major klezmer centres until the 1940s. Interest faded in the '50s, as most listeners turned to other musical forms.

Many of the musicians also played jazz or were influenced by it. The great Dave Tarras, for example, played in the Romanian style but with big band backing. Ties with the past have never been totally cut. The Epstein Brothers, who enjoyed their heyday in the '60s, are now "retired," but busier than ever; and Shloime Beckerman, who flourished in the '60s, passed his knowledge to his son Sid, who is keeping the tradition alive.

Now you know a little of the history, so how, among the many bands, do you pick the one to play at your joyous event?

Listen to what Klapman and Lightstone have to say and let their ideas and your own tastes guide you in selecting what's right for you and your guests.

Hear a band live, advise both men, to know how well they play and interact with an audience. Talk with a friend, word of mouth can give you the flavor of an event. A tape is third best. It shows if the band is competent, but not whether it has audience rapport. A tape should have not only the same band leader, but the same instruments and players who will be at your simchah.

Klapman and Lightstone see a good party band as one that strikes an even balance between talent and audience rapport. It needs a unique character of its own, and plenty of heart and soul, and love and mastery of the music count for more than fringe benefits such as switching easily to other genres like swing.

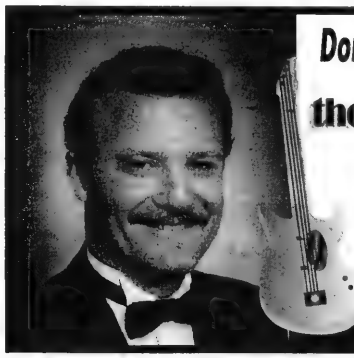
Talent, however, should be channeled to please hosts and audience. Some artists disdain the commercial market, so look for a band that enjoys entertaining and responding to people, and holding an audience's attention, but isn't miffed if not everyone listens raptly all the time.

Klapman and Lightstone both attach great importance to being organized, punctual and working well with other entertainers and professionals at an event. Hosts appreciate details like having repertory lists ready to hand. It's also important to dress for the event. Formal wear goes over well, even at an informal occasion.

Make sure the band you choose has a good sound system and makes optimum use of it. It should provide appropriate volume for those who want to hear every note, yet without the loudness that drowns out those who want to talk with other guests.

Decide well ahead of time what kind of band you want and have a good idea how the music should mesh with the rest of your event. Book a year ahead if you can, six months at the latest. Great bands are in great demand and you don't want to miss being able to hire your favorite.

Another advertising klezmer band is: Flying Klezmer Band, 416-703-6895.



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PARTY PLANNER

Eureka! Kosher hot dogs

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Two years ago, Isaac and Anat Kraus went to Paramount Canada's Wonderland with their children. On a hot summer day, they had to schlep heavy bags of food around the park because there was no kosher food for sale there.

Anat Kraus sighed and said that it would be nice to visit Wonderland like other people and not have to lug around food.

Then Eureka! She had an idea. Why not set up a kosher concession at the park?

She contacted the park administration to see if she could operate a kosher hot dog stand. It took six months to get an appointment, but in the summer of 1996, the Kosherland (905-882-0085) hot dog cart (COR) debuted at Wonderland.

With their second season behind them, Isaac Kraus said the response to the kosher hot dogs in Wonderland has been very positive.

He said visitors from New York have told him there isn't even a kosher concession at Yankee stadium, and he read from letters sent by other kosher visitors to Wonderland management thanking the park for its sensitivity to the Jewish community.

"People really appreciate the fact that we're there. The cart is an attraction. Many people say they get pleasure just having the hot dog and being able to eat it outside."

As for the kosher kids, they get to be like other kids, Kraus said. "Kids see other kids [buying food]. Now the kids don't have to feel left out."

Kosherland also operates a winter catering business at a number of venues. The company supplies many of the day schools with hot dog lunches on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis, depending on the schools, which include Associated Hebrew Schools, Bialik Hebrew Day School, Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto (CHAT), Ulpanat Orot and Or Chaim, Kraus said.

Kosherland supplies beef – regular and jumbo size – and vegetarian hot dogs and all the trimmings, french fries made without oil, knishes, latkes and drinks, with cotton candy and slushies available on request.

The cart is also available for simchahs, – bar/bat mitzvahs and all kinds of parties, Kraus said. "It's not a heavy meal. We come with all the equipment to the premises. We bring the whole oven with us."

Another company offering kosher meat and pareve foods (COR) for catering and parties is Lazar Yitzchok Meat (416-636-7730). Sylvia Bielak runs the North York company named for her late father.

A product developer, Bielak set up her company, which is a kosher, federally approved manufacturer of kosher food, three years ago.

"We specialize in glatt-kosher beef rib-eyes, first-cut veal chops and racks of lamb. We sell them fresh to the food service industry – hotels and caterers. All these cuts of meat are fresh never frozen," Bielak said.

She stressed that the company is not a store front. Her fresh meat is only available through caterers.

Lazar Yitzchok is also the Canadian distributor of a line of Aaron's Best Glatt Kosher Deli from the United States. "Aaron's makes a unique beautiful smoked turkey breast and the best salami – it's full-bodied and low in fat," Bielak said. She also carries a line of Aaron's hot dogs.

Lazar Yitzchok expanded its premises to adhere to the standards of the Department of Agriculture and the facility is under strict supervision of a mashgiach, who is on the site morning to night.

Bielak said she has developed a new line of frozen prepared hors-d'oeuvres manufactured under the label Masha's Gourmet Food. They are available in many retail outlets. She also provides kosher products to the airlines, a new growth area for her business.

As for her taste testers, Bielak said her focus group is comprised of her niece and nephews, all under the age of 14. She said she develops products with them in mind, so that they can have access to quality kosher fast food.

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PARTY PLANNER

The Spilly Entertainers focus on interaction with their audience.

Interactive DJs now doing a lot more than spinning discs

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

A good disc jockey (DJ) has to have an adaptable personality, says Bruce Citren general manager of North American Entertainment Services (750-3750).

"Some hosts want a quiet, conservative disc jockey. Others want someone loud and flamboyant – a professional DJ can be all those things," says Citren.

DJ services vary, he says, from the basic disc jockey who plays the music and does some hosting, to a package that may include an interactive DJ or emcee who actually gets out on the floor and leads the dances and games.

"The interactive DJ instructs the DJ as to what direction the party should go. He sees what music is getting the crowd up and dancing and what music is not making a hit. He is constantly assessing the crowd. The whole idea of an interactive DJ is that he sets the tone of the party."

Citren's company also offers laser karaoke and a karaoke emcee. "Singers can get up and do any number of songs. A list is handed out and guests fill out a form. We call up the guests and they get up and do their song – often with props. People of all ages love it."

There is much more to being a good DJ, says Citren, then merely playing music. "Most important, he has to know every bit of music the kids know. If kids see a guy who knows what they like, they will respect him – and that could make the whole party.

"I work with a lot of young people from ages 15 to 25 and I see what they react to. Music that kids listen to, often keeps adults in their seats. If a party is made up of adults and young people, I usually play a 50-50 mix of music. That way everyone is happy."

He suggests that when hiring a DJ, clients put the name on a contract so there will be no surprises. "If you're hiring a company and you don't mention a specific name, you don't know who you'll get."

Mark Spillman, president of Spilly Entertainment (905-709-9587), says it is important to hire a company that has strong equipment.

"It has to be powerful enough to be heard in a large room. It is always easier to turn music down rather than turn it up. We offer a complete sound and light system featuring lasers and a smoke machine."

Spillman says he always meets with his clients two to three weeks before the event to discuss the number of guests and what kind of music they like.

"As well, there is always interaction throughout the night. Communication between DJs and hosts is an integral part of the evening. We always have to be assured that things are going exactly as expected."

Games are a favorite part of the evening, Spillman says, and some of his most popular include the Frisbee throw and the Nurf ball throw, in which the winner hits the DJ in the head. "There is always music playing throughout the games."

Another favorite, he says, are the follow-me dances in which one person leads and the others follow, dancing to any step the leader may invent. "Each person leads for about 20 seconds and then we move on to the next leader."

If the bar/bat mitzvah child agrees, DJs will go over a dance, offer an appropriate costume and then have him or her perform it. "The guests just love it," says Spillman.

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PARTY PLANNER

Decorate with flair and style with Happy Days

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

Families planning a simchah may want to visit Happy Days (789-4438 or 905-882-9022), a party store specializing in bar/bat mitzvah decor, gift baskets, and balloon bouquets. The store is located at 248 Steeles Ave. W. in the Toys R Us Plaza in Thornhill.

Happy Days, which is kosher under COR, will soon be celebrating its 10th anniversary. It offers everything for a bar or bat mitzvah party: centrepieces, total room decor, balloons, illuminated name signs, sign-in boards, smash cakes, candy sweet tables, and party machine rentals.

"We do the whole party," says Marsha Winkler, who co-owns the store with her brother-in-law, Richard Winkler. "We offer one stop bar/bat mitzvah party consulting, party machines and decorating."

All centrepieces are custom-designed, Winkler says. "We make a no-obligation sample and work on it until the customer is satisfied. We'll also go with the client to the hall and give a no-obligation quote on the design of the decor."

Popular themes for girls are music and skating

People often come to Happy Days totally confused about what to do, she says. "By the time they leave we give them ideas. We reassure them, and they leave happy."

Happy Days boasts an in-store showroom so people can come to see samples of centerpieces already made up. Popular themes for girls are music, figure skating, ballet and jazz; and for the boys all kinds of team sports, Winkler notes.

Black, gold, silver and teal greens, are popular colors for parties without themes.

"The centrepieces are unique and artistic. We've always been able to come up with creative ideas that our clients really enjoy."

The centrepieces are made of a variety of materials including mylar (shiny paper), glitter, styrofoam, foam core board, plush animals and ribbon, she says. "Our prices are reasonable. We take all budgets into account and accommodate accordingly."

The chocolate smash cakes are very popular, as are the party machines — snow cones, candy floss, popcorn, and mini-donuts — "manned by courteous and friendly staff," Winkler says.

She says the kids' sweet table which is wheeled out at the same time as the adult sweet table includes jellybeans, pretzels chocolate, popcorn, lolly-fizz, lollypops, taffy, jellyfish and other sweets. Kids get bags and fill them with the treats.

Winkler says her clientele loves Happy Days' service. "That's the main thing. We rely a lot on word of mouth business. Our biggest thrill is getting referrals from satisfied customers."

Happy Days, which began as a kosher candy store, was founded by Richard Winkler. A year after its beginning Marsha came to help out.

They began getting a lot of requests for centrepieces and so they offered candy centrepieces and then branched out into total party decor, she says.

Happy Days continues to offer candy and gourmet food baskets and balloon bouquets — they have a delivery service — for all occasions, Winkler adds.

She finds the work she does, "extremely interesting," she says

"It's very fulfilling. Each centrepiece is like a work of art. It's very rewarding from an artistic and aesthetic view."

Other advertising decorators are: Artistic Creations, 905-508-8193; Entertaining Xtras, 905-882-4835; Party Exchange, The, 416-636-8111; Perlit Novelties, 416-665-4838.

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The Kenny Simon Band.

Bands play an important role

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

The food was great and the decor was original, but what the guests remember most is the fantastic band that had them on their feet all night long.

Kenny Simon, leader and bass guitarist of The Kenny Simon Band (638-2549), says that if hosts are putting so much into their simchah, they should not try and save on one of the most important aspects of the party.

Simon, in business under the Hourglass Orchestra for 26 years before changing to the current name last year, has a guitar player, drummer, saxophonist and keyboard player in his band. He says that a good band with quality equipment can accommodate itself to any size room. "Large bands with a sound person to control the volume can sound good in a large or small room."

Parties are made up of a mix of people, says Simon, and bands must cater to that mix. "Before every party, we meet with the hosts and go through the song list. We try and pick music that will get people of all ages up and dancing. Disco tunes from the '70s are coming back, so both kids and adults like to dance to them."

Simon suggests going out and hearing a band before making a decision. "Look for a tight-knit, well-rehearsed group with quality equipment. Its best to check with the band leader to determine the right time to come. During the main course is not a good time to hear a band.

"Ask around. A band's reputation follows them. Do not listen to too many bands because after hearing nine or 10, you'll forget what you've heard."

A good band, says Simon, works with the party consultant, arrives on time and looks good. "A good leader will discover why people may not be dancing and will change the music. He'll also motivate guests by talking to them or leading them in a dance."

Alan Shiner, president of Nova Sounds Entertainment and leader of Nova Sounds Orchestra (926-1918), advises hiring an established band.

"When you hire a band, you should be guaranteed the musicians you will be getting. It is important, because an established band has a polished sound that you don't get with a group that puts musicians together at the last minute.

"You also want continuity in your music – not a lot of lulls, which often occurs when a band is not rehearsed."

An established band, such as Nova Sounds, also has a fully qualified sound engineer who controls the band's volume from the other side of the room. "We don't guess how we sound. We have all the acoustics in the room on computer, so we know how we should play in particular rooms."

A well-rehearsed band, says Shiner, has all its music memorized. "Our policy is not to have to read music. Spontaneity is impossible if all the musicians are flipping through their music."

A good band leader is constantly assessing the crowd, says Shiner. "He can sense what people want because he is always watching. He tries out songs early in the evening and if they are working, he will stick with that kind of music. I've found that if the crowd doesn't get up and dance until 10 p.m., they'll leave the party earlier. If you do the right thing, at the right time, people get involved."

Other advertising music bands are: Aelita & Friends, 416-222-7573; Fabulous Harvey Seigel Band/All Jazz Band, 416-782-9202; Fern Lindzon Piano & Vocals, 416-445-9780; Magic Touch Orchestra, The, 416-926-0187; Nu-Rhythm Band, 905-882-5044; Paul Zurin Orchestra, The, 905-770-3084; Reflections, 416-661-2415; Russ Myers Band, The, 905-771-0257; Shelley Miller Band, The 416-481-1034; Shelly Ovdat Band, 905-881-9949; Times Square Entertainment Group, 905-881-6400.

Nova Sounds Orchestra

PARTY PLANNER

Dozens of competing establishments:

Good rapport helps when choosing a caterer

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

By now, everyone has noticed that kosher catering, once a small specialty, has blossomed into an industry with dozens of competing establishments.

If you're planning a simchah, wedding or other special event, this growth offers both a challenge and an opportunity.

While it will be easier to find exactly what you want, you will have to exercise more care in choosing. Moreover, as planning an event grows more complex and demanding, the need to work closely with your caterer grows.

What do Joe Pandolfo of Paradise Banquet (661-6612) and Joe Elmaleh of King Solomon's Table (630-0303), both kosher under COR, say about choosing and working with a caterer?

Elmaleh sums up the requirements in one word – trust. Trust, in turn, is built on rapport. After one or two meetings, you should know if you have the necessary rapport. "If this is in place," Elmaleh says, "all the other factors fall into place."

Though it can be unwise to base business relations on friendships, the reverse can happen. Long-standing business rapport can lead to friendship, sometimes over generations. There are many instances of children using the same caterer as their parents. Along with the many new contenders in the field, there are tried-and-true establishments that have built a reputation over decades.

Both Elmaleh and Pandolfo place value on knowing a company's history. Get referrals from friends and references from the company. Call Congress, too. Seek out a family establishment with its own facilities, which will still be there when your event takes place. While many new caterers are reputable, there are plenty who go under.

Choose an establishment where the owners work as chefs or managers. Good chefs and managers move around, so make sure you deal with the same person from booking date to event date.

Your manager should be available as needed, ready to attend to the details that always crop up – and should leave you with better understanding of catering than before.

Book well ahead, say, a year. Before making your deposit, Pandolfo cautions, find out if it's refundable. A fair deposit ranges from $500 to $1,000. Don't pay in full until one or two days before the event. Get fixed rates in writing, for the day you book, and look for packages that include food, hall, bar, wedding cake, gratuities and DJ. Just getting a price quote that covers all the details can take up to an hour.

Look at the kitchen, to see its size, cleanliness and equipment. Washrooms too are a touchstone for cleanliness. Look also for amenities like parking, bridal suites for a wedding, and in a multi-functional hall, a separate entrance for your function.

For a reputable caterer, offering a sample meal is standard procedure. Make sure you like the menu, portions and taste – and of course, check the wine list. Make sure the maitre d' is good and the waiters are experienced, mature, well-dressed adults.

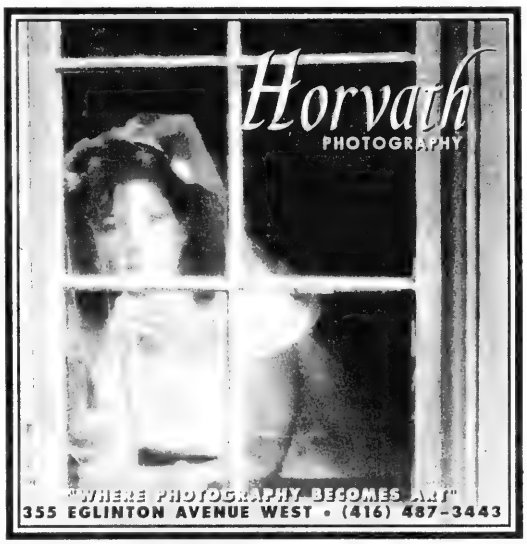
Along with experience, you want willingness to innovate and adapt. A good caterer taps into different culinary cultures, age groups, special health needs and tastes. This is especially necessary for events like bar mitzvahs and weddings, which span generations.

Your intuitive impression of your caterer also counts, Elmaleh adds, though no decision should be based on it alone. That intangible rapport, which can't be written down, is a must. Like other psychological factors, it's frustratingly hard to define, yet you always know when it's there. It's a blend of mutual tact and mutually compatible temperaments between you and the caterer.

The caterer has to have rapport with other professionals at your event, too. Suppose, for example, that the florist sets up displays without knowing that they don't allow enough table space to serve the food. It's the caterer's task to rectify this tactfully, while giving the florist's art a chance to shine at the same time.

Elmaleh assures you, though, that if rapport exists between you and your caterer, he will work well with the other professionals. Rapport is a two-way street and an ongoing process. You have to work on it just as the caterer does. You have to give him input and listen to what he has to say. If you do work well together, your event is almost guaranteed to be a success.

Other advertising kosher food/caterers are: Levy's Catering, 416-256-7886; Malmar Fine Foods & Catering, 416-638-0091; Prestige Fine Foods, 416-782-3231; Tri Elm-The Sephardic Centre, 416-222-1230; Zuchter Berk Creative Caterers, 905-738-6880.



PARTY PLANNER

Choice, convenience & courtesy

Knowing the three 'Cs' of bridal registries

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Today, the range of tableware choices is wider than ever before.

In china alone, there are thousands of patterns. European porcelain and English bone china offer a variety which was not on the market decades ago. There is a comparable range in other tableware and in accessories.

On the one hand, this means there's something in almost any style to meet every taste. On the other, the variety can be overwhelming.

Jackie Chiesa of Ashley's China & Gifts (964-2900) offers many tips to help you select your bridal registry.

To begin with, before you register, have a good idea of your own likes and tastes, and allow plenty of time to make a decision.

Choose a retailer who offers you the widest selection possible — consultants with the expertise and helpfulness to guide you in focusing your selection — and a registry which weds efficient organization with courtesy to the customer.

Your consultant should ask, not only about your tastes in table settings, but also lifestyle and entertainment preferences. How often will you use formal or everyday dishes, for example? How many people will you entertain, and how frequently? How often do you eat in the dining room?

Take into account factors such as how much you use the microwave or dishwasher. Gold and platinum applications withstand dishwasher heat, but not the greater heat of a microwave.

When you first enter the store, you need time to let your impressions settle. When the time comes to firm up your choices, that is when you need expert advice. Your consultant should spend as much time with you as you need.

Pick your china first, as everything else must complement it. Flatware should be chosen next, and then such things as crystal, stemware, serving dishes and teapots. Extras such as service plates to put under the eating plates, and linens and placemats are chosen last.

This is a general guide. Your consultant should be able to help with exceptions. If a bride wants to match new tableware to her grandmother's sterling silver or other heirlooms, tastes and fashions spanning generations must be harmonized.

Don't try too hard to match china with decor. Jackie advises that fine china should stand on its own, as a symbol of your new life.

Remember that you will be living with your tableware for a long time so you will want to balance utility and beauty. Stainless steel flatware, for instance, is maintenance-free, and has a clean, utilitarian appearance; but classic silver flatware looks warmer.

Jackie notices that men today are putting more time and ideas into the selection of tableware. It is no longer the exclusive realm of mother and daughter. It is good for bride and groom to come in together. You will want to enjoy your tableware together for decades.

In choosing a registry, timing and organization are of the essence. Look for regular updating, to keep you informed, and ask to be kept on file for about two years after your wedding. Register at least eight months ahead, as early as a year if you're planning engagement parties or other special events.

Then, Jackie concludes, look for courtesies. Gift boxing is a convenience to every guest; toll-free numbers are helpful to out-of-town guests; gift cards telling you who purchased what, make life easier for you; and postponed delivery after you move to your new home is a convenience for you and your guests alike.

Watching a Bar Mitzvah become a man

By ANITA SZABADI-GOTTESMAN
Special to The CJN

The young man who walks around our house is somehow different, since he had his bar mitzvah in June.

He stands shorter than me in all the portrait proofs we received, but now he is taller than me. He has matured. His deep brown eyes show more patience, more understanding of his forever underfoot siblings and his nagging "we only want what's best for you" parents.

The memories of his bar mitzvah ceremony flood back to me at various times during the day but mostly when I'm alone: driving, sitting at my computer terminal or doing any number of mundane tasks.

He practised for many months and I began to look forward to the Sunday morning visits of his teacher. The house rang out with the refrain of his parshah. There was some difficulty at first, but then as we approached the big day, his singing showed continuity and self-confidence. He always seemed up to the challenge and never had to be coerced into practising.

He has also been blessed with a day school education, which has given him a good command of the Hebrew language and a deeper understanding of his parshah.

The image of the three generations of men, two grandfathers, our son and his Dad standing on the bimah, is the one that never fades. How fortunate we were to have had healthy grandparents to see their grandson become a man.

During the meal afterwards, I thought about how lucky we truly are in having four grandparents, aunts, uncles, sisters, brothers-in-laws, little cousins and a big collection of old friends and colleagues joining us in our joy.

These images will be with me forever – one room full of life and and warmth, honoring our son and our family. There is no greater feeling. That joy is still with me so many months later and remains a vibrant feeling.

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The food was amazing and I appreciate your help in creating a menu that worked with the dietary and food allergy restrictions that we had. The staff was on hand all evening and the service was exceptional.

The kids had a wonderful time and the party was just great. I can't think of a single thing that I would change if I were to do it all over again! Hank's Diner is an incredible place for a party and we were just thrilled with everything.

Many thanks to all of you for the excellent service and your contribution towards making my son's Bar Mitzvah party the huge success that it was.

Sincerely yours,

Trudy Burko

Trudy Burko

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PARTY PLANNER

Join the Celebration of Stars

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Are there are lot of things you want to know about planning your simchah, but you don't know where to turn? Join the party at Celebration of Stars, March 25 at Adath Israel Synagogue and find everyone you need to talk to under one roof.

The free party show which runs from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. is a showcase of every type of party professional you may need, from florists to disc jockeys to bridal consultants to caterers.

Marla Kay

Marla Kay, the show's organizer, says Celebration of Stars gives guests an opportunity to speak to several professionals on the same evening.

"Instead of speaking over the phone, people can get personal with the professionals. They can view a videographer's work, look at some sample invitations, see some floral displays – everything they need is all there."

Kay, a party consultant, has put together several party shows and says they have been very successful.

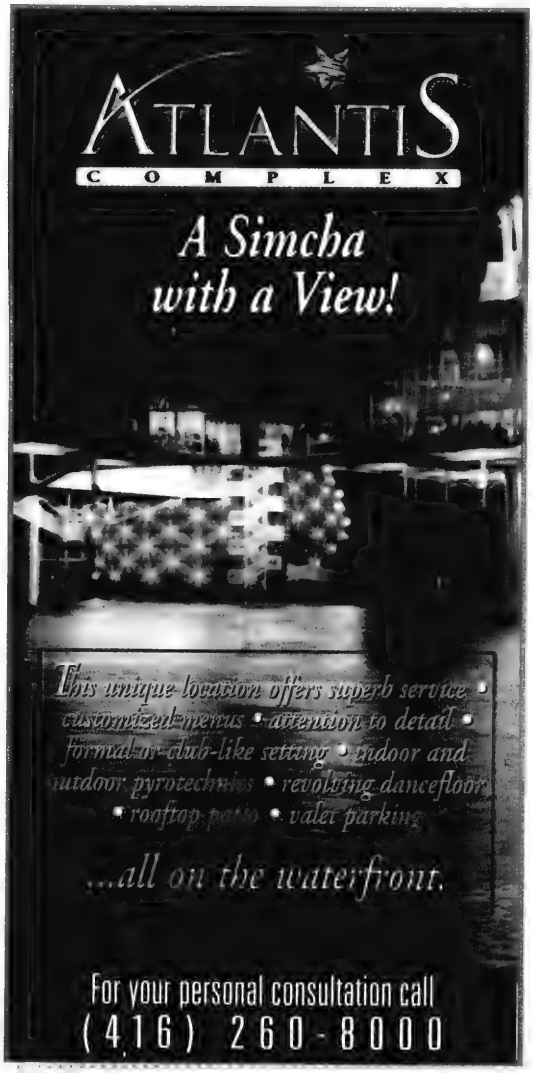
"The first show I did at Beth Emeth was a fashion show highlighting the fashions of Ines Di Santo, a designer and owner of Chez Moi. Before the next show, I invited some professionals involved with weddings and 2,000 guests turned up."

Di Santo's creations are still the highlight of Celebration of Stars and Kay says that most guests plan their evening around the one-hour, full-runway fashion show which begins at 8 p.m.

"As well, bands and disc jockeys put on shows; so prospective clients can hear them without standing in the doorway of another person's party. Caterers also put out displays of their foods and are available to discuss menus. The stars of our industry are all out there showing their stuff and making themselves available to the public," says Kay.

The show is based on the assumption that people do not have the time to run around seeking out several professionals for each service they require, says Kay.

"People know that if they are planning a party, this is where they should turn first. They can find people who fit into their budget, who offer what they want, and who will spend some time talking to them. Bookings are often made right on the spot. Who needs all the aggravation of telephone tag?"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PARTY PLANNER

The Kiddy Chronicles

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

Somehow it doesn't come as a big surprise that *Kiddy Chronicles*, a baby record book replete with lists, charts and space for mementoes, was written by a chartered accountant.

Dania Lebovics, a 34-year-old Thornhill mother of three young boys, began to chronicle "everything, absolutely everything" when her oldest son Warren, now six, was a newborn.

Frustrated in her search for an existing baby book comprehensive enough to meet her needs, she created her own pages on computer. Once the book began to take shape, friends started asking if they could have a copy.

Soon strangers were calling with requests and Lebovics realized she had a salable product. Undaunted by rejections from 15 publishers, she arranged to have the cover designed and the book bound professionally, and started selling it from her home.

She was particular about having a softcover book with coil binding. "Hardcover is nice, but when you put in pieces of hair, ID bracelets and newspaper articles, the pages start to pull out. I knew I had to do something that would expand."

The fourth edition of *Kiddy Chronicles, My Very First Biography: from pre-natal to pre-school*, was released in August. The $19.95 book is distributed by Firefly Books Ltd. and can be found in bookstores across North America, as well as in specialty stores in Ontario, Quebec and New York. A French version is in the works.

The non-denominational record book is geared for the period from conception to about age five. A pre-birth section includes a pregnancy weight/blood pressure/stomach measurement chart, checklists for baby's arrival and choosing a pediatrician, and even a page for an ultrasound picture.

A daily schedule, babysitting instructions, medical and dental charts and lots of space for pictures are scattered throughout the 64-page book.

Kiddy Chronicles has evolved as Lebovics received input from other parents. A page for a letter to the baby was one such addition.

Some people think the book is so extensive they won't be able to fill it, she admitted.

"You don't have to fill out everything," she said.

Lebovics keeps her own books for Warren; Zachary, almost 4; and Kenny, almost 2, close at hand to facilitate updates.

When Warren turned five and started asking questions about himself, Lebovics read to him from his baby book and he was fascinated, she recalled. "When I have to think of it myself, I can hardly remember anything."

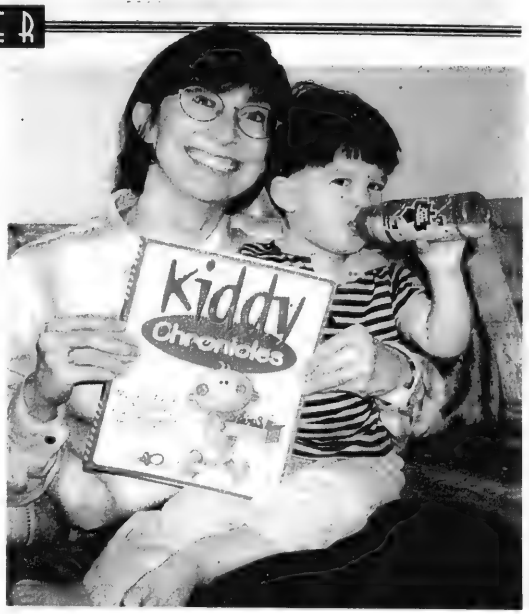
The record-keeping also paid off when one of the boys had an allergic reaction and she had all his medical information at her fingertips.

"It takes a little effort, but then you can look at it and say, 'I'm so glad I've done it.'"

As one of four siblings growing up in Montreal, Lebovics and her two sisters were "definitely a little bit jealous" that her mother started a baby book for their older brother but didn't do the same for them.

"The novelty shouldn't wear off," maintains Lebovics. "Every child is different.

Lebovics recently received a thank-you card from a mother of four, pregnant with her fifth, signed, "From a mother who keeps everything."



Dania Lebovics (and Kenny). [Frances Kraft photo]

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PARTY PLANNER

Gogh to the Liss gallery for artsy gifts

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

If you're looking for a unique gift for someone special, why not consider an original piece of art.

"You're buying something really meaningful," says art dealer and consultant Brian Liss, owner of Liss Gallery, an art gallery and frame shop at 978 Eglinton Ave. W. (787-9872). He says when you give somebody a gift of art, "you're giving them something that they'll enjoy forever."

A quality piece of art is an excellent gift for weddings and special anniversaries, according to Liss. "A lot of couples come into the gallery to buy an anniversary gift for themselves. It's the perfect gift," he says. "There's a lot of meaning when people buy a piece of art together."

The gallery offers a wide selection of framed original art, original serigraphs and etchings, and limited edition prints and posters. Liss also frames memorabilia such as autographed jerseys and posters of the Maple Leafs and Blue Jays, which he recommends for bar mitzvah gifts.

Gift certificates are available and there's an exchange policy with "no questions asked," he says. He has an approval program: a piece of art can be taken home on approval for up to 48 hours. He also offers an art appraisal service.

Liss provides corporate gifts as well. Corporations will sometimes commission original works of art and do limited editions of the work to be framed and given away as gifts, he says.

Liss represents several Canadian artists, among them Jason Alexander, whose works can be found in 30 galleries across North America.

Liss also represents painter Victor Shvaiko. Originally from eastern Europe and now based in the United States, Shvaiko's scenes of old Europe are extremely popular, Liss says. "We can't keep his work in the gallery it goes so quickly."

The gallery is currently running an exhibition of works by Charles Fazzino, an American artist who does three-dimensional prints with layers of paper. Liss commissioned Fazzino's first Canadian piece, which turned out to be quite the media event, he says. "We had four TV stations on hand when the piece was unveiled for the public."

Liss got into the art business about 15 years ago. He began by selling framed posters, but as his clientele aged and became more affluent, they started asking for original art works, he says.

"I realized that's what I should grow into. You could say my gallery grew up with my clients."

Liss also does art consulting and custom framing for residential and commercial spaces, choosing art for private homes and corporate headquarters. His staff takes care of the installation.

As for buying art, Liss advises people to choose the art for its esthetic value and avoid matching it to a decor. " People buying art for the decor are not buying art, they're buying furniture. They should buy the art they love."

Liss says he considers himself very fortunate to be in the art world. "I'm doing absolutely what I love to do. I'm the luckiest guy in the world."

Pictured at the gallery are from left to right, David and Anita Katz (Fazzino Collectors), Charles Fazzino (Artist), and Brian Liss (Gallery owner).

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PARTY PLANNER

Quality videos last a lifetime

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

The video of your happy occasion will record an important, unique event in your family history.

You want to eliminate risks in making it, so you should choose your videographer with care, working closely with him to get the best possible product.

But there are many competitors, the technology changes fast, and the quality range is wide. Richard Saunders of Redstone Pictures (256-4666) and Josh Israel of Video by Josh (630-5558) offer sound advice.

Israel recommends speaking to other professionals, such as photographers, before hiring a videographer "but not strangers, or people who pressure you to use specific companies. Also, get references from three videographers you like the most."

Spend time talking to a few videographers, says Saunders, to find one who clicks with you. This person should be the one who edits your video. The second step is a technical matter — finding out how the video will be produced.

Israel places high value on experience, qualifications, familiarity with your type of event, and details such as backup equipment and power sources. Like the videographer, assistants should be capable, dressed for the occasion, and well-mannered.

Israel maintains that medium-sized companies are best. They have high-tech equipment, and treat you well because they have a stake in providing quality.

Big companies, he says, tend to treat you as a number. They rely on volume more than service, and use low-cost equipment to boost profits. Small companies often use low-grade hobbyist's gear, and tend to be part-timers.

Saunders points out, that it is not the editor who shoots your video, so you're really choosing two people. The camera operator needs experience, state-of-the-art equipment and readiness to adapt to your wishes. Check his work, and see a sample tape.

The videographer, says Israel, should be present for your entire event, yet be unobtrusive.

Saunders observes a lot of difference in style between companies, and between clients. Do you want the camera to follow you closely all night? Or do you want it unseen, unheard?

In the last few years, says Saunders, the industry has seen great change. State-of-the-art equipment is costly. Working together, he says, editing and shooting specialists can afford up-to-date technology. Pick a company that divides up the work this way.

Israel, however, prefers having the person who shoots the video also do the editing.

Saunders estimates that $1,350 to $2,000, should get you quality work. Israel says it should cost between $1,000 and $2,000, depending on what you want, and recommends deciding your budget before anything else. Insist on top value for your money, and discounts if any corners are to be cut.

Get the editor to show you his methods, demo tapes and equipment, and get details in writing, they say.

Learn a few technical basics, the videographers advise. Digital recording allows sound and visuals to be edited together on a computer, but it's still in its infant stage.

The old linear tape format is tried and proven — but slower and clumsier, with a lot of splicing and shuffling, as audio and video tapes must be edited separately. Digital tapes are an intermediate stage.

In both old and new technology, degrees of quality vary, whether for tape, cameras, microphones or lighting. One major advantage of up-to-date equipment such as cordless microphones, is that it is easier to keep out of your guests' way.

Capture the important scenes of your event, Israel advises — special effects can be added later. Finally, insist on editing input. After all, the video is yours, and it's yours for good.

Other advertising videographers are: ABC Video Productions, 416-265-8313; D.M.S. Video Productions, 905-881-7677; Images International, 416-977-5575; Twins Photo Video, 905-660-7385; Video Affairs, 905-889-0909; Video Excellence, 905-731-4355.

Store specializes in clothes for adolescents

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to the CJN

KidsTreaT (905-771-9906) provides sophisticated, trendy clothing for those who are no longer children, yet not yet women.

"We sell boys and girls sizes up to 16, but we specialize in partywear for that in-between girl, aspiring to be an adult," says owner Michelle Tonken.

Tonken, who recently moved the 10-year-old store to Promenade Mall, said she began carrying preteen and junior sizes when she realized there was a tremendous need in the market.

"Girls were looking for clothes to wear to parties, and they were difficult to find. These girls are not quite mature enough for women's clothes – they need something in between. They are now our base market."

Outfits can be worn year-round

She says that she carries a lot of outfits that can be worn year-round, because "girls go to a lot of parties at that age, and they need versatile items. I sell a lot of materials such as satin and rayon which can be worn during most seasons. I don't recommend heavy wool or 100 percent cotton because they are both seasonal."

Also versatile, says Tonken, is the dress and jacket set. "Instead of wearing the jacket with a skirt, it is worn over a dress. That way the girl has an outfit for shul, and then when she removes the jacket, she has a dress for an evening party. They are quite popular for twilight affairs."

To informal parties girls are wearing a lot of flare pants with short crop tops or body-fitted shirts with collars. "This is the middle-of-the-road look. It can be worn almost anywhere except black-tie parties."

In general, she says, everything today is simple elegance. "Girls are wearing sophisticated adult, but age appropriate clothing. They want to be in women's wear but their bodies and maturity levels are not quite there yet."

Oversize clothing is not as strong anymore, says Tonken. "Girls today want to show their bodies a little more and we sell clothes that can accommodate everyone. Our fit and flare dresses fit through the waist but flare out at the bottom so they make all girls look attractive.

Tonken says when clients walk into her store, she sizes them up immediately so she can show them clothes that are right for them.

"We try and make all girls feel good about themselves. I want them to walk out of our store feeling great. Girls at that age are not yet comfortable with their bodies and we give them all the privacy they want. We make shopping a very positive experience for them."

It is essential, says Tonken, that the girls, not their mothers, pick the outfit. "She is wearing the clothes and she has to be happy. We guide her in the right direction, but she makes the final decision."

PARTY PLANNER

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Parents love parties where kids can make a big mess

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to the CJN

Samantha Wolfish highly recommends Marvelous Mess (481-2328) for birthday parties. And she should know.

She recently celebrated her eighth birthday with a group of friends at Marvelous Mess, a paint-your-own ceramics cum gift shop at 527 Eglinton Ave. W.

Samantha said she really enjoyed painting with her friends. "Your friends get to pick what they like to make. If you don't know what to do, the people there will give you ideas. My friends thought it was fun. This place is even good for adults. They can have fun there too."

Sherri Wolfish, Samantha's mother echoed her daughter's enthusiasm. The party went extremely smoothly and it was evident that all the children were having a terrific time, Wolfish said.

"They were all very excited by what they were painting. I loved the creative aspect of the birthday."

The children had some 90 items to choose from in her price range and the children were all able to paint something they wanted. Marvelous Mess also supplied drinks, chips and invitations, Wolfish said.

"I felt it was good value. And each piece they painted was the main loot bag item. I just had to supplement it with some candy."

Wynter Rosen, who co-owns Marvelous Mess with Ricki Horowitz, was pleased to hear the positive feedback, because she really wants the children to enjoy themselves, she said.

The children's party package at $15 a child for up to 25 children, includes drinks, snacks and invitations, and a boxed ceramic piece that can be spray painted or kiln glazed.

Samantha Wolfish at Marvelous Mess. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Adult parties, which are popular for showers and birthdays, cost $13.50 a person for groups of 10 or more. Adults usually bring their own food. Rosen advises people to book their parties two months in advance to get the times they want.

Marvelous Mess draws many people who enjoy coming to the studio as a hobby, she said. "It's very relaxing. People work hard and want to try different things."

Marvelous Mess also specializes in "unique funky Judaica" and personalized giftware, Rosen said. "The personalizing and customizing and the Judaica are the mainstay of the business... Judaica is huge for us. We're growing rapidly in the States."

The Chanukah menorahs are the most popular gifts, Rosen said. "We have some great new patterns. They're popular gifts for weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs and anniversaries. You can get matching kiddush cups, seder and matzah plates. Young Jewish couples want bright colorful Judaica. Our pieces all have a happy feel."

Marvelous Mess also offers personalized baby gifts which include pictures frames, tzedakah boxes, and personalized plates, she said.

"We can make the perfect gift for any occasion."

The store's Web site which will soon be up and running, will enable people to paint their own designs. Marvelous Mess will then transfer them to the ceramic pieces, she said.

The place is also available for new artists because, as an artist herself, Rosen is well aware of how difficult it is for young artists to get exposure, she said. "We're taking on lots of consignment work."

Marvelous Mess is the ideal business for her, said Rosen, a singer-song writer, artist and single mother. "It's difficult to make a living out of doing art. I have always been creative, doing oil paintings and large murals. I wanted to do something creative for a living."

On a trip out West last winter she saw a do-it-yourself ceramic store and realized that was the perfect business for her. "I loved it. I said, 'This is what I want to do.'"

Two weeks after returning to Toronto, Rosen met Michele Dodick (of Dodick Designs), who was selling her Eglinton Avenue ceramic gift studio.

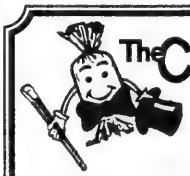
"I went and saw her store," Rosen said. "I felt like it was meant to be and I bought her business."

Rosen, who has been running the studio since April, said she has continued to carry Dodick's line of customized Judaica and other giftware, bringing in new artists with new designs. She also added a do it yourself studio for hobbyists and parties, as well as a kids' party room.

Down the road, she envisions hiring a jazz band, adding a patio and holding parties for singles.

Rosen also has artists on staff who help clients with their creations if they need support, she said.

"I want people to feel proud of the pieces they create so they'll walk out of the store and say, wow!"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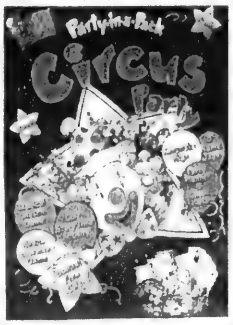
PARTY PLANNER

Prof really a Party-Wiz

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Joanne Gray, the founder of Party-Wiz Productions Ltd., (905-709-2685) always prided herself on making great home birthday parties for her three sons.



The part-time professor – she teaches a business course at York University – would always hold birthday parties centred around themes such as animals, pirates or the circus.

Theme-based games and activities give the children an opportunity to use their imagination, she says. "The kids love pretending. The theme allows you to play in a way you don't really get a chance to play very often."

Her friends always praised her efforts, telling her the parties were better than the ones held in party centres outside the home, says Gray. The positive response from parents encouraged her to develop Party-in-a-Pack, a year and a half ago.

She describes the pack, which is geared to children aged three to seven, as a "user-friendly package" for parents or organizers of home-birthday parties.

Each pack retails for $13.50 and includes two interactive games and an activity related to the theme, name tags for eight children, party and menu planner, shopping guide and check lists, as well as a memento page and a free gift for the birthday child.

Gray says she came up with the package because "there is nothing like this out there in the market."

Developing this product came naturally, she says, because she comes from a game-playing family.

"We are all games players. We were on quiz shows and TV game shows. I even met my husband [Jeff Gray] through a TV game show."

Once she developed the idea, she turned to artist Andrea Beck to illustrate the packages. Gray says she then put on her "marketing hat," which is not much of a stretch since she holds an MBA.

She has been successful in selling her party packages to retail outlets in Canada and the United States. Party-in-a-Pack in Canada can be found at Leisure World, Chapters Inc., and crafts and hobby, book and independent toy stores.

The perfect schmoozing smile

By CAROL WISE
Special to The CJN

Image is definitely our first means of communication – especially at parties – and white teeth speak volumes.

The Smile Salon is based on a unique concept dedicated to the most sophisticated, state of the art technology and products. The amazing results will definitely give you something to smile about.

Tooth whitening is actually a bleaching process that lightens discoloration of enamel and dentin. The Laser White Smile whitening system is one of the world's quickest, easiest and most effective way to safely whiten teeth. Now through the use of FDA approved laser technology, it is possible to achieve whitening results previously thought unattainable.

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Penny Freedom, a registered dental hygienist, has taken beauty treatments out of the dental office into a sophisticated, relaxed environment. At the Smile Salon, 1235 Bay St., she has installed the world's most effective technology to provide the finest service and results. The use of laser light to accelerate tooth whitening gels allow her to offer this service in one visit as opposed to home applications of gels that usually require up to one month's commitment.

The procedure takes two to three hours following an initial consultation where impressions are taken for the fabrication of custom-made trays. They are used two to three days following the laser whitening appointment. The laser does not affect the structure of the tooth at all, it acts on the gel to release oxygen, which causes the teeth to whiten.

There is no pain and it's amazing that in a couple of hours, such incredible results can be achieved. The whitening process is most effective on mildly discolored teeth, darker stains such as those caused by antibiotics, take longer to respond to treatment, but the results are still excellent. However, the degree of whiteness will vary. Laser White can brighten your smile up to 15 shades whiter.

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Kloda provides a new kind of fun

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Kloda (905-763-9000), the mega-entertainment company that started in Montreal in 1977, is finally open for business in Ontario.

Evan Aranoff, president of Kloda Productions Ontario, says that Kloda specializes in a different kind of fun.

"Besides disc jockeys, we offer special-effect lighting, inflatable games, virtual reality games or even a casino. When people hire us, they can choose an entire entertainment package or just have a disc jockey come out to their party. We can provide as little or as large a package as our clients desire."

Aranoff, who started with Kloda seven years ago as a disc jockey, says that no matter how simple or how elaborate a party is, Kloda always makes it special.

"Our disc jockeys truly make the party. They develop a rapport with the crowd and do their best to turn everyone into party animals. The disc jockeys are constantly reading the audience and assessing its mood, in order to play exactly what music is best for the moment."

At a party where guests vary greatly in age, Aranoff says, they play a mix of music that pleases everyone.

"We play a lot of games, because everyone likes to watch others playing and we also go out into the audience and entice people to get up and dance. We use a lot of props such as wigs, funny hats, costumes and often dress up the guests. By the end of the night, everyone has a shaker or party prop and each person from youngest to oldest is inevitably in the party mood."

The disc jockeys also help coordinate the event, he says, by ensuring that everything, from the meal to the speeches flows smoothly.

"We're happy to work with wedding consultants to ensure that things are going well. We want our clients to be a guest at their own party, so we try and take as much out of their hands as possible."

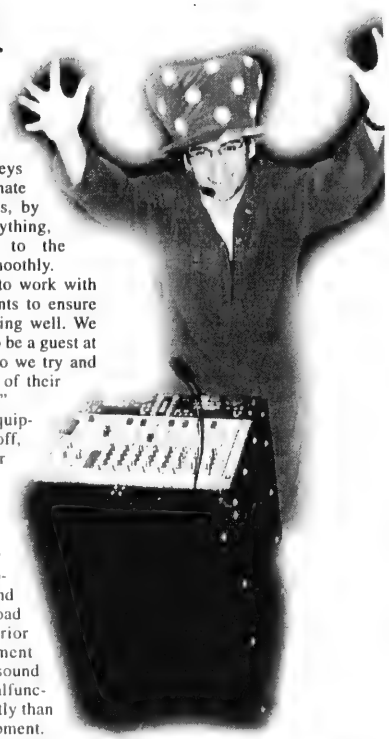
Professional equipment, says Aranoff, is essential for good sound. "There is a tremendous difference in quality and reliability between true professional-grade and middle of the road equipment. Inferior quality equipment causes a harsh sound and tends to malfunction more frequently than professional equipment.

"Kloda uses only concert-quality, heavy duty equipment. The result is a better, not a louder sound."

Even the best equipment occasionally malfunctions, he says, and "we always send backup equipment so that on the remote chance that something happens, there is virtually no music interruption at the event. Because we own all our equipment, there is no mark-up because of rentals. It saves clients money and it gives them a wealth of equipment from which to choose."

He suggests that prospective clients view Kloda's video, which highlights a number of the company's parties. When people come to see us, we go over every detail of the party. We help them choose music for the dancing, for the candlelighting and for the dinner. Every event, no matter what the budget, needs to be handled by a professional and we tailor every party to meet specific requirements.

"We are well known for putting together a great party. People are mesmerized by our hi-tech lighting and concert-quality sound. Any disc jockey can make music. Our disc jockeys make the party."



Evan Aranoff conjurs entertainment.

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PARTY PLANNER

'J'accuse!'

One of your dinner guests killed? No problem. Call the professionals

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Did you ever have one of those parties where one of your dinner guests was murdered?

Hopefully not. But wouldn't it be fun if there was a "pretend" murder and you and your guests got to work "your little grey cells" and figure out who the murderer is? "*J'accuse!*"

If your mind thrives on challenge and drama, you'd want to hear more. And a good look at Dani Holden and Isabel Hornstein's Ho Ho Entertainment (484-6873) would make you want to know more yet.

Ho Ho offers something unique for a party: a mystery play, usually a murder mystery, accompanied by a dinner. The plays work best in a sitting-down situation, like a private room in a restaurant. It is also best if everyone is at one table, to make it easy to establish a focal point for the action.

Ho Ho supplies the props and actors who play detectives, criminals and their assistants – you and your guests, besides trying to solve the mystery, can also act in it. Of course, there's a clue to "whodunit" and a prize for whoever figures it out. Guests can have fun exercising their minds, or if they prefer, just sit back and watch.

Your guests will know in advance that there's a mystery, but they may not realize that the actors are anything but guests they've never met or gatecrashers who never got kicked out. Today, when any clothing style is "in", you might not see anything remarkable in, say, a woman in a feather boa.

(Most shows avoid famous sleuths like Sherlock Holmes with his trademark hat and pipe. However, Ho Ho has done a play with characters who were relatives of famous detectives.)

Writers allow plenty of room to improvise

Each show is custom-written to suit the client, but even you won't know the culprit in advance. Before they start writing, the script writers brainstorm with you, but don't give away the ending. They tell you just enough to entice you to find out more, the way you describe a movie to a friend without telling too much.

Musical and cabaret venues are possible, and corporate events can have a relevant theme like industrial spying. The script writers make an outline, allowing plenty of room to improvise. Actors are chosen for their ability to do this and there's usually lots of humor.

Children's shows are possible too. These plays appeal to all ages, but if you're looking for ways to show your kids that thinking can be fun, a mystery may be what you need.

The props are not elaborate. Realistic as hi-tech special effects are, they challenge the imagination less than live theatre, because they give you the imaginary world in one piece, rather than motivating you to create it.

In live theatre, part of you is always aware that you are sitting in the dark, among rows of real-world seats with other playgoers. Consequently, your mind has to work hard to envision the imaginary world of the play. In live theatre, you yourself put the "creation" into "recreation."

Moreover, this form of entertainment is interactive. Guests and hosts are truly part of the show. In this way, Ho Ho breaks down what Isabel Hornstein calls "the fourth wall."

This figure of speech means that in conventional theatre, the audience is surrounded by four walls – the three, literal back and side walls and the fourth, figurative wall, the invisible psychological barrier between stage and audience. When you participate in the play, with some initiative in your role, that barrier falls.

Book at least two to three weeks ahead, to allow writing time. Creating a good script that leaves room for improvisation is fun, but it's also work. If the idea of a mystery play appeals to you, you want only the best.

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PARTY PLANNER

Delectable recipes for all occasions

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Cookbooks do not merely adorn a kitchen; they elevate it into a temple of fine cuisine. The following cookbooks, published recently, will be appreciated by gastronomes and amateurs alike.

Ethel Hofman grew up in the only Jewish family in the windswept Shetland islands, north of Scotland. But the remoteness of her upbringing had no adverse effect on her fondness for good old-fashioned Jewish food.

This is abundantly clear in her eclectic book, *Everyday Cooking for the Jewish Home* (HarperCollins), which contains more than 350 easy-to-follow recipes and reflects Ashkenazic and Sephardic influences.

Hofman, a food writer based in Philadelphia, covers all the bases, from appetizers and soups to meats and desserts. She is to be congratulated on her thoroughness.

Joan Nathan is a legendary figure in culinary circles, having written two of the most distinguished books of the genre, *The Jewish Holiday Kitchen* and *Jewish Cooking in America.*

Now she's back again with *The Jewish Holiday Baker* (Random House), an intriguing compendium which distils the art of Jewish baking.

Nathan has scoured the globe for mouth-watering baked goods associated with major Jewish holidays, and she does not fall short: crusty challahs from Jerusalem, onion buns from Paris, bagels from Montreal, prune and nut rolls from London, chocolate babkas from Oak Park, Michigan, and banana cakes from Mexico City, among other treats.

Mmmm good.

Women, having joined the work force, have less time than ever to prepare the weekday evening meal. *What's for Dinner* (Raincoast Books), by Maryana Vollstedt, is tailor-made for the harried cook who expects stellar results without too much fuss or bother.

The busy career woman will take to this book like a bear to honey.

The majority of Jews in Canada are descended from East European immigrants. *A Little Russian Cookbook* (Raincoast Books), therefore, is likely to strike a note of familiarity.

Many of the recipes in this attractive pocket-sized volume are like old, reliable friends: borscht, mushroom soup, braised carrots, curd cheese pudding, cutlets and the like.

This is a book grandma might have liked.

We live in an age when the consumption of meat is increasingly frowned upon. Vegetarians, in particular, will enjoy *Vegetarian 30 Minute Indian Cookbook* and *Vegetarian 30 Minute Thai Cookbook,* both of which are published by HarperCollins.

The first, by Mridula Baljekar, disproves the old saw that Indian dishes are complicated and time-consuming.

The second, by Sarah Beattie, proves that a willingness to learn, a bit of flexibility and the right fresh ingredients can work magic in a pan.

Complementing these books is Heather Thomas' *The New Vegetarian Cookbook* (HarperCollins), which is not only practical but beautiful to look at. The recipes here, ranging from vegetable lasagne to moussaka, will suit every taste, occasion, season and budget.

A triumph of editing and esthetics.

Olive oil, the divine elixir of the Mediterranean basin, has become a beloved staple throughout the universe. In *Olive Oil: From Tree to Table* (Raincoast Books), Peggy Knickerbocker traces the birth of this aromatic cooking oil, explains how it is harvested and processed and provides countless and creative ways for using it in the kitchen.

Olive Oil, which definitely qualifies as a coffeetable book, is lavishly illustrated with razor-sharp photographs taken by Laurie Smith.

No meal would be complete without a refreshing drink. In this respect, *Smoothies* (Raincoast Books) is just the book for you, brimming over with bright suggestions for whipping up mixtures of fruits, sorbets, yogurts, soy milks and so on.

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Agendas help with party planning

By RICK LEVINE
Special to The CJN

With your party fast approaching, you may begin to have anxiety attacks. In all likelihood, everything will go just fine, but it never hurts to carry a little insurance in the form of a professional, well thought out agenda to keep the party on track.

The agenda is the sequence of events or the program for the evening and it is not uncommon for people planning their very first simchah to be completely in the dark as to when the speeches will take place or when the bride and groom will have their first dance.

Although nothing is written in stone, reviewing the following program suggestions will shed some light on the proper sequence of events, and replace pre-party anxiety with post party pleasure. Photocopy these wedding/bar/bat mitzvah agendas and fill in the blanks or make changes to suit your particular needs.

A few elements are worth reviewing and will be of particular interest.

At a wedding, the father of the bride (and occasionally the father of the groom) will speak prior to the reciting of the Hamotzi, in order to briefly share sentiments and to welcome the guests. The toasts and the groom's speech will be heard after the meal; the groom's speech will be the final word and will be followed by cutting of the cake and then the bride and groom's first dance.

It will be much the same format at a bar/bat mitzvah, with the father of the guest of honor (GOH) welcoming the friends and relatives before the Hamotzi and the GOH's speech being given after the meal.

Candlelighting, which will be a scheduled event at most bar/bat mitzvahs, usually takes place after dinner, but can also be scheduled at the beginning of the evening if the hosts wish. The decision for the timing of the candlelighting will depend on a number of considerations, including the starting time of the event. For example, in a synagogue on Saturday evening, the festivities cannot start until after sundown; therefore, it may be necessary to keep the candlelighting in the after dinner spot, in order to be able to serve the meal at a reasonable hour.

The Birkat Hamazon (Benching) takes place after the dessert is served. The question is whether or not to schedule these prayers before the speeches or after. Experience has shown that, at a wedding for example, rather than following the first dance with the Sheva Brachot, it is better to have the prayers first, then the speeches, followed by the cake cutting and the first dance. This will allow the dance floor to fill more quickly and the party to run smoothly without interruption.

It would therefore make sense at a bar/bat mitzvah to have the prayers take place before candlelighting, complete the candlelighting.

[Cont'd. on page B 31]

SAMPLE BAR/BAT MITZVAH AGENDA

4:00pm Arrive at reception Hall
Family photos-optional

6:00pm Cocktails

6:45pm Doors open to Dining Room / Guests enter

7:00pm Grand Entrance - Guest (or Guests) of Honour

7:15pm Welcome Speeches
Hamotzi (Pre Dinner Prayers)

7:30pm First Course-Appetiser
Note: dinner dance requests

2nd Course-Salad

3rd Course-Soup (optional)

8:30pm 4th Course Main Course
Note: dancing while tables are cleared

5th Course - Dessert & Coffee
After Dinner Prayers (Benching)
Candle lighting Ceremony-Songlist

1.	8.
2.	9.
3.	10.
4.	11.
5.	12.
6.	13.
7.	14.

10:00pm Sweet Table / Dancing
12:30am to 2am Last song Request

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PARTY PLANNER

Andrew Levison relaxes amidst the foliage of Above and Beyond. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

Above and Beyond a party alternative

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

The newly opened Above and Beyond, the Centre for Adventurous Learning (633-4584) is an unusual venue for a party.

Located at 4100 Chesswood Dr. in North York, the huge adventure space – the room is 136 feet by 60 feet – is a corporate training centre that doubles as a party centre.

Above and Beyond simulates outdoor activities, offering ropes and climbing events indoors. The equipment is removed for parties, which take place in a room that has the feel of the outdoors complete with twinkling stars, a lake and a mural of the forest stretching across all four walls.

Above and Beyond is connected with DJs and caterers, and offers a unique venue for any simchah, said co-owner Andrew Levison.

"We provide an alternative to the more traditional party places."

Above and Beyond is the brainchild of Levison, an urban planner, corporate trainer and wilderness expert. Having spent a number of years working in wilderness corporate training programs for team building, Levison said, he recognized the need for a similar program to be carried out indoors in cities, within easy access of corporate offices. "People can come here for the day."

Such a training centre could save companies the expense of sending their employees to out of town wilderness training programs, he said, because Above and Beyond offers indoor expeditions which accomplish the same purpose. "We provide people with a personal and professional development tool."

When he did a marketing research of the project four years ago, he approached the bank about using the service. Not only did the bank want to sign on as a client, but it offered to lend money for the centre, Levison said. He was delayed in setting up because he could not find the kind of space he wanted.

While the equipment is geared to corporate use, he said, the obstacle course, climbing gear and rock climbing wall could be suitable for teenagers and adults looking for an unusual and different type of experience or party.

When he was an urban planner, Levison worked on unique urban environments such as Wonderland. And being a nature enthusiast, he was always looking to create an indoor environment that would replicate the outdoors. He said that with Above and Beyond he has finally succeeded in bringing the wildness environment to an urban setting.

Chairman Mills rents kosher dishes

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Expecting extra company for dinner? Or perhaps you're throwing an intimate party for 5,000 of your closest friends.

Whatever the size of your bash, Chair-man Mills (391-0400), a party rental company, can provide chairs, dishes, silverware, tables and table clothes for up to 5,000 people.

Vice-president Mary Crothers, whose husband George recently became head of the company, said that Chair-man Mills, was established by the Mills family back in 1911.

"Our main thrust is to make an old established company even better by adding new inventory and updating the operation," she said.

The company recently introduced a line of kosher (COR) dishes and cutlery, which is inspected regularly by a mashgiach; she also works closely with certain kosher caterers, she added.

Chair-man Mills prides itself on providing quality rentals with superior service; its trucks run 24 hours a day picking up equipment at all hours to accommodate clients, Crothers said.

"We offer top of the line quality items at competitive prices. We have experienced, professional staff, who know how to set up. Our drivers are conscientious. They don't track dirt into the house."

She noted that Chair-man Mills has the contract for major events such as the Royal Winter Fair, Tennis Canada and the Molson Indy – it does all the draping, staging and carpeting. It also has contracts with several party venues, including The Royal Ontario Museum, Roy Thompson Hall and the Hockey Hall of Fame.

The company, which offers dinner service from basic dinnerware to fine bone china, does all the dish washing after the party, she said.

"It's so easy. You just put everything back in the boxes. We take care of everything else."

Chair-man Mills also has access to a wide assortment of table linen "from basic polyesters to beautiful brocades," and there's also a large assortment of chairs, which cost from $1.25 for a folding plastic chair to $8 for a gold ballroom chair with a fabric seat, she said.

The company also supplies miscellaneous party items such as trays, ice buckets, coffee urns, samovars, baskets and candlesticks.

Crothers said the public is welcome to visit the showroom six days a week at 184 Railside Ave., just south of Lawrence Avenue, one block east of the Don Valley Parkway.

She said she has been involved with a lot of fundraisers and has a background in fine-tuning parties and functions and really enjoys her work at Chair-man Mills. "I'm hooked. I always loved doing parties. It's our wish to make a great company tops."

Other advertising rental places are: Aurora Party Rentals, 905-773-7706; Higgins Party Rentals, 416-241-8564.

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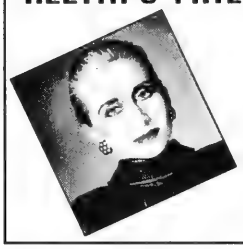
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An invitation from Mandell

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Corey Mandell, possibly the most popular DJ on the bar/bat mitzvah circuit, will be hosting his own party early in the new year and the public is invited.

The Richmond Hill-based Mandell Entertainment Group (905-886-4000) will be holding its first open house on Jan. 20, from 7 to 9:30 p.m., at Le Parc, at the south-west corner of Leslie Street and Highway 7.

"It's a chance to demonstrate everything the consumer needs to see to plan the perfect party," Mandell says. "We're trying to hold the ultimate event so people can see everything at once."

He says all his DJs will be performing and the party decor will all be on display. "It's the best way for the public to see what Mandell Entertainment has to offer."

There will be fun foods, lighting demonstrations, indoor fireworks, interactive games and the "hottest and newest party novelties and give-aways," Mandell says. "It's a party, not a trade show. Be prepared to party."

The open house is especially useful for anyone planning a bar or bat mitzvah in the next three years, he says.

Mandell Entertainment was founded by Mandell six years ago. He began with seven DJs. Today there are 100 full- and part-time employees on his roster, which includes DJs, dancers, decorators, consultants and administrative staff.

The company offers party planning services, decor and theme planning, balloons, centrepieces, flowers, technical entertainment (karoake, video and laser shows), pyrotechnics (indoor fireworks), lighting, interactive games, as well as fun machine rentals for candy floss, popcorn and mini-donuts.

Mandell says he does more bar and bat mitzvahs than any other DJ in the area and he is often booked well over a year in advance; his more popular DJs are also in high demand.

Corey Mandell. [Barbara Silverstein photo]

He attributes his company's popularity to the fact that he and his DJs put on a show – they interact with the guests. They work the crowd, schmoozing, telling jokes and organizing activities like line dancing and limbo. "Our DJs put entertainment first," he says.

Mandell says that many other DJ companies have emulated his interactive style as well as other entertainment innovations. "Our company sets a precedence for DJ trends. When I first hired dancers, everyone thought it was crazy. Now everyone has dancers."

The dancers help get the crowd onto the floor, he notes.

Four years ago, Mandell teamed up with independent party decorator Renee Birnbaum, now theme party coordinator and head of the decoration division. The partnership has been so fruitful that the decor division is about to open a new 3,000-square-foot showroom.

Other new developments for Mandell Entertainment include a stronger communication and administrative team and a new in-house party consultant service. Mandell stresses that this service is not intended to compete with independent party consultants.

In January, he will be introducing a new lighting system from the United States, which he describes as "the Porsche" of the lighting industry.

"We will be the only ones in Canada to have it," he says. "We've got an early purchase on it."

This past summer he launched an interactive Web site [www.mandelldj.com] for bar and bat mitzvah planning. So far the site has had 10,000 hits, he says.

"We get 200 to 300 questions a week. We try to answer every one. We're the only DJ interactive Web site.

"The music never changes," Mandell says. "It's how you play it that counts. In this business you always need new and creative ideas."

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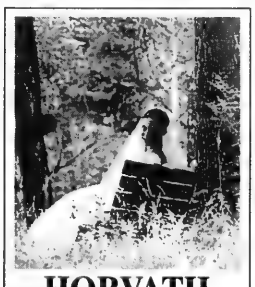
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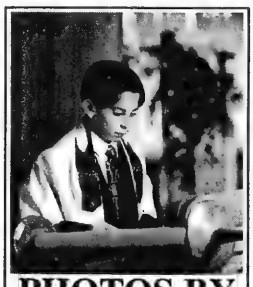
PHOTOS BY ARNOLD

SIBULASH PHOTOGRAPHY

PARTY PLANNER

Discount deals at Tom's Place

By
BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Fifteen years ago Tom Mahailik bought his father's second-hand clothing business. Located in a tiny 400 square-footstore front in Kensington Market, the business opened in 1958, shortly after the family arrived form Hungary.

The business that grew out of his father's store is now called Tom's Place, (416-596-0297) a designer discount store which offers brand-name merchandise at reasonable prices.

The store, located at 190 Baldwin St., is still in Kensington Market, but it occupies a space more than 20 times the size of the original location. Today there are 28 full-time and 10 part- time employees, among them sale clerks, seamstresses, tailor and fabric buyers.

"Per square foot I sell more menswear then any one else in the city,"Mahailik said. The company has its own label, he explained.

"We offer read-to-wear suits made of cloth from the finest mills in the world says. We sell a lot of suits. That's the mainstay of our business."

He said this year there is more wool- 100 percent wool suits are very common. "Brown is very important as the main color."

And while the store sells men's and women's clothing, menswear is the bulk of the business, Mahailik said. Tom's Place boasts a large assortment of shirts, ties and other accessories.

Bright-colored shirts- deep blue, grey and greens are teamed with solid color wider ties, Mahailik said.

Jacket lapels have stayed narrow, he noted. "The emphasis is on trimmer and tailored clothing instead of wide-bodied garments."

This winter look for cashmere sweaters worn under sports-jackets, three- button long sleeve polo shirts and mock turtle necks; as for casual Fridays, cotton and corduroy in deep green, olive, andnavy blue, are very popular, he said.

For women, Mahailik said tailored pants suits, long cashmere coats accented by powder blue, pumpkin and brown are important; skirts are worn short or just above the ankle.

Back by popular demand, Tom's Place will be holding a sale at the Bloor Jewish Community Centre (JCC) on Nov. 29 and 30. A percentage of the proceeds will go to the JCC.

SAMPLE WEDDING AGENDA

2:00pm Arrive at reception Hall
Family photos-optional

3:00pm Pre Ceremony Formalities

6:00pm Cocktails

6:45pm Doors Open to Dining Room / Guests Enter

7:00pm Grand Entrance - Guests of Honour

7:15pm Welcome Speeches
Hamotzi (Pre dinner Prayers)

7:30pm **1st Course**-Appetiser

2nd Course-Salad

3rd Course- Soup (optional)

8:30pm 4th Course-Main Course
Note: dancing while tables are cleared

5th Course - Dessert & Coffee

After Dinner Prayers (Sheva-Brochot/Benching)

First Dance - Bride & Groom (Family To Join In)

Traditional Dances (if requested) - Mezinka
Reception - Dancing
(Group Photos of Friends of Bride & Groom often take place at this time)

10:00pm Sweet Table
Dancing

11:30am Throw Bouquet / Garter
Last song Request

12:30am to 2:00am
Last Call to the Bar

Reprinted from *We're Having A Party* Party Planner Guide with permission from the publisher.

Agendas make party planning a lot easier

[Cont'd. from page B 28]

with a horah and continue with the dancing.

Talk to the band leader, in order to have the band schedule its breaks around your formalities. If the band takes breaks at speech time, the music will provide continuous entertainment without additional costs.

If there is one single factor that can maximize the chance for a successful simchah, it is a well organized agenda. If the caterer, the entertainers and the speechmakers know in advance what they are doing and when they are supposed to do it, you will be able to enjoy yourself as a guest at your own party. Many years of fond memories will follow a well organized event.

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Interactive entertainment keeps spotlight on the guest of honor

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to The CJN

Entertainers from Kaboom.

These days, the word "interactive" is on everyone's lips, but what exactly does it mean?

Here's how Bill Greenbaum of Kaboom (483-6811) and Rick Levine of Times Square Entertainment (905-881-6400) explain it.

Levine describes the basic elements that make an event memorable: good music, personable, energetic entertainers (DJs and emcees) and competent assistants. Audience participation works best when integrated with solid professional entertainment.

In Levine's experience, live singers with digital background are fine for most adults, but many young people want more activity.

Keeping kids happy singing songs and playing games takes a lot of worry off parents — and gives them time to finish their dinner at a leisurely pace. Levine also considers interactive entertainment a way to keep the spotlight on the guests of honor.

If Greenbaum were booking interactive entertainment for himself, the venue would be a major factor. As you increase the dollars spent, the spectacle and consequently the venue becomes more important. How big is the stage, and what shape? How many doors are there and where? How high is the ceiling?

Greenbaum identifies several levels of interaction. The first, impromptu repartee among guests and entertainers, is common. At the next level, the DJ involves guests in the action, dancing with them on stage, for example, or getting them to take part in a contest. At the third level, some of the audience play the roles of characters in a production, say, the Four Tops.

At the next stage, everyone is involved. The room is the Palace Theatre in Motown – the whole audience is with the Four Tops, recreating another world, in roles ranging from extras to stars. The sky's the limit. Production values can be raised indefinitely by bringing in actors and enhancing decor, lighting and technical support. A company that offers this interactive level can create whatever you want.

A company that does everything in-house, Greenbaum believes, makes consistent high production values more likely for any entertainment package. It's easier to manage logistics, and coordinate costumes, props, flowers and all the other details. Levine agrees with this point.

Make sure, if your party has a theme, that it's supported in every facet of production and that your entertainment planner is an all-round person who knows the lingo of all the varied professionals he works with. Look also for someone well-versed in many kinds of events, corporate as well as private.

Someone who "thinks outside the lines," Greenbaum thinks, will be able to impart something new to your event, or put a new twist on something old — say, holding a pool party at the bottom of an empty pool, or a "February blues" party in a blues club. Why should your event be the same as anyone else's?

Greenbaum attaches great importance to corporate experience, in teaching the discipline of a strict budget and timetable. The cost, he estimates, can run from $5,000 to $15,000 and up, depending on what you want. Levine, for his part, counsels budget flexibility.

For lower cost and fewer problems with bureaucracy, Levine puts local entertainment above out-of-town or out-of-country. He knows of cases where plans have been thrown awry because American performers were stopped at the border without work permits.

Levine also says you should familiarize yourself with the interactive entertainment field well in advance, about 18 months ahead. For a bar or bat mitzvah, book about a year before the event. Book three to four months ahead, Greenbaum advises, and keep in touch thereafter.

The bigger and more interactive the event, the more consultation and dialogue is needed. No matter how complex the technology, no matter how elaborate the spectacle, rapport between client and professional is as important today as it always was.

PARTY PLANNER

Invitations reflect personal statement of party's hosts

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Invitations give people a feeling for the event to which they've been invited says Heather Hennick, owner of Henco Consulting Inc. (905-881-5736).

"When invited guests open an invitation, they get an impression of what is taking place. Invitations can be bright and upbeat, formal or simple and elegant. However they are presented, they reflect the personal statement of the hosts," says Hennick, a certified graphic designer, visual artist and illustrator.

Invitations from Henco Consulting Inc.

Hennick, who custom-designs invitations, uses a variety of papers to produce full-color printing designs, which often incorporate the theme of the party.

"I can do an illustration or my clients can supply me with an illustration or photograph. We can borrow ideas from other invitations and use some of our own ideas. I use state of the art computer equipment as a means of design."

Rather than following particular trends, she says, her invitations are unique because all work is done in her studio. "I carry paper in stock and use many types of printing methods from embossing to foil stamping. Only our imagination is our limit."

Hennick also offers sign-in posters to tie in with the invitations. "The posters, which start at $200, could incorporate the theme of the party. A ski theme, for example, could have a neon-bordered poster which features the graphics of a skier upon which is placed the bar mitzvah boy's face. I love it when people allow me to express my creativity."

She says that although invitations can be ordered as close as three weeks before the event, she is most comfortable with having three months to ensure that the invitation is perfect.

"I want my clients to have time to check everything before they take the invitations home."

Ann Feldman, owner of The Printed Word (484-4600), says that deciding when to send out an invitation is dictated by what time of year the simchah falls.

"You have to give people enough notice to plan for the event. People make summer vacation plans early, so if you're having a late spring or summer simchah, you may want to send out the invitations at least eight weeks in advance. February or March, however, are slower months; so people are less apt to be busy. Six weeks is usually enough time that time of year."

It is also wise, she says, not to send out invitations in time to arrive during Jewish holidays such as Rosh Hashanah or Passover. "Have them come before or after the holidays, when people have time to appreciate them."

People on a strict budget need not worry says Feldman, because "there are many different options in all price ranges.

"People place a restriction on the amount they want to spend on their invitations for various reasons and we respect them. Whatever the budget, we can produce elegant invitations that speak to the event."

She agrees that there are no real trends in invitations. "They are a function of personal taste. Some people like bright and upbeat, others prefer understated and formal. Invitations give guests an inkling of what to expect before they even read the words.

"If they open a silky off-white card bordered in gold, they know it isn't an informal children's party to which they've been invited. On the other hand, if a guest receives a brightly colored invitation with a sports theme, do they need to read it to know they've been invited to a bar mitzvah?"

Other invitations can be found at: Barbara Mortfield Invitations, 905-738-1232; Invitation House, 416-593-0519; Please Reply, 416-425-8200; Stationery Plus/Gilda Lefton, 905-881-5588.

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Personalized ketubot

By
BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

Toronto-based ketubah artist Claire Ciss (784-1426) creates personalized ketu-bot that are completely done by hand. Every design is original and hand-done, on acid-free paper in gouache, a versatile type of water color.

Couples interested in purchasing one of her ketubot, which start at $500, can book a visit to her studio to view her portfolio.

The Chicago-born artist started out as an elementary school educator, but she was always drawn to art. After seeing a hand-painted ketubah at a friend's wedding in 1973, Ciss said, she found her calling.

"When I saw this idea of joining Judaism and art together, it really clicked. I said, 'This is what I want to do. This is me…' I felt I had something to express. I had a need to express myself visually and I was becoming more spiritually involved in Judaism."

She said she travelled to New York, where ketubah artists Jay Greenspan and David Moss were based. She attributes the revival of the ketubah as an art form in the late '60s to Greenspan and Moss who were rabbinic students at the time.

"They decided to bring back the idea of hand-crafted ketubot, which had been dormant for many centuries. It was not an art form that was current," Ciss said.

She approached Greenspan about learning this art form. "He showed me the basics. He taught me the calligraphy. It was a labor of love to get it to flow."

In 1977 she gave up teaching elementary school and enrolled at the School of Visual Arts in New York City where she studied calligraphy, illustration, graphic design and photo retouching.

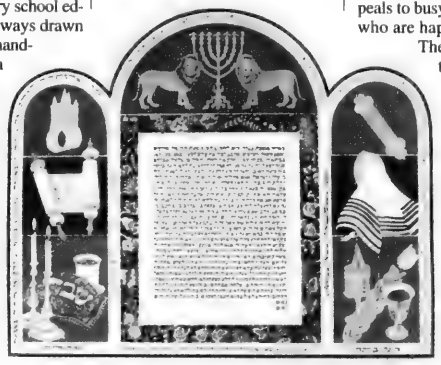
She worked in a photo-retouching studio doing advertising work while running a ketubah art business on the side.

After seven years, Ciss had become quite well-known in the field of ketubah art and decided to become a full-time ketubah artist, she said. "It gave me a tremendous satisfaction to create art in a Jewish format."

When she married Torontonian Julius Ciss, she relocated her studio to Toronto.

Ciss said her motifs, which have appeared on UJA Federation certificates, run the gamut from modern to antique looking. Some of her most popular designs include persian and floral prints, as well as chassidic dancers and scenes of Jerusalem. Also very much in demand is her personalized chupah scene which she paints from photographs of the wedding party as if it were the wedding day, she said. "People love it."

She said she is one of the first generation of ketubah artists, but now there are many talented artists doing ketubot with their own styles.



Many of those artists are represented by the company Ketubah Ketubah, operated by Michael Shapiro (924-6997). Shapiro, who has an MBA in marketing worked for the corporate giant Procter & Gamble before venturing out on his own. The corporate work was a great training ground for learning business strategy, he said.

And while he knew he wanted to run his own business in a creative field he didn't really know what he wanted to do.

After leaving Proctor and Gamble for an extended trip to Israel, he met some ketubah artists, he said.

"I found there were many people who wanted ketubot and so many wonderful artists doing great work. And yet is was often difficult for people to find the ketubah that they were looking for."

Shapiro set up his company, Ketubah Ketubah, two years ago to market ketubot internationally, helping buyers from all over the world find the ketubah of their choice. Ketubot are also popular anniversary gifts, he added.

He advertises throughout the United States and Canada, attends Jewish conventions and makes use of the Internet as a marketing tool, Shapiro explained.

"I recognized that the Internet would be the perfect vehicle to make the ketubah easily available to Jews everywhere… Many of my customers are in places with smaller communities with no local source for ketubot." But he notes that even Toronto residents find the Web site helpful.

He said the catalogue, which he mails out through requests on his local and toll free numbers (it's also available on the Internet), appeals to busy young professionals who are happy to shop at home.

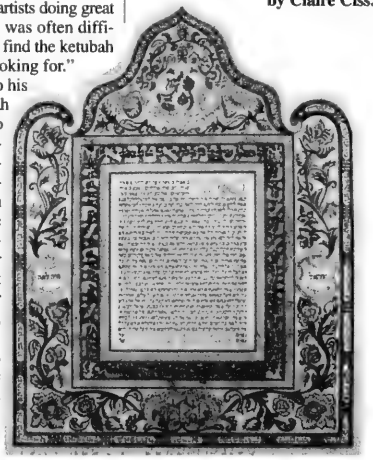
The catalogue has more than 100 ketubot.

Shapiro said his business is benefiting from a resurgence of interest in Judaica among people of all ages. He said exposure through the Ashkenaz Judaica show this summer, which he headed, as well as his participation in wedding trade shows, have increased demand for handcrafted ketubot.

Local residents can visit the Ketubah Ketubah warehouse by booking an appointment with Shapiro. People from outside the Toronto area can order a catalogue or call him at this toll free number: 1-888-KETUBAH (538-8224).

Other advertising ketubot designers are: Katubah, Haftorah by Karny Varona, 416-226-3131.

The Symbols of Jewish Life (top) and a replica of an 18th century Italian ketubah were designed by Claire Ciss.



PARTY PLANNER

Photographs an eternal memento of your simchah

An example from Neil Meirovich's portfolio.

By ERIC LAYMAN
Special to the CJN

Don't underestimate the photographer. Long after you've forgotten how the food tasted, the photos will remain as lasting mementoes of your wedding or party.

Neil Meirovich of Neil Meirovich Photography (499-4544) and Stuart Sibulash of Sibulash Photography (598-2241) emphasize the importance of the person who takes the pictures.

To choose your photographer, Sibulash advises, get word-of-mouth referrals, and references from a caterer. Then take a cross-section of these and check them personally or on the Internet.

When you narrow your selection, consult with your co-hosts, then go in person to make your final choice.

The photographer shouldn't be the first person you book, Meirovich says, but not the last either. Start thinking about it when you hire the hall or caterer, and do it early enough to get the person you want. For busy times, from May to October, a year in advance is not too early.

Hire someone who values the pride and good name that come from fine work, rather than the sheer quantity of bookings. If you pay a deposit, make sure that the day will be held for you, and that the person you book will be the one at your event. Get this in writing, Sibulash insists. If it may be someone different, meet them as well.

The photographer is in close contact with host and guests from start to finish, unlike the band, which is on stage, or the caterers who are in the kitchen. If the photographer is good at dealing with people, he can use his experience to help you plan, and make your event less rushed.

Meirovich and Sibulash agree that the more you plan ahead, the less to worry about when the day comes. On the big day, Sibulash points out, you'll relax more with a photographer who does his job well and on time, who stays calm, and doesn't project an excess of nervous energy.

Experience teaches a professional to deal with the unexpected, impart organizational skills, and manage details such as stowing backup equipment close at hand (not outside in a truck), yet out of the guests' way. Sibulash ranks these qualities as equal to talent and rapport with the client.

Meirovich says a lot more clients are opting for custom work, rather than photo packages. "Black and white pictures have great potential, as do sepia and monochrome. The photographer has to make up for the lack of color by capturing qualities of light such as intensity and texture, and paying more attention to surroundings and facial expressions."

Sibulash recommends making two more appointments after your first meeting to handle details such as engagement portraits, and to finalize your plans.

Get lots of input, they say, don't hesitate to make your own suggestions and ask a lot of questions. Many people, do not realize, for instance, that photos are available in non-standard sizes.

Both Meirovich and Sibulash advise you to look for someone with distinctive style and a personality you like, combined with respect for your wishes. Sibulash adds that someone who is ideal for weddings might not be the best for a bar mitzvah. That is why it is important to get to know the photographer and view his work.

Other advertising photographers are: Horvath Photography, 416-487-3443; Mark Stern Photography, 416-383-1333; Party Shots, 905-881-6372; Photos by Arnold, 905-881-6372; Sibulash Photography, 416-598-2241; Stuart Moscoe Photography, 416-784-3686.

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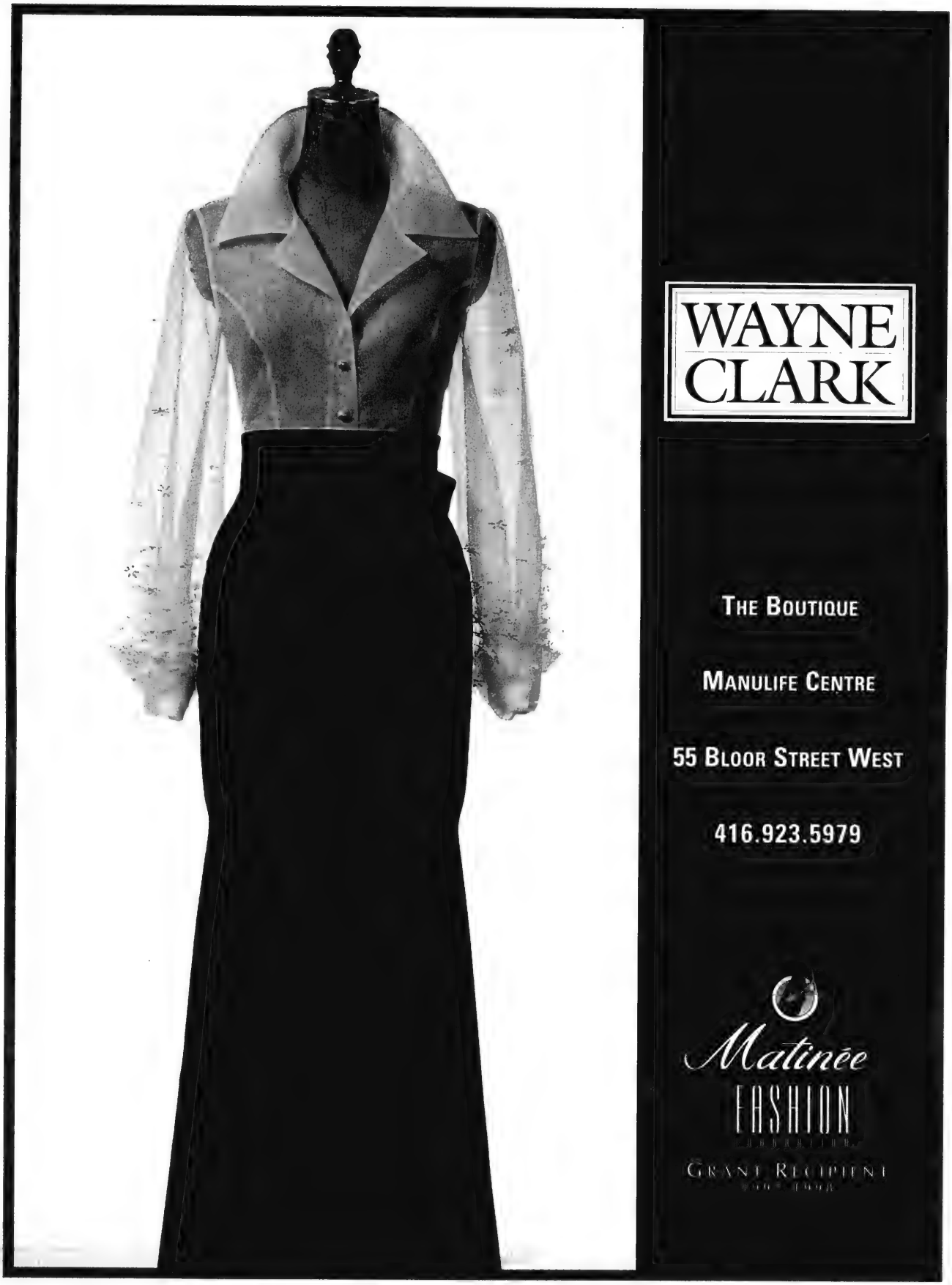
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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

North York General Hospital pitches in to keep Branson fully operable. ***Page 4***

Alabama rabbi discusses life with AIDS. ***Page 6***

Bat Mitzvah donates all her gifts to school for multiple challenged children. ***Page 18***

National

Jacques Parizeau's comments on "Jewish, Italian and Greek coalition" anger Jewish groups. ***Page 26***

CJ Kids

Ten-year-old twins find yoga classes *really* cool. ***Page 41***

Arts

Jerusalem Trio concert bridges cultural gap between Canada and Israel. ***Page 42***

Index

Coast to Coast 3
GTA 4
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 22
On Campus 24
Yiddish Corner 30
International 35
Health 39
CJ Kids 40
Travel, Arts & Business 42
Classified 46
Sports 50
Ask Ella 51
Crossword 51

Shabbat: Vayetze
Candlelighting: 4:23
Kislev 6, 5758
Havdalah: 5:28

Nazi gold links dismissed

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — None of the wartime gold transferred in Canada between Swiss and Portuguese national banks was connected in any way with Nazi loot, according to a historian's report released last week.

Though the Swiss central bank, the Banque Nationale Suisse (BNS), bought more gold from the Nazis than any other country, none of that gold found its way to Canada, states the report by Carleton University Prof. Duncan McDowall.

McDowall was commissioned by the Bank of Canada to investigate wartime gold transfers after declassified U.S. government documents indicated a 1942 transfer of ownership of gold held in Canadian vaults may have facilitated a separate, parallel transfer in Switzerland of looted Nazi gold between the Swiss and Portuguese central banks.

References to the paper transfer were located by World Jewish Congress researchers. Their findings, released in July, prompted Canadian Jewish Congress to call on the Bank of Canada to investigate what looked like a "classic money-laundering operation."

McDowall's 120-page report, *Due Diligence: A report on the Bank of Canada's handling of foreign gold during World War II*, found no indication of money-laundering. Tracing wartime events, McDowall found that foreign banks

Continued on page 32

Joint venture launched

OTTAWA — Canada and Israel will embark on a joint venture to mark the Jewish state's 50th anniversary.

The proposed Canada-Israel Regional Rehabilitation Centre, to be built in a yet-unnamed African nation, will aid victims of land mines, Israel's ambassador to Canada, David Sultan, told Toronto UJA Federation leaders here last week.

The centre will be a comprehensive facility to aid land mine victims, whether medically, socially or economically. Israel and Canada will share the cost, Sultan told *The CJN*.

He said the project is timely given this week's signing here of a global treaty, spearheaded by Canada, that bans the use and production of anti-personnel land mines.

Although Israel isn't signing the treaty, "it does share the humanitarian concerns" expressed in the document, Sultan said.

BORDER PATROL
An IDF armored personnel carrier patrols the Israeli-Lebanese border last week amid rising tensions in the area following the killing of eight civilians in a village in south Lebanon.
[Reuter/RNS photo]

Cabinet favors pullout

BY JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — In a declaration of intent, the government announced its willingness to order an IDF withdrawal from unspecified areas of the West Bank until a "permanent arrangement" goes into effect.

With 16 ministers voting in favor and two abstaining – Education Minister Zevulun Hammer and Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy, both from the NRP – a special team to be headed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was authorized to draw up the requisite maps and timetables for implementation of the decision.

The team – which besides the prime minister will consist of Foreign Minister David Levy, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon – was instructed to submit its recommendations for cabinet approval.

"The goal is for the team to report to the government next week," said Cabinet Secretary Dan Naveh.

Naveh stressed that implementation of the troop redeployment hinges on fulfilment of the commitments undertaken by the Palestinian Authority as appended to the Hebron Agreement last January.

Once the ministerial team submits its recommendations, the cabinet "will conduct a thorough discussion and will crystallize its plan for a permanent arrangement," a communique said.

This plan will include "security zones deemed vital to the State of Israel, areas of settlement and other interests, including water and Jewish historical sites," it went on.

The communique's sole reference to a timetable was vague and non-binding, declaring only that "after reaching decisions on this subject the government will decide on the way it will implement the interim measures."

Continued on page 36

INSIDE

Canada's Jewish press celebrates 100 years. Please see page 9.

Don't miss an issue. Call 416-391-1836 today to have The Canadian Jewish News delivered to your door every week.

Israeli strikers defy court ruling — please see page 35

The News in Brief

CANADA

War Crimes Announcement

TORONTO — Justice Minister Anne McLellan and Defence Minister Art Eggleton will be in Toronto on Friday, Dec. 12 to make a public announcement concerning Nazi war criminals.

The two ministers will be at the Earl Bales Club House at 1:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Hate Crimes Conviction

TORONTO — A 22-year-old Courtice man is believed to be the first Canadian convicted for distributing hate literature under Canada's hate crimes laws.

Ted Beavis, a former member of the Heritage Front, was charged with conspiracy to disseminate hate literature after distributing pamphlets, flyers and stickers targeting Jews, blacks and minority groups in the GTA.

Beavis will spend 45 days in jail.

Malaysian PM

TORONTO — The Simon Wiesenthal Centre has called on Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy to reproach the prime minister of Malaysia for a series of highly publicized comments in which he blamed Jews for his country's economic woes.

The Malaysian prime minister was in Vancouver to attend the APEC Conference and to visit Ottawa to encourage Canadian companies to invest in his country.

ISRAEL

Unemployment Soars

JERUSALEM — Israel's unemployment rate has reached its highest level in three years, soaring to 8.1 percent, according to the Central Bureau of Statistics.

According to the bureau, third-quarter figures were the highest since the same rate was recorded in the first quarter of 1994.

The number of unemployed rose to 179,000, up from 169,000 in the second quarter of the year. The civilian labor force totaled 2.2 million.

Lev Banim

JERUSALEM — Lev Banim, a new one-year, Israel-based academic program designed to motivate underachieving, Orthodox Canadian and American boys, ages 17 to 20, has been launched in Jerusalem with the support of Aish Hatorah.

For more information call Rabbi Kornfeld at 718-951-7740.

DNA Tests For Yemenites

JERUSALEM — The Israeli Health Ministry has agreed to fund genetic testing for families of Yemenite children who allegedly disappeared during the early years of Israeli statehood.

The testing may provide some answers and some closure to one of the most painful episodes in the Yemenite immigrant experience.

With the ministry's decision, some $11,000 will be allocated for tests to compare DNA from families with DNA of remnants exhumed from graves in which the children were said to be buried.

WORLD

Short Story Contest

NEW YORK – The Association of Jewish Libraries, in partnership with Pitspopany Press, has launched a new Jewish short story competition for non-published authors writing for middle grade readers (ages 8 to 12). The topic is humorous stories, and the deadline is Feb. 15, 1998.

For more information write to Hazel Karp, 880 Somerset Dr. NW, Atlanta, Ga. 30327.

War Crimes Actions

MOSCOW — Lithuania has launched an investigation of a suspected Nazi war criminal living in the Baltic nation.

The decision to investigate Kazys Gimzauskas was given a cautious welcome by Jewish leaders, who said similar moves in the past against suspected war criminals had failed to lead to convictions.

War Crimes Suspect Dies

MOSCOW — A Lithuanian suspected of committing war crimes during the Nazi occupation has died without ever being brought to trial.

Antanas Mincikis, 80, died Nov. 24 at an old-age home.

Israeli Minister Visits Pollard in Jail

JERUSALEM — Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein has become the first Israeli government minister to visit Jonathan Pollard in jail.

Edelstein met on Nov. 24 with the former U.S. Navy intelligence analyst, who is serving a life sentence for spying for Israel.

Edelstein, whose meeting was cleared with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Israel's attorney general, conveyed a letter written by Netanyahu's spokesperson, David Bar-Illan, that contained a pledge from the premier to continue every effort to secure Pollard's release.

Edelstein recently initiated the meeting, saying the Israeli government was not doing enough to help Pollard. Edelstein's spokesperson said after the meeting that Pollard was cynical about the promises made by Israeli leaders to act on his behalf.

Pollard was arrested in 1985 outside the Israeli Embassy in Washington. He pleaded guilty in 1986 to stealing secrets for the Israeli government and in 1987, he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

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War crimes, gov't policy on agenda for fly-in

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Seven of 11 Nazi war crimes cases initiated by the federal government will come to trial within the next nine months, Ottawa's chief war crimes prosecutor assured a group of Toronto United Jewish Appeal leaders here last week.

Despite widespread feelings to the contrary in Canada's Jewish community, prosecutions are "close to the optimal pace," Paul Vickery told about 40 participants in the first-ever UJA Ottawa fly-in – a packed day of briefings from government and other officials.

Legal motions in three other stalled cases will resume in Toronto this month, added Vickery, director of the Justice Department's crimes against humanity and war crimes section.

"I want to assure you that my unit is pressing forward with what we believe to be an honest and dedicated effort to bring to justice those who committed war crimes," Vickery said.

Since January 1995, when the government changed course from unsuccessful criminal prosecutions of alleged Nazi war criminals, to attempting to revoke their citizenship and deport them, Ottawa has launched 14 cases, Vickery told the UJA leaders.

Two of the accused, Josef Nemsila and Antanas Kenstavicius, have since died, while another, Ladislas Csatary, voluntarily left Canada after the federal cabinet stripped him of his citizenship, and he has been barred from returning, Vickery explained.

The trial of Wasily Bogutin concluded in Toronto last week.

Hearings for five other named alleged war criminals will begin between December and August.

Two other suspects will be named "in the near future."

Vickery said Canada's pace "compares favorably" with that in the United States. He was careful to note, however, that these are not prosecutions for war crimes, but rather hearings to determine whether the accused lied to gain citizenship by concealing his war-era activities, and is thus eligible for deportation.

"We can report very good progress," Vickery said. "We are doing everything we can to expedite the trials, and I think we've achieved considerable success. I think our record speaks for itself."

Vickery bristled at a suggestion that he was patting himself on the back.

"I am attempting to tell you what we're doing now," he snapped. "I am attempting to tell you that we have a very active program."

Each case is "an overwhelming task" for the unit's staff of 20 in Ottawa, 12 lawyers in Toronto and others in Vancouver and Montreal.

In the decade prior to 1995, four Nazi war crimes trials took place, with no convictions.

Today's war crimes unit "should be judged on its current efforts and successes," Vickery said, adding, though, that there has been "no excuse" for delays.

"All we can do is plow ahead. We're doing our best."

Lloyd Axworthy

Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy, in a well-received talk, said he was "pleased" that the forged passport affair was closed.

During his recent meetings in Israel with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister David Levy, Axworthy said, he received written assurances that faked or altered Canadian passports would never again be used in Mossad operations – as they had been in September – and that Israel has issued directives to that effect.

Continued debate on the matter – such as statements made by former Canadian ambassador to Israel Norman Spector – places Canadians travelling in the region "in jeopardy," Axworthy said.

The minister said he got the "sense" that Israel is ready to move to final negotiations in the peace process, and that there is "room for dialogue" in all Arab states, except Lebanon.

Earlier this year, Axworthy told Canadian Jewish leaders that he would try to facilitate Israel's inclusion in one of the geographical groupings at the United Nations. Israel is the only country to be shunned from all the large blocs at the UN. Only members of a bloc can belong to UN committees.

Axworthy had said earlier that he would press for Israel's inclusion in the Western Europe and Others Group.

But he told the UJA leaders that he would now advise Israel to "forget it" because the group is too dominated by the European Union, which makes decisions "unilaterally" and votes "en bloc."

While he still supports Israel's membership in a UN bloc, he said he now doubts the "utility" of the Western Europe Group.

[Cont'd. on page 31]

B'H

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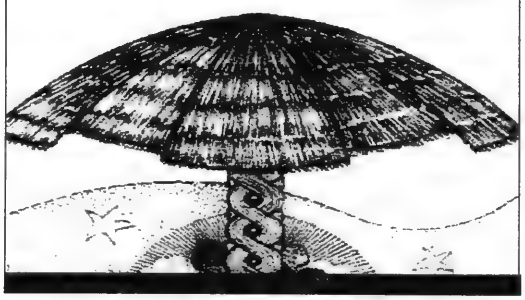

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From the editor's desk

New Jewish writing

I have written about *The CJN's* mandate on a number of occasions. The basic policy and purpose of *The Canadian Jewish News* is "to serve the Jewish people in Canada, in Israel and in all its habitations."

The chief way we "serve the Jewish people" is by providing our readers with news of the Jewish world in a reliable and credible manner.

But this is not the only way.

Another way, and one that is very precious to us, is by encouraging more Jewish writers to write.

We regularly invite our readers, young and old, to submit their work to us. Of course, we cannot publish all the submissions that we receive. But we do try to publish as many as space and opportunity allow.

Moreover, from time to time, we dedicate special issues as showcases for new "Jewish" writing by unpublished or seldom-published writers. For example, on Chanukah we publish the "winners" of our poetry contest; and on Pesach we have inaugurated a special literary supplement.

There are many talented, creative writers and poets in our midst; but too few vehicles in Canada where their writing can appear. It is important therefore, that *The CJN* become one of those vehicles.

Against this backdrop, I want to bring our readers' attention to three recently published new works of "Jewish writing," each of which has a *CJN* connection.

* * *

The sixth annual issue of *Parchment* is now available for purchase.

Parchment is an independent journal located at the Centre for Jewish Studies at York University, featuring contemporary Canadian Jewish writings. Its editor is Adam Fuerstenberg. Its founding editor is *CJN* columnist Shel Krakofsky.

Like its predecessor volumes, volume 6 is a trove of wonderfully eclectic, entertaining, often inspiring and moving writing.

As reported in *The CJN* (Nov. 6), one of the authors whose fiction is featured in volume 6 of *Parchment*, Gabriella Goliger of Ottawa, is one of two writers to share the $10,000 Journey Prize for her writing. The story for which she won the award, *Maladies of the Inner Ear*, was published in volume 5 of *Parchment*.

This most recent issue of *Parchment* also features a mildly jarring, but poignant short story by Bill Gladstone, one of *The CJN's* columnists and regular contributors.

Parchment is a vital display case for Canadian writers. It is also a delight for the reader to peek in.

* * *

Rafi Aaron's poetry appeared in *The CJN's* special Pesach literary supplement.

At that time, in April, we published his evocative and sorrowful *The Photograph of the Children*. Since then, that poem along with a collection of other of his poems, have been published in an anthology entitled *A Seed in the Pocket of their Blood* (Amphitheatre Publications Ltd).

The book explores through poetry and photography various themes of Jewish life in Europe, North America and Israel. It combines Aaron's provocative poems with a score of stunning photographs taken by internationally renowned Canadian and Israeli photographers.

The anthology, however, appears in more than a book. It is actually also a travelling exhibit.

The travelling exhibit project was launched at the Toronto Jewish Book Fair. It is slated to tour North America for over two years.

Aaron, a native of Ottawa, writes in a compelling manner. His poetry is compact but descriptive. The reader travels in his language as if in craft on a river, occasionally bumping along the river's edge into sharp, jagged emotions, but always being swept ever forward to the inevitable crescendo of emotion and thought.

His subjects are familiar ones, the details of Jewish experience.

* * *

Rabbi Arieh L. Ofseyer's writing also appeared in *The CJN's* special Pesach literary supplement. His short story *A Wedding in a Cemetery* was among the stories that we selected to feature in our supplement.

Like the poem of Rafi Aaron, that particular short story by Rabbi Ofseyer has also been gathered into a collection of some of his other writings and recently published. The work is entitled *A Pioneer from The Shtetl* (Golden Acres, Dallas).

It is an anthology of 51 different vignettes from his past. They are arranged more or less in a chronological time piece from his first days in his shtetl of Lutzk, in the Ukraine to his days as a young pioneer in then-Palestine

MBD

NYGH helping Branson

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Keeping Branson Hospital open for full service as long as possible is a top priority of adjoining hospitals.

For example, North York General Hospital (NYGH) is recruiting emergency nurses on behalf of Branson and is sending its own nurses and physicians to Branson to relieve shortages.

"I don't think anyone believes that we can keep it [Branson] open until the planned transfer date of June 1999," said Murray MacKenzie, NYGH president and CEO.

Renovations required

"But we'll turn ourselves inside out to keep it going," he added.

A key item in ongoing negotiations, he said, is the urgent need for long-term care beds at Branson, even after it is supposed to be only a medical walk-in clinic.

Final details on this need may not be settled until April 1998, because even though Branson has space designated for long-term care patients, certain renovations will need to be made. For this reason, officials of the Ontario Ministry of Health are involved, along with Branson, NYGH, York Central Hospital and Humber River.

The shortage of clinical and emergency nurses is shaping up to be a full-blown crisis for all Metro hospitals, MacKenzie said.

Branson's emergency department is closing at night for that reason. Cases usually handled at Branson during the night will be served at NYGH, which has added more in-patient facilities to its emergency department.

In discussions with all four hospitals and with officials of the Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, and UJA Federation, it was agreed in principle that there should be transportation service from Branson to other hospitals. This will require Ministry approval.

Admissions to NYGH have risen sharply, mostly from the Branson area, MacKenzie said.

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Prager rejects Jewish unity

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jewish unity is an illusion. It has never existed and neither is it a goal worth striving for. Instead, Jews should consider ways of living together based on three points of commonality, a UJA Federation dinner gathering was told recently.

Support for the well-being of Israel, fighting anti-Semitism and perpetuating the Jewish religion are three foundation stones for the Jewish people, said Dennis Prager, a syndicated U.S. talk show host and author and lecturer on Jewish issues.

Prager was keynote speaker at the annual major gifts and Atarah event of the 1998 UJA campaign. Mixing a witty sense of humor with provocative analysis, Prager had 450 UJA contributors enthralled.

He suggested that diverse Jewish groups have different roles to play at this juncture of Jewish history, similar to the distinct roles ascribed in biblical times to the priests, Levites and congregation of Yisrael. "One should make peace with that [idea] and realize it's okay to have differences."

Jews have never been unified, Prager said. Even in biblical times after the Exodus from Egypt, Korach led a group who confronted Moses.

"I've never called for Jewish unity," he said. "I'm actually scared by [it]."

People who call for unity, he said, do so with the expectation it will be on their terms. But diversity can have benefits. Pointing to the development of democracy, Prager noted it didn't arise in lands where the authoritarian Roman Catholic Church held sway, but in Protestant areas where religious denominations thrived.

"My worry is not that there are many denominations. My worry is that there are too many who couldn't care," he said.

Point one of his approach, supporting the well-being of Israel, is necessary because a strong Israel provides Jews everywhere with security and a refuge. Prager said he preferred a Jew who ate pork on Yom Kippur to Neturei Karta Chassidim who opposed Israel's existence unless it was established by the Messiah. He also criticized Jews on the left who care more for universal issues than they do for Jewish ones. These people are not part of the Jewish world, he suggested.

Jews must also oppose anti-Semitism, said Prager, co-author of *Why the Jews? The Reason for Anti-Semitism.* Jews serve as a sort of "miner's canary," detecting noxious fumes of hatred before others in society. Those who begin by hating Jews always end by hating others, he said.

Turning to his third point, perpetuating the Jewish religion, Prager said "the Jewish people cannot survive the death of the Jewish religion as much as the Jewish religion cannot survive the death of the Jewish people.

"We should aim to become serious Jews," he said. Prager, who claimed to have a foot in three Jewish camps, Orthodox, Conservative and Reform, suggested Jews could even "try to keep Shabbat in the car."

He said his family has a meaningful Shabbat experience driving to synagogue, when they sing Jewish songs and discuss the Torah portion of the week.

"There can be non-Orthodox religiosity...because if we don't develop it, we're doomed."

He said the three major strands of Judaism each have a place in the Jewish world: the Orthodox are "like our priestly class," retreating from the world. "We need the Orthodox because it gives [others] something to bounce off, to see how far we've moved from a given point."

At the other end of the scale, Reform is "out in the world entirely, measuring its Judaism by the world's yardstick."

This approach can lead to chaos, Prager conceded, but there is also chaos in each wing of Judaism. "That's what I tell the groups, "You have beautiful parts and ugly parts."

Quoting former prisoner of Zion, Natan Sharansky, Prager said, "If any one Jewish group wins, Jewry loses."

Dinner-goers also heard from Leo Goldhar, 1998 UJA Federation campaign chair, who reported that more than $36.5 million had been raised to date, $1 million more than last year.

Barry Sherman, chair of Legacy, the UJA's capital and endowment campaign, said $45 million has been committed in the first few months of the campaign. The campaign goal is to raised $150 million in endowments and capital funds in the next few years, to generate a revenue stream to ensure sufficient funds for capital projects, programming and for unforeseen eventualities.

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Rabbi discusses life with AIDS

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Rabbi Cynthia Culpeper is the first person in her family to have become a rabbi, the first female rabbi of her synagogue in Montgomery, Ala., and the first rabbi in North America known to have AIDS.

Rabbi Culpeper, 35, who converted to Judaism as a young adult and was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in 1995, was an operating nurse before entering rabbinical school. In 1994, she contracted AIDS from a needle wound while still a nurse.

She spoke recently at the annual I. Jeffrey Presement Memorial Lecture jointly presented by the AIDS committees of Holy Blossom Temple, Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am and Beth Tzedec congregations. Also on the panel were Louise Binder, chair of Voices of Positive Women in Ontario, and Ron Rosenes, chair of the AIDS Committee of Toronto.

When she was first diagnosed, Rabbi Culpeper told the capacity crowd at Holy Blossom, "it was a very lonely time. Did I trust my diagnosis with the Montgomery congregation? I decided to test the waters. I addressed controversial subjects such as alcoholism, and I wore a red ribbon for AIDS awareness. I could tell that they were thinking, 'These are not problems in our community. These are not

Rabbi Cynthia Culpeper

Jewish problems.'"

When she read a seven-page address to her congregation, however, telling them how she contracted the disease and how AIDS is, indeed, a Jewish problem, "the reaction was overwhelmingly positive. I told them that AIDS education and awareness is Torah, Torah is teaching and teaching is best shown by how we live our lives publicly, not by the silence we maintain privately."

AIDS, said Rabbi Culpeper, now a Hebrew teacher in Birmingham, Ala., "changes everything. There is the lack of spontaneity. Going on a trip means packing more pills than clothes, and the simple pleasure of eating whatever and whenever you wish no longer exists."

However, she finds "tremendous strength within Judaism. AIDS represents a lack of control and I find that the set liturgy [found in Judaism] is comfortable. It is something that is steady when everything is out of control. At a time when I am at a loss for words, I have found comfort in a tradition that has words for me."

Part of the Jewish tradition, she said, is to care about other people and to visit the sick. "We are also taught to take care of ourselves. AIDS is a 100 percent preventable disease, but because people are still testing positive, we have to... keep educating so people can take care of [themselves].

"I ask all of you to be rabbis regarding the Torah of AIDS. Protect yourself and protect others by bringing knowledge. In Pirkei Avot it says, 'The day is short, the work is great... and the Master is insistent.' In other words, G-d is calling all of us to end the epidemic."

Binder, who was diagnosed with AIDS in 1993, said that even though people know how to prevent AIDS, the number of cases is not decreasing. "Worldwide, as of the end of 1996, 29.2 million people were infected. Everyday, 8,500 people are infected and 40 percent of those are women. At the end of 1996, 42,000 people in Canada were living with HIV. The new cases in Canada in 1996 numbered 5,000, compared to 3,000 in 1994 or 1995. The numbers are rising and the median age is dropping."

The disease is still considered a gay disease, says Binder, "and that is absolutely wrong. There are many groups at risk and many people are not in a position to protect themselves. The stigma of being infected continues to keep people from speaking out; so the misinformation continues. Women are not seen by the medical profession as being at risk and young people are not being taught about AIDS. Until we demand changes, people will continue to be infected."

Romberg leaving JIAS for post at UJA Federation

TORONTO — Perry Romberg, executive director of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, Toronto, for 10 years, will be joining UJA Federation as a senior planning and allocations executive early next year.

"We are very enthusiastic about Perry joining the family," says UJA Federation vice-president, community planning and development, Morris Zbar. "His experience, enthusiasm and pulse on community needs will be a valuable contribution to our organization."

Over the past two decades, Romberg has held several social service positions including supervisor of the Jewish Family & Child Service Foster Care Program, and clinical manager of the Jerome D. Diamond Adolescent Centre.

"Now I am looking forward to planning for larger community needs," says Romberg.

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9:00 am – 12:30 pm; 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm; 5:30 pm – 9:00 pm

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Monday, December 8 – Wednesday, December 10

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Days of Decision telethon activities take place in the **Conference Centre** at the **Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst Street.**

Please RSVP about your preferred telethon shift as soon as possible to (416) 635-2883 ext. 115.

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Dry Bones
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TOYS

Dangerous signs

Israel's government last weekend confirmed its willingness to move forward with further redeployment of its security forces from the territories in return for the Palestinian Authority's strict compliance with its written commitments to Israel, including fighting terrorism, abjuring incitement to violence and finally replacing the PLO charter.

In anticipation of precisely such an announcement, some Israelis opposed to *any* withdrawal, let alone more, took to the streets in protest. On Saturday night, there was, for example, the usual but totally acceptable demonstration outside the prime minister's residence. Earlier in the week, however, there was another kind of demonstration, this one totally unacceptable.

Posters were plastered throughout downtown Jerusalem; in the posters, the prime minister was depicted wearing a kaffiyeh across the top of which in large inflammatory letters was written: Liar!!!

The appearance of the posters was a shocking reminder of the incendiary campaign waged against Yitzhak Rabin by hateful extremists weeks before he was killed. It marks the first time we have seen this hauntingly similar form of odious expression directed at to the policies of this prime minister.

They are dangerous signs.

As circumstance and pressure build up to advance the peace process more definitively, the decisions the government will face, especially ones involving territorial compromise, will become more difficult.

Aharon Domb, a spokesperson for Yesha, the movement representing the settlers in the West Bank and Gaza, condemned the use of the posters. Lay and religious leaders, here and abroad, must also condemn and deplore their use lest heated but lawful dissent once again crosses over into anarchic strife.

Dangerous distinctions

Early last week, in a speech in Edmonton, former Parti Québécois (PQ) leader Jacques Parizeau repeated his infamous referendum-loss assessment.

Recanting nothing, he identified precisely whom he had meant when he blamed the separatists' loss on the "ethnics." It was the Greeks, the Italians and the Jews.

Parizeau's refining prose was as reprehensible last week as it was in the last referendum. He does not distinguish between Québécois who support separatism as opposed to those who do not. Rather, he distinguishes between the supporters of separatism, who by inference, are the real Québécois; and the "ethnics," who by equal inference, are not real Québécois.

He again draws distinctions which are unbefitting a democracy, improper in a land where the rule of law and equality govern, and dangerous in a society where heated nationalistic emotions hover near the surface.

When asked to comment on this most recent pronouncement by his predecessor, Premier Lucien Bouchard defended him as "a great democrat." But we have questions of the premier regarding his conceptions of democrat and democracy.

In what great democracy is such unrepentant, heavy-handed singling out of minorities considered to be appropriate?

In what great democracy is this kind of differentiation among voters not considered to be a form of subtle "intimidation?"

And in what great democracy is such "intimidation" considered to be an acceptable standard of behavior for political leaders?

The separatists hue to the language of democracy but not to its practices.

But as we have learned from our sages, we will know them by their deeds and not by their sayings.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"When there is no truth, there is no kindness."
Nachman of Bratzlav

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Dec. 8, 1764 David David was the first Jewish child born in Canada (Montreal). He became a founding partner in the Bank of Montreal.(*Canadian Jewish Congress Archives*)

Rabbi Stern's views on conversion issue

It is rather apparent that it is open season on "Orthodox bashing." The New Israel Fund is rather blatant and open in its advertisement and the Jewish establishment is more subtle, but both cannot disguise their disgust and disdain for Orthodox Judaism. I might add that the display of anger and contempt is all in the name of, and for the sake of, "unity." A strange way indeed to foster "unity." The issue – and catch word – is "pluralism."

This simply means: yes to the sanctioning of gay marriage; yes to the recognition of patrilineal descent; yes to the ordination of women "rabbis;" yes to each individual deciding on issues of Jewishness, and no external guide (Halachah) will set standards; yes to the officiating at mixed marriages; yes to the rejection of the Sinaiatic divinity of Revelation of Torah, etc.; and yes, you will accept all this and more as authentic Jewish tradition.

Surely most reasonable people can understand that it would be spiritual suicide for Israel to officially sanction and recognize this view of Judaism.

In the meantime, the Orthodox will continue to reach out with love and sincerity to all Jews, regardless of their affiliation. Jews generally are not interested in the politics and agenda of the Jewish establishment. The Jewish concern is to stem and reverse the tide of assimilation and ignorance.

The Orthodox, with their yeshivot, day schools, high schools and outreach organizations, will continue to share with all Jews an approach to Torah life that has successfully made assimilation, drugs and other ills of society a non-issue in that community.

Indeed, let us, the ordinary Jews, join together in enhancing our Judaism, and let the establishment play its politics. The future will decide who truly cared about "unity," and who fostered Jewish survival.

Rabbi Moshe Stern
Shaarei Tefillah Congregation
Toronto

Soap made of Shoah victims

I wish to add to information provided by A. Wesiberg in his letter to the editor (*CJN*, Nov. 13), regarding the use of soap made of human remains.

Like Wesiberg, I also fully believe that such soap was manufactured from the remains of Holocaust victims, and in fact, that such pieces exist today, not only in museums, but in peoples' personal collections.

About five years ago, as a member of the Ottawa Shoah (Holocaust) Remembrance Committee, I was on duty as a docent at the Simon Wiesenthal exhibit, The Courage To Remember. A pleasant and well dressed man thanked me, but maintained that more items should have been on show. He then explained the reason.

His father had been a soldier in the Canadian Army during World War II, and he had been one of the liberators of the concentration camps. Against army regulations, some of the soldiers had taken away with them as souvenirs some of the ghastly remnants which they found at the camps. This man's father still has in his possession today a bar of soap that was made of human remains.

Elly Bollegraaf
Ottawa

Alleges bias on editor's part

I would like to comment on "From the editor's desk" (*CJN*, Nov. 13), in which you evaluate letters received on the subject of the "City Of David Synagogue." While you have every right to your evaluation, it would seem more appropriate for you to publish the letters and let the readers make their own assessment.

Your views are biased because of what you believe of a religious nature. You are not neutral as an editor should be, but tend to have Orthodox leanings – and thus your jaundiced view of the scheme of things, with reference to the Orthodox outlook. Publish other views on the subject. Don't suppress thought and discussion just because it doesn't meet with your approval, as they do in countries run by dictators.

Dr. Larry Gaum
Toronto

Why honor Harris at Yad Vashem?

I was shocked to read (*CJN*, Oct. 30) that the Canadian Society of Yad Vashem was honoring Mike Harris.

This is a man who has pushed welfare recipients to food banks. He has been condemned by Catholic bishops. Social programs have been eliminated. Hospitals have been closed. Welfare recipients have been ridiculed. The education system has been decimated. Legislative debate has been restricted.

For any Jewish organization to honor a government which is autocratic at best and fascist at worst is contrary to human decency.

Paul Greenspoon
St. Catharines, Ont.

Need to be Jewish on and off campus

In his book, *The Making of a Jew*, Edgar Bronfman talks about the importance of Jewish students "doing Jewish" on and off campus.

Bronfman and executive president of Hillel International Richard Joel have been two of the leading forces in seeing Hillel grow around the globe. In addition to North America, Hillel centres exist in Europe, the Former Soviet Union and Israel. Hillel's organizational philosophy of "empowering and engaging" Jewish students around the world has been at the forefront of the Jewish communal agenda.

Steven Spodek
Executive Director
Hillel-Jewish Student Centre of Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Canada's Jewish press is 100 years old

By LEWIS LEVENDEL

This article provides background to the National Library exhibition, The Canadian Jewish Press, 1897 to 1997. The exhibition, which runs to Dec. 12, was drawn from the library's Canadiana collection and curated by Cheryl Jaffee of the Jacob M. Lowy Collection.

In its first 100 years, the Canadian Jewish press has informed, entertained, educated, consoled and aggravated its readership; strengthened religious and ethnic identity; and served as a forum for individuals, institutions and the entire community.

At the beginning of its second century, the Canadian Jewish press remains an unmined treasure of Canadian archives, and a mirror of Jewish expression through the years, found in dozens of publications — not only in English and Yiddish, but also in French, Hebrew, Hungarian and Russian.

An important role in the community

Canadian Jewish journals have played an important role in maintaining cultural distinctiveness, and greatly helped to ignite and sustain vital communal fundraising campaigns, and the major local and national bodies such as the Zionist Organization of Canada, United Jewish Appeal and Canadian Jewish Congress. Smaller institutional papers and specialized journals have been essential in consolidating special-interest bodies such as cultural, fraternal, labor, youth and Zionist organizations, and synagogues and other communal institutions.

In the early years of this press, much original literature — both prose and poetry — first appeared on the pages of English and Yiddish Jewish publications. Many of the works of Canadian literary giant A.M. Klein initially were printed in Jewish periodicals he edited. Celebrated arts critic Nathan Cohen's earliest commentaries can be found in the Canadian Jewish press. And novelist and former Canada Council literary head Naïm Kattan wrote for and edited French-language Jewish publications.

But others who also contributed fine work to this press should be better known. There were many top-drawer writers and commentators who never broke into Canadian mainstream publications — either by choice or by circumstance. In the first half of this century, Jewish journalists, writers, poets and scholars were not as welcome in mainstream publications as they are today.

Readers of this press will discover some of the finest writers, journalists and commentators this country has produced. A fascinating portraiture of Canadian life through this century can be found in the work of A.B. Bennett, Julius Hayman, J.B. (Joe) Salsberg, Ben Kayfetz, Joshua Gershman and Noach Wittman — all of whom contributed, or have continued to contribute, to this press for more than 50 years.

As well, readers will recognize the names of writers who went on to become better known to their fellow Canadians — Irving Layton, Leonard Cohen, Mordecai Richler, Moses Znaimer, Irving Abella, Ted Allan, Alan Borovoy and Miriam Waddington.

The Jewish Times

The first continuing Canadian Jewish publication was the English-language *The Jewish Times*, founded in Montreal in 1897 to respond in part to the anti-Semitism ignited by the Dreyfus trial in France. The wave of anti-Semitism engendered by the trial had reached Canadian shores. Some of the Canadian press, especially in Quebec, were echoing the virulent anti-Jewish slander of publications in France. At that time, there were about 12,000 Jews in Canada — 5,000 in Montreal. Two young men — Lyon Cohen, 28, later to become founding president of Canadian Jewish Congress, and Sam Jacobs, 26, later to become Eastern Canada's first Jewish member of Parliament — decided to launch a fortnightly publication. The first issue was dated Dec. 10, 1897.

Glancing through the 17 years of *The Times*, one finds reportage and commentary on anti-Jewish incidents and the organization of the Zionist movement in Canada, a lively letters-to-the editor page, literary contributions in each issue, and cartoons and other original illustrations. There were news and social items from Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec City, Toronto, Glace Bay, Halifax, Hamilton, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

Unfortunately, *The Times* proved to be more an artistic success than a commercial one, because Yiddish was the primary language of most Canadian Jews in the first decade of this century. But *The Times* set standards that have been matched only occasionally by succeeding English-language publications.

Historian David Rome, who wrote a book about *The Times*, judged it "by far the best newspaper produced for Canadian Jewry."

The Yiddish Press

For about 40 years in the first part of this century, the Yiddish press served immigrants to Canada as a guide, counsellor, comforter, educator and cultural mentor. Montreal and Winnipeg, and to a lesser extent Toronto, became known throughout the Jewish world as flourishing centres of Yiddish culture. The attitude of many Jews to the Yiddish press in its heyday was one of admiration and even love. The papers became part of Jewish life, and its writers, members of the Jewish family.

The *Kanader Odler* (*Jewish Daily Eagle*) of Montreal, begun in 1907, was the home of a celebrated school of city Yiddishists who gained international stature for their prose, poetry and lively commentary. At their best, the Yiddish publications were vigorous in their advocacy. They were considered a catalyst in shaping the Jewish milieu of the time.

The Holocaust, Canada and Canadian Jewry

In recent years, historians have been researching the actions of the Canadian government before, during and after the Holocaust, and the actions or inaction of the Canadian Jewish community during that period. My research indicates that Canadian Jews, if they were reading their press, were well warned of the coming catastrophe. The Jewish press frequently focused a spotlight on the dangers of the rise of Adolf Hitler and his Nazi party, and subsequently on the destruction of European Jewry.

Reflecting the position of a good portion of Canadian Jewish leadership prior to the war, the *Canadian Jewish Review* editorially made the argument against Canadian Jewish militants, whom it labeled "natural born trouble-seekers." The editorial continued: "The quiet, unostentatious behavior which tens of thousands of Jews practice from choice or because it is natural to them, is safer as a matter of policy in times like this than the quarrelsome, disputations, self-righteous manner of those who press for their 'rights.' "

During World War II, the Toronto *Daily Hebrew Journal*'s English-page editor, David Rome, attacked what he labelled "the business-as-usual attitude of North American Jews," saying they were "fiddling while fellow Jews rolled to their destruction." At the end of the war, Winnipeg *Jewish Post* editorialist Hy Sokolov begged for a more open Canadian immigration policy for Jewish refugees languishing in Europe. He censured the people of Canada as "indifferent to the agony of the helpless victims of Nazism, and in closing their hearts, they allowed thousands to perish."

The Canadian Jewish Press Today

In this time of cable TV, satellite dishes and the Internet, and despite the gradual assimilation of Jews into the Canadian mainstream, there remains a vital Jewish press in this country, located in large cities from Vancouver to Halifax. Some of the newspapers remain independently owned and operated — a healthy trend away from publications funded by the central communal fundraising bodies. A watchdog press, which can air important issues of the day and provide provocative and stimulating journalism and commentary, is a valuable asset for Canada and Canadian Jewry.

As it celebrates its centenary, the Canadian Jewish press appears to be healthier — both creatively and financially — than it was more than a decade ago when I was researching my book. Long may it prosper!

Lewis Levendel, author of A Century of the Canadian Jewish Press: 1880s-1980s, *published in 1989 by Borealis Press of Ottawa, served as a consultant to the exhibition, The Canadian Jewish Press, 1897-1997.*

Opinions

Who is Israel's grandfather?

By Emil Fackenheim in Jerusalem

Two recent incidents have cast doubt in my mind as to whether we are ready to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary on May 14, 1998; the first of these incidents is happening in Germany; the second, absurdly enough, in Jerusalem.

Once, Germans were told that the torturers and murderers were only SS fanatics, sworn to blind obedience. Now exhibits of pictures in German cities demonstrate that the army was implicated as well, a hard thing to take for the young, nearly every German having a grandfather who was a soldier. Hence, quite understandably, many – though some doubtless with neo-Nazi motives – want a *Schluss-Strich* for the 12 years of Hitlerism, a big "line-for-an-end," a being-done with what is euphemistically called "those terrible years."

However, the big trauma is not expressed in "never again," the fear that it *might* happen again, but in the fact that once it *did* happen, a shock calling everything into question, our faith (Jewish and Christian), even civilization itself. And who should confront that shock, with the aim of mending what can be mended, if not German philosophers, theologians, ordinary folk?

But now, to quote a recent *Jerusalem Report* front page, some Jews in Germany are "German, Jewish…and proud of it." One understands their attitude, for while their parents were squeamish about Jewishness, sitting with bags metaphorically packed, the children are open about it, even celebrating Jerusalem Day in the heart of Berlin. What escapes them, however, is that they might be the ultimate *Schluss-Strich-Zieher*, helping make the *Schluss-Strich* final.

They would not do well either if visiting the real Jerusalem – in case they went to a display currently in the Israel Museum. What made the authorities put on a show letting the visitor imagine herself to be Eva Braun? She was Hitler's mistress, whom he married in the Berlin bunker before both killed themselves. Every survivor would consider the very idea revolting, though I cannot vouch for survivors' children, of whom the author of the show is one. (A picture of him in the show, as a child, has a Hitler mustache.)

Imagining someone's bedroom involves, in any case, a lot of voyeurism, and in Hitler's case – he was sexually abnormal – also obscenity, and if this, in America, is nowadays praised for artistic honesty, why not in Jerusalem? But here the visitor is likely Jewish, and a Jewess in Hitler's bedroom at his sexual mercy is the ultimate in Jewish self-abasement, and – this seems the author's rationale – we must express it if we are to get rid of it.

But this is not how to celebrate what happened on May 14, 1948. Some still view Hitler as the grandfather of Israel, since a UN conscience stricken by his crimes established the state.

But, as David Ben-Gurion put it: "We did not fight in 1948 to establish the state. We fought to defend it. The UN gave it international sanction and then ran away. We brought it about ourselves.

The Yishuv had been advised to postpone Jewish statehood, but they decided that it was "now or never," declared it, defended it and thereby raised the Star of David from deepest abasement in the Holocaust to its proper honor, on the flag of the state.

Who is the grandfather of Israel? Perhaps Mordecai Anielewicz, the leader of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, who died in it. Or perhaps Antek Zuckerman, who survived and explained its meaning to Israelis. "Why did we fight, when we knew our fight was hopeless? We did it for future generations. We did it for you."

From Clal to Chai

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

For many years, the name of Rabbi Irving (Yitz) Greenberg has been identified with the acronym CLAL, which stands for National Jewish Centre for Learning and Leadership. It was, and is, an educational network defined by its name: operating along non-denominational lines, it tries to increase the level of learning amongst the leadership of North American Jewish organizations and has engendered a high level of competence, devotion and support.

A recent newsletter entitled *Contact*, informs me that Yitz, as he is known to many of his friends and devotees, has given up the presidency of CLAL and is devoting himself to a new foundation called CHAI – the Jewish Life Network. He says he wished "to work on some important new projects to strengthen the inner life of American Jewry."

In a cogent summation of where we in North America are as Jews, he has this to say: "In the past 50 years, world Jewry has accomplished the greatest political and social transformation of its history (and possibly, of world history). In these decades, Jewry has come from powerlessness to power, from vulnerability and worthlessness in political terms to dignity and influence in the eyes of the world. After the Holocaust, world Jewry determined to transform itself and its institutions in order to restore the value of Jewish life. The State of Israel was established; one of the world's greatest armies was developed.

"Over the years American (and Diaspora) Jewry learned new skills, both political and economic. Whole communities were transformed from lands of oppression to lands of freedom (mostly Israel). In the process, Communist tyranny was undermined and freedom advanced. Today, Jews are more likely to be saved when in danger, more readily admitted to refuge, more likely to be placed on the world agenda when they are persecuted. Around the world, non-Jews seek to pass as Jews in order to gain access to these privileges (admittedly, Jews are also most likely to be attacked and Israel's existence is still not secure). Still, the overall accomplishment is astonishing and indeed historic."

Having emphasized how far we have come to enjoy the blessings of life, he has a warning for us: "All this was achieved the old-fashioned way – by hard work, total dedication and creative transformation. Money was raised on a scale never before done; giving and raising money became a mark of status and a driving force behind the rise of federations to centrality in American Jewish life." (The same development is now observable in Canadian Jewish life.)

Then Rabbi Greenberg comes to his major point: "Unfortunately, the same was not done for Jewish religious and cultural life. Far from unifying to meet the crisis, religious denominations polarized in different responses to choice and freedom: they turned their fear of assimilation and anger into conflict with each other. That conflict has now plunged Israel into a whirlpool of rejection and venom that is undermining its role as a unifier and magnet of loyalty in Jewish life."

For more information, write to CHAI/JLN, 392 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10018, or e-mail [ckyjln@aol.com].

Contempt for UN misplaced

By Abba Eban in Jerusalem

Even the greatest of men are liable to err and David Ben-Gurion exercised that right massively when he uttered his expletive, "oom shmoom," to indicate contempt for the United Nations. It was an unworthy statement when it was made and Ben-Gurion's devotees have made it worse by reiterating it endlessly. The truth is that no nation has ever benefited more than Israel from the existence, after World War II, of an international organization capable of filling the vacuum created by the withdrawal of British power.

The fidelity of the UN to Israeli sovereignty was enacted in several stages over the entire first year of Israeli nationhood.

One: On Sept. 1, 1947, I was called to the Palais Des Nations at Geneva to receive the first copy of the conclusions reached by the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP). This body, composed of representatives of small and medium states, had voted by eight votes to three in favor of the partition of Palestine between a Jewish and an Arab state.

I realized that I had become the first human being to set eyes on an international document in which a Jewish state was positively recommended.

Two: On Nov. 29, 1947, the UN General Assembly ratified the conclusions of UNSCOP by a two-thirds majority. From that point on, it was reasonable to describe Jewish statehood as part of the international consensus. It was a dramatic breakthrough for Zionism.

Three: On March 24, 1949, the UN Security Council voted by nine votes to one to support the admission of Israel to membership in the United Nations. Without the sanction of the major powers, including the United States and the Soviet Union, the Nov. 29 resolution would have had no juridical or political effect. Israeli diplomacy was now in the ascendant.

Four: On May 11, 1949, the General Assembly, overriding Arab objections by a wider margin than before, decided that Israel was a member of the UN, which is dedicated to the "sovereign equality of all its members." The May 11 resolution was much more far-reaching in its consequences than all the previous UN enactments, since it created a juridical and political reality which no subsequent defection has been able to undermine. The way was now open for my delegation to secure Israel's entry into all the functional agencies such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Health Organization and the other institutions that express planetary solidarity.

On the basis of Israel's membership in the United Nations, armistice agreements were signed in 1949 with Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

These accords were honored in most of their provisions and Israel was free to open its gates to 680,000 Jewish kinsmen in the first three years of its existence as a state.

It is true that international recognition did not solve Israel's problems of defence and survival, but it is also true that the UN's most important capacity is its unchallenged right to define the international community by its admissions policies. More recently, the UN General Assembly endorsed the Oslo accords in a joint resolution proposed by Israel and the PLO.

No historian has ever imagined a scenario in which Israel could have achieved sovereign recognition so rapidly without the existence of an international organization that became the decisive voice in Israel's emergence.

It is true that in later years it became a UN practice to denigrate Israel and even to describe its Zionist creed as "racism," but it is also true that in a solitary act of contrition, the UN General Assembly annulled that resolution. None of the resolutions virulently hostile to Israel had any binding legal status in UN terms.

Israeli credentials at the UN were fully established at a time when China, Japan, Germany, Italy, the Baltic States and each of the former republics of the Soviet Union languished outside the main body of the international family.

In a recent series of speeches, former secretary of state Henry Kissinger expressed the view that the establishment of an Arab state in a part of the former "Palestine" would be an important element of the current peace process. When I presented my letters of credence to president Truman in September 1950 as ambassador to the United Nations and the United States, he said to me: "You got your state because your leaders made rational proposals and your adversaries did not."

By "your leaders" he meant Chaim Weizmann and Ben-Gurion (he had never met any other Jewish leader). By "rational proposals" he meant that the resolution of Nov. 29, 1947 was not unbalanced: it provided for a Palestinian state side by side with Israel. There was no Likud input to the partition resolution.

In my successful plea for Israel's UN admission on May 5, 1949, I said that "at every stage of Israel's relations with the Arab world we have found equality of status to be the essential condition of partnership." In these conditions, Netanyahu's constant assertion of hostility to Palestinian statehood sets him apart from a growing Israeli consensus and constitutes a major obstacle to regional peace.

Abba Eban is a former foreign minister of Israel.

The Kirshner File

Shanghai — a haven for Jewish refugees

After Adolf Hitler's accession to power, Shanghai was the only place where a Jew persecuted by Nazism could

By Sheldon Kirshner

emigrate without a visa or family sponsorship.

Ulrike Ottinger's mother, a German Jew, was not aware of Shanghai's peculiar status as a Jewish haven when she went into hiding in Konstanz, a city close to the Swiss border. While Wilhelmina Weinberg, Ottinger's mom, cowered in fear of being betrayed, thousands of German — and Austrian — Jewish refugees streamed into that bustling Chinese port, which had been colonized by Europeans in the 19th century.

Weinberg's ignorance is a source of irony to her 46-year-old daughter, a Berlin filmmaker, particularly now that she has made a movie about Shanghai's place in Jewish history.

The 275-minute documentary — *Exile Shanghai*, which was screened at the Berlin Film Festival and the Jerusalem Film Festival before touching down at the recent Toronto International Film Festival — skilfully filters this story through the prism of interviews with former residents who now live in the United States.

Shanghai was settled by a succession of Jews — Sephardic Jews in the 1840s seeking business opportunities, Russian Jews in the 1880s and early 1900s fleeing pogroms and revolutionary upheaval, and finally, German and Austrian Jews in the 1930s and 1940s escaping Nazi racism.

Ottinger, who produced, wrote and filmed *Exile Shanghai*, was drawn to the topic after talking with a group of German Jews in Beijing who had found refuge in China. She had been dimly aware of the exodus, but not the details.

From them, she learned of the three separate but interlocking Jewish communities which had emerged in Shanghai; of the varied institutions the refugees had created; of their relationships with the Chinese multitudes; of the deprivations they had endured when the Japanese occupation authorities established a ghetto in 1943; and of their departure from Shanghai in the aftermath of World War II.

Ottinger, whose collaborator was an Israeli producer named Marek Rosenbaum, started filming in the spring of 1996. By that point, she had interviewed survivors in Israel and the United States, conducted research at Yad Vashem, the Leo Baeck Institute and the Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora, extracted a wealth of information from Germany's ambassador in China, and attended a conference in Berlin on German-Japanese relations during that era.

Filmmaker examines Chinese city

The Chinese government was cooperative enough, but strangely, Ottinger was not permitted to film the last remaining synagogues of Shanghai. "I have no idea why," she said in an interview. Despite this inexplicable prohibition, she sneaked in a few frames of shuls.

Since a Jewish community no longer exists in Shanghai, the synagogue buildings have either been converted to other uses or fallen into ruin.

With the rise of Communism in China, the Jews left in droves, leaving behind a distinct cultural legacy which the passage of time has almost obliterated. "There was a strong anti-foreign, anti-colonial campaign after 1949," she said. "The Chinese government did not distinguish between Jewish refugees and colonialists."

The few Jews who remained in Shanghai and weathered the transition were dedicated Communists. They were eager to build a new society in a country which had been ravished by European and Asian imperialism.

As far as she knows, there are only about 2,000 "Shanghai" Jews left today, and the vast majority reside in Israel, Canada, Australia and the United States.

Three of them appear in *Exile Shanghai*: Gertrude Alexander, a Viennese dress designer who set sail to China from Liverpool during a German air raid; her husband Theodore, a rabbi who was raised in Berlin; and Rena Krasno, a Russian Jew who was born in Shanghai and whose pungent reminiscences lead off the film.

Ottinger also interviewed a couple in Haifa, a Chinese woman who had wed a German-Jewish doctor. But they are not in the film.

Until recently, the flight of Jews to Shanghai was not exactly common knowledge in Germany. But since the appearance of Ottinger's film, her first on a Jewish topic, there have been articles in the German press and Wannsee House — a Berlin museum which documents the Holocaust from its origins to its finale — has organized a symposium about it.

Asked why she did not cut the epic-length *Exile Shanghai*, which is expected to open in Canada in 1998, Ottinger sniffed, "This is not a Hollywood film."

It certainly isn't.

19th century Palestine revealed by photographers

Our knowledge of early 19th century Palestine — a neglected, poverty-stricken province of the decrepit Ottoman empire — comes mainly from the diaries, journals, letters and books of hardy travellers and, lest we forget, from pictures taken by a fraternity of immensely curious photographers.

Photographers, in particular, were instrumental in discovering this land. At that time, Palestine was populated by only 300,000 persons. In addition to the Muslim Arab majority, Palestine was home to various Christian sects and a handful of Jews, most of whom were indigent and relied on overseas charity.

On Jan. 29, the work of these intrepid photographers will be exhibited at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art in California. The exhibit is scheduled to run until May 31. A glossy book, filled with text and photographs, has been published to coincide with it. *Revealing the Holy Land: The Photographic Exploration of Palestine* is distributed by the University of California Press.

The earliest photographers to ply their craft in Palestine were French and British, pioneers like Frederic Goupil-Fesquet, Pierre-Gustave Joly de Lotbiniere, George Wilson Bridges, James Robertson, Maxime Du Camp, Auguste Salzmann and James McDonald. They labored under difficult conditions, using the primitive daguerreotype process, but they have much to show for their efforts. Their photographs are at once evocative and enduring, timeless impressions in amber, as it were.

Leafing through the pages of this attractive volume, I was struck by a number of photographs: Du Camp's view of Jerusalem's outer walls, McDonald's panoramic vista of the city from the Hill of the Evil Counsel, and Robertson's study of Jews praying at the Western Wall.

I was also impressed by McDonald's series on the desolate but achingly beautiful Sinai Peninsula.

All in all, these are photographs on which to linger and reflect.

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JEWISH EDUCATION
The Next Generation

Students speak out on religion

By DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

A few years ago, teenagers in a religious day school in a large U.S. city were asked to talk about religion and their feelings regarding their religious upbringing. Here is a composite of their reactions.

"I really don't believe that any religious group has the right to tell people how to run their lives. There are just too many things that are hard for me to accept as far as the rules of the religion go. No matter how hard they try and push the faith upon me, it has to come from within myself, so I wish they'd stop pushing."

Some comments go even further. "The religion is an anachronistic dried out medieval society in the 20th and 21st centuries. To preach it in modern society is difficult, humiliating and rarely well done." Or this thought: "I think of the tradition as mental slavery for immature people."

And the response of the teachers of these children was equally revealing. Here's one example: "Adolescents these days question *all* sources of authority. This generation of kids, especially in the last few years, really has knowledgeable parents, so they are more sophisticated. They get it from their parents. By all means, the tendency is toward questioning and not swallowing something just because you're told to.

You know, it's like they're saying "Anytime an authority figure asks me to do something I'll ask why. You prove it to me." Our job as religious teachers is not just to present but to persuade these days. We're selling more than telling."

Does this sound familiar? Some of these comments, even the harsh ones, seem to aptly represent many Jewish children and teenagers, some that are frustrated and bored in day schools and in afternoon Hebrew schools that follow public school. But there's one important qualification to make here. All of these comments were made by Catholics about Catholicism.

Jewish communities should realize that we are not alone in the struggle to transmit a religious tradition to our children. When I was a professor of English literature at the University of Toronto, I was often struck by how little of the Christian Bible students were familiar with, and thus how many biblical allusions in works by say, Milton or Shakespeare, passed right by them. Now I don't expect that is particularly comforting for Jewish parents, to know that others face the same problem that we do. But the fact is that rebellion against authority and alienation from traditional religious teachings is a common problem in much of the Western world.

The price that we pay for living in an open liberal democratic society is that our children are thrust out into

[Cont'd. on page 14]

Rabbinic Reflections

Jacob's still intriguing

By RABBI RON AIGEN

Jacob's career is most intriguing to us, perhaps because he seems the most human of the patriarchs. Jacob is "everyman;" he displays the same human foibles many of us experience – deceit, anger and fear. And yet, it is Jacob who becomes the heroic "Israel," the one who wrestles with both human and Divine and prevails.

Jacob thus represents for us the patriarch with whom we can most readily identify. He is neither Abraham, the first generation spiritual giant, nor Isaac, the second generation descendant whose identity is forever overshadowed by his parents' generation. Jacob is his own person, humanly flawed but striving for spiritual greatness.

In this week's Torah portion, *Vayetzei*, Jacob is leaving home. This is a major move in Jacob's life, and as with all such transitions, there is some fear of the unknown and anxiety about the future. Jacob's story holds importance to us, both individually and collectively, for the wisdom it can impart about facing the future.

Jacob sets out to find a place for himself in the world, and that idea is highlighted by the use of the Hebrew word *makom* (place) three times in the second verse of our portion. "He came upon a certain *place* and stopped there for the night, for the sun had set. Taking one of stones of that *place*, he put it under his head and lay down in that *place*."

According to Rashi, the sun had not yet set, but nevertheless Jacob felt darkness all around him. Jacob's search for place is clearly understood to be a spiritual quest, leading him back to the place toward which his ancestors Abraham and Isaac had set out together, Mt. Moriah. "On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place from afar." (Gen. 22:3-4)

As he sets out to find his own place in the world, Jacob first gains his bearings by reconnecting with the spiritual grounding of his father and grandfather. Only this kind of place can dispel the darkness he experiences.

In addition to alluding to the site of the Akedah, *Hamakom*, the rabbinic imagination connotes another name for God – The Ground of Being. Clearly, Jacob is in search of more than just another place to rest his head.

The emphasis upon place reaches a climax at the conclusion of the well-known dream sequence of Jacob's ladder which now follows. That ladder reaches up to heaven, with angels ascending and descending. What a wonderful metaphor for a spiritual quest.

Remember that Jacob is running away from his brother Esau, perhaps self-doubting, perhaps fearful. But he dreams of reaching to heaven. Jacob is a spiritual climber! We notice, however, that Jacob's ladder is planted firmly on the ground and that the angels are first going up, before they descend from heaven. Furthermore, when Jacob awakens, God is standing right there next to him.

It is as if to say that his true spiritual strength, his Ground of Being, *Hamakom*, is always right there beside him. "Surely the Eternal One is present in this place, and I did not know it! He was afraid, and he said, 'How awesome is this place.' And he named that place Bethel."

But even after he had discovered God's presence, Jacob was afraid. What exactly did he fear? Noting that the divine beings first ascended from earth before they came down from the heavens, the rabbis created several midrashic legends by way of explanation.

The angels, say the rabbis, were the spirit of the nations, Babylonia, Persia, Greece and Rome. Each of these nations ascended as political powers but then suffered defeat. Jacob, according to this rabbinic legend, fears that he (Israel), too, will disappear from history. God tells him in the dream that if you never climb the ladder, you will never know whether or not you will succeed. Jacob, fearing the risk of failure, chooses not to ascend.

The legend then concludes with a rebuke from God. "Had you ascended and believed, you would have succeeded. Since you did not have faith, your children will be enslaved by these four kingdoms."

"Forever?" asks Jacob.

"No, you will not be completely destroyed. I will eventually redeem you from exile."

The midrashim of the rabbis are powerful legends because they convey to us the eternal concerns that we share as a people. Which generation of Jews has not been concerned with its continued survival?

What the rabbis convey to us in their interpretation of Jacob's dream is that we too should be spiritual climbers. We too share in the dream of Jacob's ladder. Individually and collectively, there are still higher rungs in the ladder for us to climb. We all have the ability to grow in our relationships with others, as well as in our relationships with other peoples. Knowing that God is at our side, we too can climb the rungs of spiritual greatness, that "all the families of the earth might bless themselves by us and our descendants."

Rabbi Aigen is spiritual leader of Congregation Dorshei Emet – the Reconstructionist synagogue of Montreal.

A rallying cry for unity

By RACHAEL TURKIENICZ

Chanukah is celebrated this month, and rather than focus on one aspect of the holiday, perhaps it is important to take an overview.

Israel was being oppressed religiously and politically within her borders. One family rose to leadership and called out: "Whoever is for God should join me!" It was this battle-cry that united the people into one force and they battled to victory, liberating the land and the Temple.

One could look at this miracle and feel that it is of "biblical proportion," since the odds were so overwhelming. Even more, the Israelites managed to unite into one army with no apparent dissension.

It seems as if God stepped in, united the people and led them to victory. However, even in the Bible, God joins Israel in battle but rarely battles alone. We are expected to contribute in the best way possible and only then are miracles performed. With this in mind, it is interesting to notice the battle-cry issued by the Hasmoneans. They did not screen their army; they did not cry "whoever understands Torah as I do..." or "whoever prays using my version..." Rather, they said, "whoever is for God..."

You might assume that Israel had no issues of multiple groups at that time in history. You would be wrong. We know of no time in our history when there was only one interpretation of Torah with no arguments or serious political diversity. Yet, at that moment, the Hasmoneans have a clear understanding that the nation needs an outcry of commonality. The bottom line is that all Jews are monotheists recognizing the one true God.

Balance is maintained in the holiday of Chanukah when the rabbis of the Talmud designate both a male and a female leader. Judah the Maccabee fought in the front lines and Judith fought behind enemy lines. God enters the holiday through the miracle of the victory and the lights of the menorah that burned for eight days.

Light is very significant in Judaism and one of the things it symbolizes is knowledge and understanding. If one brings this understanding to the miracle of Chanukah, what is the knowledge gained through this holiday? Perhaps it is the understanding of unity and balance that is so wonderfully portrayed in the leadership and battle cry.

Interestingly, the Torah readings this month show us a glimpse of the opposite. Jacob marries two sisters, Leah and Rachel, but only one is loved, Rachel. When the women begin giving birth, the parental issues are incorporated into their children's names. The first born is named Reuven because "God saw my pain;" the second is Shimon because "God heard my affliction." Almost every child bears a statement of disloyalty or suffering within their name. It is these children that grow to plan fratricide against their brother Joseph.

The Jewish people today face difficult challenges of continuity and unity. We must take note of the example in Genesis showing us what can result from internal bitterness. Somewhere in today's arguments about pluralism and authority, it would be refreshing to hear a Jewish leader cry out for our commonality: "Whoever is for God..."

How to find a well run charity

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

So many worthy causes. So little money.

You'll find many of them on the Jewish Highway. I couldn't possibly list even a fraction of them. Nor would I dare recommend one over another.

However, I would like to examine a few sites and give suggestions about how to give and what to look for in a well-run charity. Thankfully, there are a few people who research charities (many of which are not well known) and recommend the ones that are truly making a difference.

First, a few words of caution. There are many worthwhile charitable institutions on the Internet. However, I strongly advise further investigation before you donate. If a charitable donation receipt is important to you, find out whether one is available before you give.

Finally, there is much debate about whether you should send a credit card donation on line. If you are hesitant, no charity would turn down a donation by mail.

One of the most incredible advocates of tzedakah is mitzvah maven Danny Siegel. Siegel is based in Rockville, Md. and operates the Ziv Tzedakah Fund Inc. **[http://www.feduja.org/commserv/organize/1129.stm]**.

Siegel likes to proclaim his "Mitzvah Heroes" such as Elana Erdstein from Detroit, who requested and received for her bat mitzvah 25,000 hotel-size soaps, shampoos and conditioners to be given to the poor. Or John Beltzer, who writes personalized songs for children with cancer.

You can read an article about how Siegel likes to go dumpster dipping looking for good merchandise which has been thrown out at **[http://www.jewish.com/bk970919/ebmaven.htm]**.

Similar to Ziv, Kavod **[http://www.kavod.com]** describes itself as a Nebraska-based "non-profit tzedakah collective." Kavod's "goal is to enable our beneficiaries to live in dignity and honor by funding and creating programs that provide for their material, physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual well-being...We strive to operate as close to zero percent overhead as possible and to support programs which demand the same efficiency."

Unfortunately, there is no on-line independent assessment of major Jewish charities and the work they do. Tzedakah Reports **[http://www.landaus.com/tzedakah/]** seems to provide that service for a few. A sample of its work for the National Yiddish Book Centre is found at **[http://www.landaus.com/tzedakah/sample.htm]**. The Internet Nonprofit Centre **[http://www.nonprofits.org/]** provides information about American charities **[http://www.nonprofits.org/gallery/search.shtml]**. I couldn't find a similar service for Canadian or Israeli-based charities. If you know of one, please e-mail me.

As we've seen, there are many ethical and practical questions surrounding tzedakah.

Yosef Ben Shlomo Hakohen offers a monthly correspondence course by e-mail on the mitzvah of tzedakah **[http://www.shemayisrael.co.il/jerbooks/tzedakah.htm]**. Issues to be studied include why the Torah considers tzedakah to be both an act of love and an act of justice; and does Jewish tradition favor government involvement with regard to the prevention of poverty?

If you have an insight or problem you want to share, you can start a discussion at the Liberal Judaism Category Index: Tzedakah and Tikkun Olam **[http://silk.compclass.com/mlj/category/c58.html]**. And, of course, don't forget the **[news:soc.culture.jewish]** newsgroup.

Still looking for more? Try these Tzedakah Links **[http://www.ajritz.com/jew/tzedlnk.htm]**, The Jewish Theological Seminary's Giving Page **[http://www.jtsa.edu/melton/tzedaka/]** Maven **[http://www.maven.co.il/subjects/idx172.htm]**, Major Resources for Making Decisions **[http://www.jtsa.edu/melton/tzedaka/resources.html]** and Be a Friend, Lend a Hand **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/friend/index.htm]**.

Next week, we'll continue by looking at some sites which help foster the duty and love of tzedakah in children.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Despite setbacks, Israeli economy thriving

Diplomatically Speaking
By JEHUDI KINAR

I have just returned from a ten-day visit to Israel. It is always good to recharge the batteries, although they were still energized from my visit in August this year.

In Israel, there is a certain feeling of disappointment that the peace process is not moving, but we cannot rush to a solution in matters of such gravity. Too much is at risk and we must be cautious, rather than hasty, in trying to keep to the timetable for negotiations.

On a cheerier note, one can't help but notice that the Israeli economy is booming. Construction and the opening of franchises of international chains are apparent everywhere. The consumer's market is thriving. Israel's gross domestic product per capita already surpasses that of some of the members of the European Union.

For immigrants, Israel is becoming increasingly attractive for economic, and not just for the traditional nationalistic or religious reasons.

Meeting with Canadian media correspondents, I tried to interest them in the upcoming year of events celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary. For once it would be nice to divert the media's attention from political to more cultural and social issues. But since the Canadian Minister of External Affairs, Lloyd Axworthy, had just arrived in the country, media attention was focused on his visit and on the "passport episode" a couple of weeks earlier.

Another issue that was raised by the Canadian correspondents was the conversion law and their interest in finding out more about Canadian Jews' attitudes towards this issue. This legislation has not been subjected to much public scrutiny in Israel because of the more pressing domestic concerns of most Israelis, who must deal daily with critical issues like security and livelihood.

We do realize, however, that this is an urgent issue for North American Jews, and their concerns must be addressed. The committee led by the Israeli Finance Minister Yaacov Neeman is looking into this very question and will have some answers by the end of January 1998.

It was striking how much emphasis was put on this issue during the last General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations.

Public not scrutinizing conversion issue

At this same General Assembly, I participated in a discussion of the Israel Experience program and was happy to learn about the program's positive effects, not only for Israel, but especially for the Jewish community abroad.

The Israel Experience is sponsored by a number of Jewish organizations, and brings young people who are often not affiliated to Jewish schools or organizations to Israel for extended visits in a variety of settings. This program shows again that a visit or stay in Israel serves to strengthen, not only individual, but community links with Israel. Academic studies, which have researched the results and implications of the Israel Experience, confirmed these assessments.

Coming back to the 50th anniversary of Israel, I hope that many of you will be able to join us Tuesday Dec. 23 to light the first candle of Chanukah, and launch the festivities for this anniversary. One of the best ways to experience the exciting events planned for the 50th anniversary celebrations is to join the UJA mission to Israel from Feb. 23 to March 4.

Students speak out on religion

[Cont'd. from page 12]

the secular west, attempting to weld together their Jewish souls on the assembly-line of cultural schlock that inundates, not only North America, but a great deal of the world today.

But rebellion as a permanent posture can only take a person so far. The late Abbie Hoffman, when queried by the judge in the Chicago Seven trial about his place of residence, answered "Woodstock." When the judge asked "what state is that in?" Hoffman replied. "Your Honor, that's a state of mind."

Perhaps the greatest challenge that the contemporary religious educator faces is to keep faith with the student, to recognize that alienation is not necessarily a permanent address. As we are told in Deuteronomy, Ch. 30, "the Torah is not in heaven…nor is it beyond the sea. But the word is very near to you, in your mouth and in your heart." Consciousness, as the doomed Hoffman nicely perceived, is portable, something the Torah understood all along.

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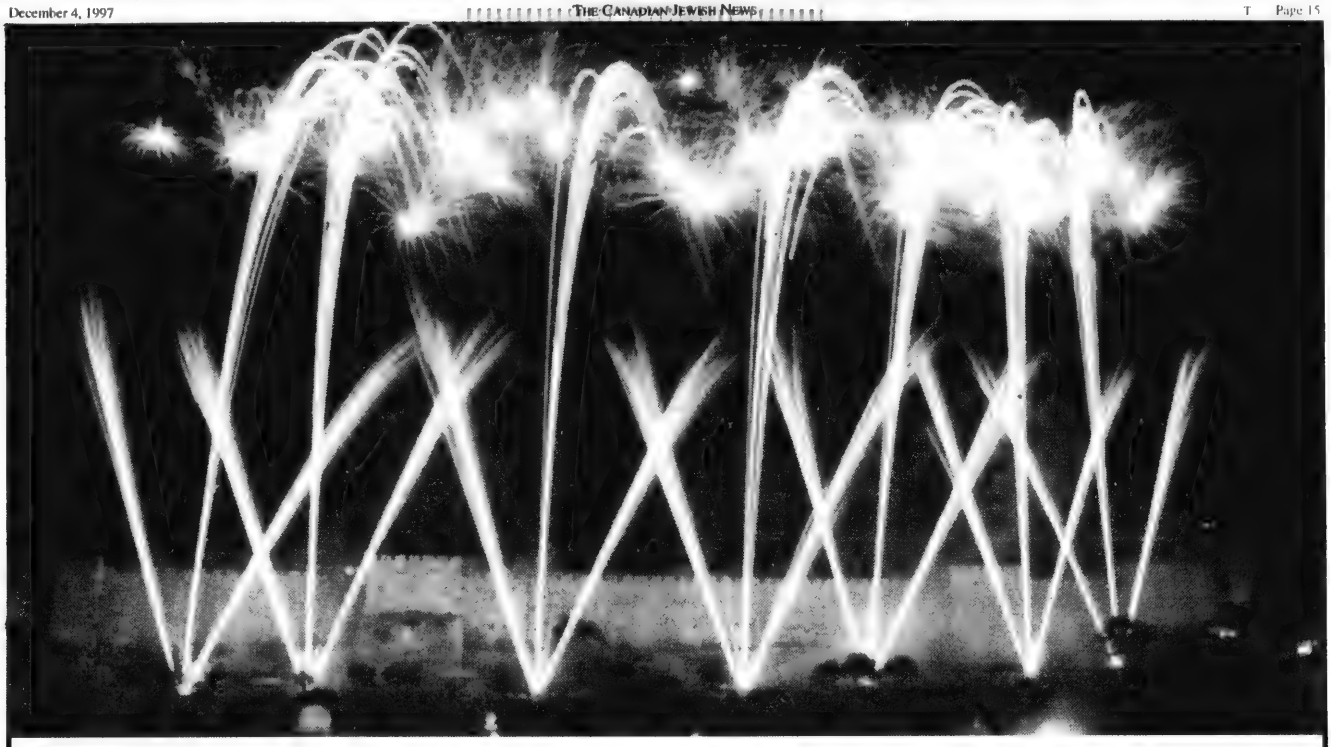

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Givat Haviva promotes peace between Israeli, Arab students

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — After almost 50 years, Givat Haviva, an Israeli centre that promotes dialogue, peace and coexistence, is still going strong.

Shuli Dichter, co-director of Children Teaching Children, a program of Givat Haviva that matches up Israel and Arab students, said the centre was established in 1949 in order to face the problems in a newly born Israel.

"Now, it is a combination of four centres that runs programs for the combined population of Arabs and Jews who live in the area – between Tel Aviv and Haifa, near the Green Line."

Dichter spoke recently at St. Gabriel's Parish in a program co-sponsored by Canadian Friends of Givat Haviva and the parish.

Givat Haviva includes an art centre, which caters to adults and children; a centre for Holocaust remembrance, which studies the role of Jewish youth during the Holocaust and offers courses on racism to Jews and Arabs; a video centre, which teaches videography and media; and the largest centre, the Jewish-Arab Centre for Peace.

"Children Teaching Children is part of the Centre for Peace. For children taking part in that program, it is, for the most part, the first time they have talked to their neighbors," Dichter said.

The program, now celebrating its 10th anniversary, has two directors, one Jewish and one Arab. Children Teaching Children, Dichter said, grew out of a desire to improve the relationship between Jewish and Palestinian citizens of Israel. The program's goals include developing skills and abilities required by Jews and Arabs to live within the Jewish-Arab conflict in Israel; participating in dialogue based on well-grounded personal and group identities; working in a supportive classroom setting that facilitates and promotes personal and collective change; developing a more critical perspective of the complex reality within which the participants live.

The program, he said, involves pairing classes from Arab and Jewish schools less than 20 minutes apart by bus. Students work in groups of 10 to 15 and over a two year period, two hours per week are devoted to the program.

Asked if any parents disapproved of their child's taking part in the program, Dichter said that "most do not have any objection to the project outright, but even those who support peace, have trouble dealing with it. An Arab parent may say he supports peace, but it is difficult when his child comes home and says, 'They took our land but so what?' When a Jewish child asks if his parent expelled Arabs from their village in 1948, it is difficult to understand. Very few parents, however, have asked that the program not be run."

Speaking about conflicts in general, Dichter said that taking sides actually has a life impact. "Taking sides means that the conflict is part of our life and that is an emotional issue. Conflicts cause people to make certain decisions such as where to live, where to go to university and whether to marry. Belonging to one side or the other does not, however, mean that we do not understand the other side, but it does mean that we belong to the other side."

People take sides, he said, because of an urge to belong. "At Givat Haviva, we try to recognize conflict, and teach people to bring up their emotions and come to terms with them."

YORK REGION UJA, BBYO OFFICE

The grand opening of a York Region office of United Jewish Appeal-Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and B'nai Brith Youth Organization took place recently at 1118 Centre St., Thornhill, with the affixing of a mezuzah. Attending were (from left), Joel Steiner, president of UJA Federation; Paul Bainerman, chair of BBYO's adult board; Sherri Rotstein, N'Siah (president), B'nai Brith Girls; Rabbi Jeremiah Unterman, director of the Board of Jewish Education; and Avery Benmergui, BBYO Gadol, Aleph Zadik Aleph. [Ron Csillag photo]

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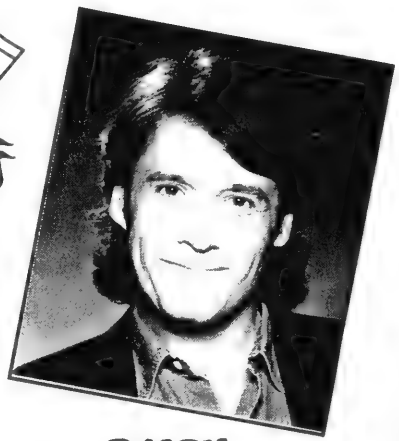

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B'not mitzvah mark celebrations

Latner donates to Zareinu

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — When Yael Latner was in Grade 6 at Bialik Hebrew Day School, her class went on a trip to Zareinu, a school for multiple challenged children. She was impressed by the work the staff does, and realized that they needed equipment so that they could accomplish even more.

She was so impressed that she asked that all her bat mitzvah gifts be directed to Zareinu.

Recently, Rebecca Anisman, age four, presented Yael with a plaque on behalf of the staff and students, to thank her for her generosity. The special ceremony also featured a special song in her honor, sung by kindergarten students at the school.

School co-principal Carol Goldman said that while they are grateful for the time and financial support adults have given the school, "I can honestly say that nothing has touched our hearts as much as Yael's decision to donate all her bat mitzvah gifts to help the children of Zareinu in their struggle for mobility, communication and independence."

Yael, now in Grade 8 at Bialik, told *The CJN* that she hopes to be able to do volunteer work at Zareinu when she attends CHAT next year. She already helps out at Mount Sinai Hospital events.

Yael was following a family tradition by donating her bat mitzvah gifts to a worthy cause. Her older sister, Lily, donated hers to Operation Exodus, and her brother Jack gave his to Reena.

The money went for occupational therapy equipment, specialized tests and activities, adapted material in both Hebrew and English, and additional therapy hours, said Goldman.

Goldman said that the school now has 45 students, a considerable increase since last year. "Because of government cutbacks, people have less access to government services and therapy," she said, explaining why so many more people are turning to Zareinu.

Yael Latner hugs almost-four-year-old Jesse Tater, as she holds the plaque thanking her for donating her bat mitzvah gifts to Zareinu. Sister Phoebe, 10, looks on. [Leila Speisman photo]

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Banack shares her simchah

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — For her recent bat mitzvah, Hailey Banack followed a nascent family tradition, sharing her simchah in a most unusual way.

Two years ago, for his bar mitzvah, Hailey's brother Adam "twinned" with a Holocaust victim, Shmuel Eisen, who died in Auschwitz at age 12. The twinning, arranged with the help of the Holocaust Memorial & Education Centre, made the occasion even more meaningful and led to an ongoing relationship with Holocaust survivor Max Eisen, Shmuel's brother.

For Hailey's bat mitzvah at Beth Sholom Synagogue, the family contacted the Reena Foundation, which works with adults who have developmental disabilities.

Since the spring, Hailey, a Grade 7 student at Bialik Hebrew Day School, has been spending time on a volunteer basis with Rachel Samuels, 28, who has Down Syndrome.

Hailey and a friend visit Rachel – a TV wrestling aficionado – and her roommate every week to do things together like baking brownies or playing games. The two women live in a Reena apartment with support from Reena staff.

Rachel had never celebrated her bat mitzvah. Her Jewish education began only at age 15, when she joined Marla and Howard Gertz' family as a foster child. Living in an observant home, attending Camp Shalom, Kadimah School and National Conference of Synagogue Youth (where Howard Gertz, a special education teacher, runs classes), and visiting Israel have contributed to Rachel's strong sense of Jewish identity.

Hailey's bat mitzvah, like her brother's bar mitzvah, became a shared simchah – Rachel sang the blessings in Hebrew, having learned them from her foster parents, and Hailey read the maftir as Rachel stayed on the bimah with her.

"We shared our bat mitzvah together. I loved that," said Rachel.

At the rehearsal, Rachel had given an enthusiastic thumbs-up sign to the rabbi's announcement that she would read the blessings. The following week, at the service, she did "an amazing job," said her foster mother.

"I feel happy," Rachel said. "The shul is wonderful and I go for it."

Hailey, whose extracurricular activities include swimming and pottery, has gained a great deal from her association with Rachel, Hailey's mother Arna says. "I think it's given her insights into a whole world she didn't know a lot about."

"It's also an opportunity for her brother and [younger] sister and us, to learn and become more sensitive about the world," added Hailey's father Larry.

Hailey's initial nervousness dissipated once she met Rachel. "I learned a whole bunch about a certain way of life, that not everyone is perfect. There's nothing to be afraid of in people like Rachel. I learned that Rachel is a lot of fun to be with and play with."

The Jewish community still has a long way to go to integrate people with special needs, said Marla Gertz. She feels the shared bat mitzvah will increase awareness within the community and hopes it will inspire other families to follow the Banacks' example.

Larry, who like his wife is active in the community – he has served on the board of Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS); she is involved in UJA/Federation – said people don't appreciate how much foster parents like the Gertzes give back. "Those of us involved in JF&CS or Reena may have a glimmer."

He credited Hailey for her one-on-one volunteer work. "It would be really helpful [for adult volunteers] to take off our ties and jackets and work with Hailey and make brownies and understand. It's easy to be on a board, but it's not easy to have the insight of the effect of your decisions."

Hailey Banack, left, with Rachel Samuels. [Frances Kraft photo]

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3) ***North York General Hospital*** - *Leslie and Highway 401*

2 **Question:**

Will North York Branson Hospital continue to treat emergencies such as heart attack patients?

Answer:

Yes. *During the hours of* ***8 AM*** *and* ***10 PM*** *North York Branson Hospital will continue providing full service Emergency treatment for all emergencies such as heart attacks.*

3 **Question:**

Will the Ambulance services continue to bring patients to North York Branson Hospital during the day?

Answer:

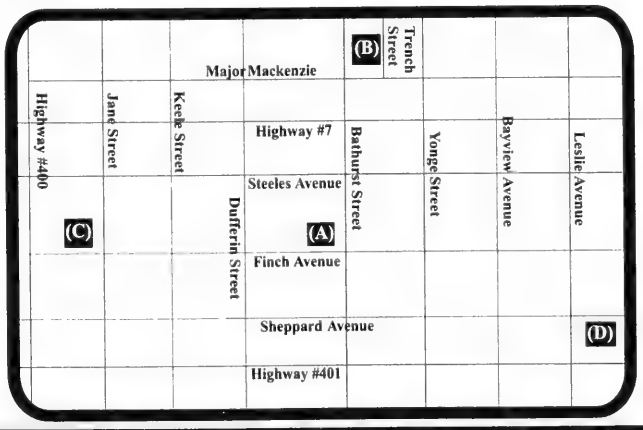
Yes. *If you have an emergency and need to be taken to hospital during the day, Ambulance services will continue to bring patients to the North York Branson Hospital Emergency Department between* ***8 AM*** *and* ***10 PM****.*

4 **Question:**

If I arrive during the night hours by car will I be treated in the Emergency Department?

Answer:

No*. The Emergency Department will be* ***closed*** *at* ***night*** *from* ***10 PM*** *to* ***8 AM****.*
You may also ***dial 911*** *and have an ambulance take you to the nearest Emergency Department.*



A) North York Branson Hospital

B) York Central Hospital

C) Humber River Regional Hospital

D) North York General Hospital

If you have additional questions regarding changes in Emergency Services please call our Community & Corporate Affairs office at (416) 635 2525

North York Branson Hospital
555 Finch Avenue West, North York, Ontario, M2R 1N5

Greater Toronto Area

Thornhill IGA gets kosher kitchen

The kosher scene in Toronto is exciting, partly because new kosher establishments are always opening up and appear to be staying.

This is the first in a series of three articles on what's new in kashrut in the Greater Toronto area.

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

KASHRUT FRONT

TORONTO — Bet you didn't know that you can get kosher Kentucky-style fried chicken. Well, now you can, at the newly renovated IGA supermarket at Clark and Hilda in Thornhill.

The upgraded store opened officially last Sunday with a mezuzzah-affixing ceremony, give-aways, cake, flowers for the ladies, coffee, musicians, and "really good specials" according to Kevin Hopps, who has been store manager for the past three years.

One of the innovations, says Harry Guest, consultant to Oshawa Foods, the owner of IGA, is a kosher kitchen, which will turn out a line of kosher prepared foods, including vegetable dishes, twice-baked potatoes, salads — and Kentucky-style fried chicken.

All the changes have made the store look much bigger and brighter, Hopps said. The fresh produce department has been moved beside the kosher department, the frozen food cases and dairy products are on the northern side of the store, and there is a much enlarged fresh flowers section.

But the biggest changes are to the kosher department, which has about doubled in size. There are greatly expanded deli, fish, and kosher frozen food cases, a large kosher dairy aisle, and many special display stands of kosher specials.

There are now five aisle sides of kosher groceries, as opposed to four, and there has been a real attempt to bring in more products and product lines, according to Guest and Hopps.

Guest told *The CJN* that he has been trying to encourage Canadian food manufacturers and processors to get kosher certification, from COR in Ontario and MK in Quebec.

This would not only make more foods available to the kosher consumer, but, Guest said, would result in lower prices.

The IGA kosher meat department, said Guest, is one of the few supermarket kosher meat sections that have their own butchers on staff, so that customers can ask for whatever cuts they want.

Guest proudly pointed out a new oven in the bakery section, which will produce fresh kosher breads all day long. As well, the cake decorators will be working in plain sight of the customers.

Hopps and Guest noted that there are many more kosher products available under the IGA and Our Compliments labels than there used to be.

The whole idea, according to Hopps, is to best serve the local community, with selection, service and the best prices possible.

"We have the largest variety of kosher food in one shop in Canada," he said, adding that "we are committed to bringing the cost of kosher [food] down."

That is not to say, he noted, that the regular grocery, meat and dairy sections in the 43,000 square foot store are shortchanged — they too are upgraded and freshened up.

IGA is owned by Oshawa Foods, which has just changed its corporate name to Agora Food Merchants. According to a recent publicity folder, the new name "symbolizes the transformation of Oshawa's retail and wholesale food operations from three regions and eight divisions into one unified, national retail food support company."

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Please note these holiday deadlines for What's New and About People:

Monday, Dec. 8, for Dec. 18 issue.

Friday, Dec. 12, for Dec. 25 issue.

As we are not publishing an issue on Jan. 1, this column will also include items that would ordinarily have appeared Jan. 1.

Friday, Dec. 19, for Jan. 8

Monday, Jan. 5, for Jan. 15

Thursday, Dec. 4

HOLOCAUST OUTREACH

Baycrest Centre's Holocaust Outreach Project meeting for adult children of aging Holocaust survivors, 7:30 p.m., Wagman Centre. Film *Punch Me in the Stomach* plus discussion of issues concerning families and their aging parents. **Paula David** 785-2500, ext. 2271.

Saturday, Dec. 6

DOWNTOWN MINYAN

Downtown Reform Minyan egalitarian Shabbat service every Saturday, 10 a.m., Bloor Jewish Community Centre, Room 204. **Rabbi Paul Golomb** leads service and Torah discussion. **Shelly** 469-4287.

SUNNYBROOK MINYAN

Ma'yan Or Liberal Minyan Shabbat service 10 a.m. to noon, kiddush following, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Sunday, Dec. 7

SANDWICH GENERATION

Your parents are living longer, your children can't get jobs. Are you feeling squeezed from both sides? Shaar Shalom Synagogue presents The Sandwich Generation with **Howard Hurwitz** of Jewish Family & Child Service, 7:30 p.m., 2 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill.

MARKET DAY

Holy Blossom Temple Parents' Association Market Day. Over 50 vendors with manufactured and handcrafted items, Color Me Mine paint bar, children's handbags (by 8-year-old designer), 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the temple.

HABONIM BREAKFAST

Congregation Habonim invites you to hear **Faye Kellerstein** in concert with piano accompaniment presenting An Odyssey Through Jewish Music, 10 a.m., Beth Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave. Breakfast and lecture $6.

ST. JOHN'S COURSES

St. John's courses held at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, Adult CPR Heartsaver, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. $35. Reserve. **Rhonda** 633-3838. Infant and Child First Aid and CPR, date to be announced.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. All welcome to listen and tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Angel Walk by **Katharine Govier** discussed by Feminist Book Discussion Group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network, 2 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

Monday, Dec. 8

GIANT RUMMAGE SALE

Pride of Israel Sisterhood giant rummage sale, good used clothing and household items in excellent condition, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at synagogue, 59 Lissom Cres.

Tuesday, Dec. 9

FUGITIVE PIECES

At Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood meeting, **Norma Rubin** speaks on *Fugitive Pieces* by **Anne Michaels**, 8 p.m. $2 non-members.

PRE-CHANUKAH LECTURE

A pre-Chanukah lecture by **Rabbi Chezi Zionce**, 8 p.m., First Narayever Congregation, 187 Brunswick Ave.

ADULT EDUCATION

Rabbi Moshe Stern discusses Is a Polygraph (Lie Detector) Test Admissible in Jewish Courts?, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

[Cont'd. on page 23]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 22]

MEDICINE AND HOLOCAUST

History of Medicine, University of Toronto, seminar series Medicine and the Holocaust continues with Neurology's Role in the Medical Crimes of the Third Reich, **Prof. Michael Shevell**, McGill University, 4-6 p.m., The Great Hall, 88 College St. 978-2124.

Wednesday, Dec. 10

SOCIAL RIGHTS

Ed Broadbent, former NDP leader, delivers the second annual Louis Lenkinski Memorial Lecture, Social and Economic Rights: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?, marking International Human Rights Day, 7:30 p.m., 4700 Bathurst St. Sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, with UJA Federation of Toronto. 635-2883, ext. 147.

JUDAICA TEXTILES

Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Textiles meeting on Judaica Textiles and Collage with **Sharon Epstein** 8 p.m., Lodzer Holocaust Congregation, 12 Heaton St. **Sareta** 789-1145.

CHANUKAH AND MIRACLES

Seminar discussing true meaning of the holiday, 8 p.m., Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

And What Else Is New

JEWISH HEALING PROJECT

Toronto Jewish Healing Project group for people confronting a physical illness to find spiritual resources for help and comfort within the Jewish tradition. Group, led by **Rabbi David Gottlieb** and teacher **Michele Katz**, will meet every Monday for seven weeks starting Jan. 5, 1-2:30 p.m. at Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Registration/details **Etta Ginsberg McEwan**, coordinator, 944-3359.

BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM

Bat mitzvah program at The Village Shul (Bathurst and Eglinton), small intimate group of girls, field trips, community volunteer projects, traditional program with a modern outlook. Begins January. Register **Rhona Hall** 789-3897.

TORAH IN SPANISH

Classes in Spanish by **Rabbi Abraham I. Bartfeld** and sociologist **Paulo Rosenbaum**, Mondays 8 p.m. – Halachah and Tradition, and Wednesdays 8 p.m. – Parshah and Jewish Thought, at Aish HaTorah Thornhill, 949 Clark Ave. W. (Portuguese speakers welcome.) 905-764-1818, ext. 350.

CREATIVE ARTS SALE

Baycrest's creative arts sale, Tuesday, Dec. 16, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., knitting needles, crochet hooks, wool, fabric, hand crafts made by the residents – afghans, baby items, pottery, ceramics, stained glass pieces, challah covers. 785-2500, ext. 3574 or 2549.

CHANUKAH COOKING

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood light Chanukah cooking course with **'Sweet Sue' Devor** Monday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m. $40 sisterhood members, $50 non-members. Reserve by Dec. 10. 789-3291, ext. 260.

HISTORICAL EXHIBIT

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation historical and exhibitions committee presents Jewish Life at the Turn of the Century As Seen Through Ephemera, from the collection of **Barbara Rusch**, founder and president of Ephemera Society of Canada. Exhibit runs December 1997 to March 1998. Opening reception Wednesday, Dec. 10, 8 p.m.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Family & Child Service six-week group for family members of relatives with schizophrenia or manic depression to take place Mondays, 6:30-8 p.m. **Marsha Berniker** 638-7800, ext. 257.

FREE CHANUKAH PARTY

Jewish families of Durham (JFOD) social group (Pickering, Ajax, Whitby, Oshawa and vicinity) Chanukah party for all Jewish people in the area, Sunday, Dec. 14, 4-6 p.m. Games, crafts, candlelighting, treats for the children, light refreshments including latkes. No charge thanks to a Jewish Federation Continuity grant. RSVP/ information, 905-831-6508.

TWO MINYANIM

Beit Midrash Bar Yochai holds two minyanim in the morning. First minyan 6:30 a.m. followed by Talmud class in Hebrew (8-9 a.m.), second minyan 8 a.m. followed by Talmud class in English (9-9:30 a.m.) at 269 Arnold Ave., Thornhill. 905-731-7855.

A TRIBUTE TO COURAGE

The Kanner Heritage Museum at Baycrest Centre exhibit, A Tribute to Courage: Stories of Survival celebrating the lives and legacy of Holocaust survivors. It will run for three months. Museum is open six days a week. Guided tours available. **Pat Dickinson** 785-2500, ext 2902.

NEWS FROM SOLEL

Solel Congregation, Mississauga: Wednesday, Dec. 17, **Arliene Botnick** speaks to sisterhood on the Changing Status of Jewish Women; brotherhood Chanukah party, Friday, Dec. 26, following family service at 7:30 p.m.; regular services Friday, Dec. 5 and 19 at 8:30 p.m. and Saturday Dec. 13 and 27 at 10 a.m.; family service and Zimriyah Friday, Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday minyan 7 a.m. followed by breakfast. 905-820-5915.

CHANUKAH RETREAT

Jewish Youth Learning Centre Fun Chanukah Shabbaton Retreat for Jewish students and young adults Dec. 26-28, Maple Lake Resort in Parry Sound. Traditional Shabbat experience, entertainment, skiing, kosher cuisine. $100 students, $120 non-students before Dec. 10, and $120 students, $140 non-students after Dec. 10. **Rabbi Danny Bahar** 633-5722.

CHARITY BAZAAR

Charity bazaar and silent auction, all new items at giveaway prices – gifts, electronics, housewares, clothing, toys, hardware and more. Big ticket items and gift certificates for auction. Sunday, Dec. 7 and 14, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 333 Wilson Ave. All proceeds go to Yeshiva Bnei Tzion of Bobov.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service Groups, **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215:

Do Your Kids Have Trouble Making Friends?, groups for parents and kids, begins Jan. 20

Self Confident Woman, self-esteem, communication skills, new relationships, begins Jan. 12

Single Again, for separated/divorced people, begins Jan. 22

Successful Stepparenting for couples living in blended families, begins Jan. 26.

FOR SENIORS

Wagman Centre Bereavement Group for older adults who have recently lost a spouse meets every other Friday at the Wagman Centre. **Paula David** 785-2500, ext. 2271.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning: Chanukah musical program Dec. 24, 1 p.m.; day cruises, vacation trips. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

LZA Seniors Club: Miami trip 1998, **Libby** 782-2059 or **Belle** 633-5841. Ladies folkdancing Thursdays 1:30 p.m. Cultural Discussion Group Tuesdays 10 a.m. Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave., is open for socializing Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Senior 10-Pin Bowling League every second Saturday night. League has 25 bowlers and would like to find a small league to join with them. Individual bowlers also welcome. **Moe Ackerman** 781-0906.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Dec. 11 is bingo and games. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Dec. 10, day trip to Magnotta Wines; Dec. 17, Casino Rama; Dec. 31, New Year's dinner/dance, 7 p.m.; activities – table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork, trips, bingo. 1998 membership $12. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors trip to the Saxony in Miami Beach, one month, six weeks or two months. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Parkinson's Support Group, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 1:15 p.m. Movie *A New Outlook*; three families talk frankly about Parkinson's. **Ruth.**

Arthritis Society Pain Management Clinic with **Bev Tobe**, therapist with the Arthritis Society, Thursday, Dec. 11, 1-4 p.m. Book appointment.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, singalongs, dances, bingo. Dec. 9 is a lecture. **Anna.**

The movie, *42nd Street*, Sunday, Dec. 7, 2:15 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 10, social with entertainer **Lenka Lichtenberg**, 1:30 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

South 'Y' Dance Saturday, Dec. 6, 8 p.m. $15.

Israeli folkdancing with **Yossi Strauch** Mondays: beginners 8:15-9 p.m., intermediate 9-10 p.m. 661-6361.

Bloor JCC Seniors: Thursday, Dec. 4, 2 p.m. Reminiscing (The Sharing of Memories) and why it is good for you with social worker **Judy Weinryb**; Thursday, Dec. 18, Chanukah Bash with songs of **Lenka Lichtenberg**. **Judy**.

ABOUT PEOPLE

HONORED BY YMCA

Morley Wolfe received the 1997 YMCA Peace Medallion for promoting racial harmony through his grassroots, voluntary work in the community over many years. Involved with the League For Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada for 25 years, he has also been active with Wilson Heights Lodge, the Carmelite Orphanage, Bloorview Children's Hospital, the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews. He is currently active with the North York Race Relations Committee, and through B'nai Brith with the cause of Soviet Jewry. The award ceremony took place at the North York YMCA last month.

Morley Wolfe

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On Campus

Doing the 'write thing' at the General Assembly

By DAVE GORDON
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — As editor of *Images*, Toronto's Jewish student newspaper, I was sent to Indiana for the Council of Jewish Federation's (CJF) General Assembly from Nov. 14 to 19. There I was one of about 250 students among the 4,500 delegates.

BACKGROUNDER

I also took part in a unique program held simultaneously with the General Assembly and called Do The Write Thing. It's specifically geared toward Jewish student journalists. This year, there were 40 North American students in Do The Write Thing – two from *Images*.

The purpose was to expose students to professional Jewish journalists (such as the editors of the *Jewish Week*, JTA, *Moment* magazine, *Jerusalem Report* and *Lilith* magazine) and to give the students an opportunity to discuss technical skills.

In one skill training session, the students were paired up with media experts from the American Jewish press to discuss and analyze a piece of writing that the students had submitted.

Toward the end of the conference, I was asked, along with three other student editors, to be on a panel to discuss some of the problems and solutions involved in running a Jewish campus publication. We each offered ideas on how to build and make a better publication. Questions to the panel ranged from Have you ever received articles by (anti-Semitic) self-hating Jews? to What constitutes Jewish content?

I also felt fortunate to be included on a panel of five editors chosen to collectively write a manual for future editors on how to run a publication smoothly.

Some of the highlights of the General Assembly were the opportunities to be up close to see Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Ehud Barak (Labor Opposition leader) speak to the delegates.

In my opinion, one of the most poignant things Netanyahu said was, "There is no such thing as a second class Jew."

Students then had the chance to be included in exclusive press conferences. The conference moderator for Barak even made a point of reserving question time for Do The Write Thing participants.

Noa packs auditorium

Another highlight was the concert by Noa (Israeli pop singer Achinoam Nini). She performed in front of a crowd that had quickly packed the auditorium. In the middle of the concert, many students began to dance in front of the stage.

Although many students admitted to not knowing who she was before the concert, they were fans by the end of the concert. I had the unique opportunity to see Noa backstage, had my picture taken with her and asked her to sign an autograph.

The program also allowed the students to attend a speech made by President Bill Clinton via satellite, watch greetings from an astronaut on space-station Mir, meet Ehud Ya'ari (correspondent for Israeli TV, Channel 1), hear Dennis Prager (author, talk show host), see Dore Gold (Israel's ambassador to the United Nations) and enjoy a concert by Jewish folksinger Debbie Friedman.

I returned from the General Assembly with many new ideas, inspired by the host of speakers, especially moved by what Ehud Barak said when I met him after his speech: "I have to see these students. They are the future. And the future is important."

Jewish law students convention set

LOS ANGELES — The National Jewish Law Students Association (NJLSA) in the United States will hold its 16th annual convention from March 6 to 9, 1998, at the USC School of Law in Los Angeles, Calif.

The convention's theme is Jewish Choices and Legal Challenges for the 21st Century.

Legal figures who have expressed interest in coming include Alan Dershowitz, Elliot Abrams, Erwin Chemerinsky and Laurie Levenson.

Bruce Einhorn, who before his appointment to the bench, prosecuted war criminals for the Department of Justice, will be the keynote speaker.

California Supreme Court Justice Stanley Mosk will be presented with the Justice Brandeis award for a career committed to social justice.

Issues to be discussed will include race relations, conflicting definitions of Jewish identity, current topics in entertainment law, alternative dispute resolution with the beit din, the status of women in Jewish law and practical strategies for maintaining a Jewish identity in the workplace.

The convention is organized by law students from the six Los Angeles and Orange County area law schools.

For registration information contact: Ed Geil at [egeil 1@ juno .com] or 310-396-0057.

For hotel reservations contact Dafnap or Ann at 213-748-4141.

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From coast to coast

Education, welfare cutbacks slammed

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Cuts in education and welfare spending will have devastating consequences, speakers at a conference titled In Search of Common Sense in the Common Sense Revolution warned.

The one-day conference at Temple Anshe Sholom opened with an analysis by Judge Marvin A. Zuker of the Ontario Court of Justice, provincial division, of the provincial government's proposed education bill, and its impact on Ontario's education system.

An author, educator and associate professor at the University of Toronto, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, Zuker said the proposed restructured elementary and high school curricula, will "effectively eliminate" junior kindergarten and adult education.

The preschool period, he explained, "is the period of the most rapid learning," and education provided by day-care centres and junior kindergarten "prevents anti-social behavior and later crime rate."

As a family court judge, Zuker sees the results of "no education, no welfare, no support and nowhere to go," every day in court.

Reduced spending for adult education will deprive adults over 21 of continuing education,while special needs children will also suffer as a result of spending cuts, he said.

"One can, and should, criticize any reduction in education funding," Zuker said. "If we begin to treat education as a commodity," he warned, "we run the risk of losing our future."

Viewing the Tory agenda from a Jewish religious perspective, keynote speaker, Rabbi Dow Marmur of Holy Blossom Temple, warned of the Common Sense Revolution's "very far-reaching repercussions on the very fabric of society;" of what happens "when religion is relegated to the private sector realm and G-d sense is banished from common sense."

Tzedakah, he said, means charity, but tzedek means justice, and while the government's goal of deficit reduction is in itself laudable, it is "legitimate and just only when pursued by just means."

He characterized the Torys' philosophy as "what is mine, is mine, and what is your is yours, and why should the government take more of mine?"

Voluntary sharing of wealth with the poor and weak is charity, but to provide for their needs through compulsory taxation is justice, said Rabbi Marmur.

Government spending cuts "are likely to do untold damage to society for many years to come. If you don't have power, you make noise. It's about all we can do," he said.

Rabbi Marmur was introduced and thanked by Temple Anshe Sholom's rabbi emeritus, Rabbi Bernard Baskin. Opening remarks were by conference coordinator, Dr. Ronnie Miller, Anshe Sholom director of education. Dr. Anthony MaFarlane, president, and Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz also spoke briefly.

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Rabbis explore religious differences

By MOURA WOLPERT
CJN Correspondent

HAMILTON — Three local rabbis amicably discussed the differences in their respective movements at a recent symposium sponsored by the McMaster Jewish Student Association (MJSA).

Jewish continuity, said Orthodox Rabbi William Z. Eisenstein, principal of the Hamilton Hebrew Academy, depends on knowledge, a Jewish family life, an active religious life, a sense of belonging and creativity.

While education is the key, knowledge alone, he said, is not enough. Parents have to set an example by living an active religious life themselves and "not just paying lip service to religion. You have to start when children are very young, so that it's natural to be Jewish.

"Orthodoxy is an active religion and when you put all this together," said Rabbi Eisenstein "you have the freedom to be creative."

Rabbi Gary Karlin, spiritual leader of Beth Jacob Congregation, agreed, but added that Conservative Judaism, once the largest movement in North American Judaism, is today "the most misunderstood movement in Judaism."

Conservative Judaism, he said, takes a pluralistic view of Judaism. It sees itself as being part of Torah obligation and the commandments. "We believe that Halachah (Jewish law) has always developed and needs to develop in the future, [and] that Halachah has to include women. There has to be an evaluation of the law," said Rabbi Karlin, "and we have to figure out how these changes can be implemented."

Conservative Judaism "believes in halachic continuity, intellectual creativity and observance of mitzvot."

"We all have something to learn from each other," said Rabbi Karlin.

While "there may be some looseness in Reform Judaism," Rabbi Irwin Zeplowitz of Temple Anshe Sholom said, "Reform never denied the Torah. There is a tremendous emphasis today on study. We believe in kedushah, Holiness," adding that "this is sometimes difficult to understand."

Reform, said Rabbi Zeplowitz, "emphasizes klal Israel. We are part of the community and we have a responsibility to the greater community."

Furthermore, Reform "has fully embraced women in Judaism and we also believe in outreach to other faiths and minorities.

"Central to continuity is much more what we share than what we don't share."

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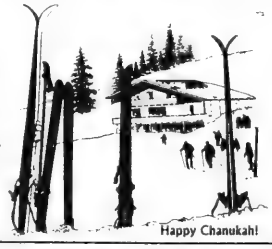

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From coast to coast

Parizeau's comments anger Jewish groups

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Quebec's two main Jewish groups were respectively angry and dismissive after former premier Jacques Parizeau, for the first time last week, said he was talking about the Jewish, Italian and Greek federalist coalition when he blamed "money and ethnics" for the narrow referendum loss two years ago.

The coalition also issued a statement "strongly denouncing" Parizeau's remarks.

And MNA Christos Sirros, Liberal critic for intercultural relations, failed in a bid to get the National Assembly to pass a motion condemning Parizeau's "incendiary and accusatory" remarks.

"It's reprehensible," Jack Jedwab, director of Canadian Jewish Congress, Quebec region (CJC-Q), said of Parizeau's comments in an interview.

"His motivation was obviously pernicious. It smacks of the obvious demagoguery of Mr. Parizeau, whose obvious objective is to further aggravate divisions between Quebecers and Canadians in general."

Allan Adel, Quebec chair of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights, said people "should rightly condemn where he [Parizeau] is coming from."

But Adel also suggested that the former premier has lost so much credibility that his remarks weren't worth commenting on.

"My reaction is that Parizeau is old news and irrelevant," Adel said in an interview.

"I don't much like what he says but I don't take it too seriously. He is no longer premier and no longer a player. I don't think what he has to say counts very much."

In the coalition statement, Italian congress president Tony Manglaviti accused Parizeau of repeating his remarks of two years ago.

At the time, the remarks were "reprehensible and fundamentally anti-democratic, and the interpretation he is currently giving to his words is nothing but demagoguery."

The statement also quoted Hellenic Congress vice-president Athanasios Hadjis and CJC-Q chair Reisa Teitelbaum.

But Parizeau's most recent reference to the coalition, made during a two-day swing through Alberta, was not the first time he has singled it out.

In 1993, Parizeau created a stir by suggesting that separatist forces did not need ethnic backing to achieve independence because there was enough support for the cause coming from Quebec francophones.

At the time, Parizeau defended himself by saying it was the Jewish, Italian and Greek coalition, by the act of coalescing, that was framing the unity debate in ethnic terms and driving members of their communities to vote against separation en masse.

Jedwab and Teitelbaum, however, said in the statement that the coalition has consistently addressed itself to all Quebecers and Canadians.

"It's always been clear we're not just speaking to our respective communities," he said. "Our agenda has been dictated by the memberships of our communities and not the inverse."

B'nai Brith vice-president Stephen Scheinberg, also reacting last week to Parizeau, was quoted as saying that the former premier was attempting an "evasion" by suggesting his referendum remarks were directed at ethnic organizations and not their members.

"Now he's conjuring up some kind of illusion of ethnic power in these congresses," he said. "Organizations of this sort have very little power over their memberships and have very little money."

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

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From coast to coast

Hate crimes unit launched

By MELANIE COLLISON
Jewish Free Press

CALGARY — Other cities have shown Calgary that the more multicultural a city becomes, the more potential there is for its cultural elements to clash — and the more sensitive its police service has to be in dealing with crimes motivated by hate or bias against minorities.

Add to that the autumn 1996 amendment to the Criminal Code that directs judges to dole out harsher sentences to criminals motivated by bias, prejudice or hate, and the result is the establishment of the Hate/ Bias Crimes Unit in the Calgary Police Service.

"The partnership of the police with the community in dealing with hate/bias crimes is really important," says Const. Russ Pouliotte, head of the unit — and its only member so far. "The Calgary Police Service is progressive in what we're doing. This is policing in the '90s."

The origins of the Hate/Bias Crime Units goes back to the early 1980s, says Hal Joffe, national chair of the community relations committee of Canadian Jewish Congress, who has acted as a community consultant to the unit.

The Criminal Code does not make it a specific offence to commit a crime motivated by hate/bias. Some jurisdictions have decided to monitor only those crimes where hate/bias is the primary factor. Calgary has chosen to monitor crimes where any part of the motivation is hate or bias. Such crimes increase when economic times are bad.

"It's important because our community is constantly changing," Joffe says. "It is not the harmonious community it was 50 years ago.

"The police have to be able to address their investigation from the point of view of those who are witnesses and those who are providing information."

"I think the alertness the Jewish community brings into this mix is starting to spread to other community groups. The rest of the population is catching up, as we grow in terms of nationalities and mix in our larger centres," Pouliotte adds.

The police service went to the community to find out what qualities people wanted to find in the officers who attended a crime scene, and researched what is done in other cities, particularly in the United States, where the federal government mandated collection information on hate/bias crimes in 1990.

A committee of 20 Calgarians, including Joffe and Riki Heilik, community relations director for Calgary Jewish Community Council, was consulted a year ago. The committee includes members of many targeted communities, including Muslims, senior citizens and disabled people.

A trainer was brought in from Chicago to train 90 supervisory people to recognize hate/bias crimes as they review field personnel's reports. They in turn educate field personnel.

These supervisors are also trained to ensure that any hate/bias element of a crime is noted in the crime report, since those documents are read in court. They record the perception of both the police officer and the victim.

The police have been recording incidents since June 1, and by September had identified 27 incidents related to race, and nine related to sexual preferences. Pouliotte gets a 24-hour reading of all reports each morning. Assaults and threats led the types of crimes.

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די ערשטע איז געווען די „באַלפור דעקלאַראַציע", וואָס איז פאַרעפנטלעכט געוואָרן דעם 2־טן נאָוועמבער, 1917 — מיט 80 יאָר צוריק. די צווייטע איז געווען דער „יוניטעד נעישאַנס" באַשלוס צו צעטיילן ארץ ישראל אין צווי מדינות — איינע אַ ייִדישע, די צווייטע אַן אַראַבישע. דאָס איז געווען נאָוועמבער 29, 1947 — מיט 50 יאָר צוריק. די דערמאָנטע צווי דאַטעס וועלן אָפּציעל נישט געפייערט פון ייִדישן פאָלק, אָבער זיי זיינען, אַן ספק, וויכטיקע מיילשטיינער אויפן וועג צו ייִדישער אומאָפּהענגיקייט.

אין 1917 האָט ענגלאַנד, אַדער גרויס בריטאַניע, גאָר נאָמען טעריטאָריעס אין מיטלען מזרח, צווישן זיי ארץ־ישראל. אימזעענדיק דעם שטאַרקן בונד צווישן ייִדישן פאָלק און דעם לאַנד פון זייערע אָבות, האָט די בריטישע רעגירונג אַרויסגעגעבן אַ דאָקומענט, וואָס איז געוואָרן די באַזע פאַר אינטערנאַציאָנאַלער אָנערקענונג פון ייִדישן פאָלק אין זייער אַדערונג צו באַקומען צוריק זייער אַלט היימלאַנד אין ארץ־ישראל.

די „באַלפור דעקלאַראַציע" איז אויבערגעגעבן געוואָרן צו דיי ציוניסטישע פירערס דורכן בריטישן אויסערן מיניסטער לאָרד אַרטור באַלפור. דאָרט וועלן זיי בריטישע רעגירונג איז לטובת אַ היימלאַנד פאַרן ייִדישן פאָלק אין פאַלעסטינע. דאָס האָט געמאַלט זיין אַ מין „רפואה" פאַר דעם אַזוי־גערופענעם „ייִדישן פראָבלעם", וואָס האָט צו יענער צייט געמינט פאַרפאַלגונגען, ליידן, פאַראָמען און אַנטיסעמיטיזם, וואָס ייִדן האָבן געליטן אין פיל וועלט־טיילן. איך דעם דאָקומענט און אין נאָכפאָלגדיקע דאָקומענטן פון מאַנדאַט אויבער ארץ־ישראל, וואָס ענגלאַנד האָט באַקומען פון דער „פעלקער־ליגע", וועלן בפירוש אַרויסגעברענגט דער בונד פון ייִדישן פאָלק מיט זייער היימלאַנד. האָבן טאָקע ייִדישע פירערס, צוזאַמען מיטן ייִדישן פאָלק, געזען אין דער דעקלאַראַציע אַ פאַרווירקלעכונג פון זייער אויסגעבענקטן חלום.

נאָכן סוף פון דער צווייטער וועלט־מלחמה איז שארית הפליטה פון אייראָפּעאישן ייִדנטום געבליבן נעבעך. די פעלקער פון דער וועלט האָבן נישט געעפנט בריט זייערע טויערן אַריינצוגיין מען די רעשטלעך פון ייִדישן פאָלק. האָבן ייִדן מיט אַלע וועגן און אומוועגן אַנגעהויבן שטראָמען קיין ארץ־ישראל, מיט דער האָפענונג אַנצוהייבן דאָרט אַ ניי לעבן. דער בריטישער אָקופאַנט, מיט זיין אויסערן־מיניסטער ערנסט בעווין, האָבן פאַרשטעלט דעם וועג פאַר זיי. אָבער ייִדן האָבן וויכטער געשטראָמט דאָרט אַהין. די ענגלישע מאַכט האָט נישט געזען קיין אויסוועג.

אין אַפּריל 1947 ברענגט ענגלאַנד דאָס ארץ־ישראל פראָבלעם פאַר דער אָרגאַניזאַציע פון די „פֿאַראייניקטע פעלקער". לויטן ענגלישן דאָקומענט איז זייער רעגירונג געווען אין אַ פאַרצווייפלטער לאָגע: איבער 100 טויזנט ענגלישע זעלנער אויף פאַלעסטינאַנטן האָבן זיך נישט געקענט קיין עצה געבן מיט דעם ייִדישן ישוב פון 650 טויזנט נפשות. די ענגלענדער ליידן פאַרלוסטן. און ייִדעס מאָל ווען זיי פארהאלטן אַ שיף מיט מעפּילים, שיקן זיי קיין ציפערן, אדער ווי עס איז געווען דער פאַל מיט דער שיף „יציאת אירופה", וואָס איז צוריקגעשיקט געוואָרן קיין דייטשלאַנד, ברענגט עס גרויס חרפה און בושה פאַרן ענגלישן פאָלק.

אויף ספעציעלע זיצונגען פון דער יו־ען איז ענדלעך פאַרגאַנגען שלאָגן געוואָרן צו צעטיילן ארץ־ישראל אויף צוויי. אַ צאָל דעלעגאַטן זיך אַרויסגעוואָגט פאַר אַן קעגן דער עטאַבלירונג פון אַ ייִדיש לאַנד. צווישן די, וואָס האָבן זיך אַרויסגעוואָגט לטובת אַזאַ לייזונג איז געווען דער דעמאָלטדיקער אויסערן־מיניסטער פון סאָוועט־פאַראַנד אַנדריי גראָמיקאָ און זיין פארטרעטער צאַראָפּקין. מען מוז טאָקע מודה זיין, אַז זייער מאָטיוו איז געווען מער „משנאת קאָפּיטאַליזם" ווי „אהבת ישראל". אָבער ווי עס זאָל נישט זיין, געהאָלפן האָט עס דאָך. אויך האָט דער אַמעריקאַנער פרעזידענט הערי טרומאַן זיך אַרויסגעוואָגט לטובת דער צעטיילונג.

אין דער נאָכט פאַרן 29־טן נאָוועמבער, 1947, איז מען נאָך אַלץ נישט געווען זיכער אויב דער פאַרשלאָג וועט האָבן די נויטיקע צאָל שטימען צו קענען פאַרווירקלעכט ווערן. צום סוף איז דער באַשלוס אָנגענומען געוואָרן מיט 33 שטימען *פאַר* בי 13 *קעגן* און 10 אָפּגעהאַלטענע. אַן אומבאַשרייבלעכע פרייד האָט באַהערשט דאָס גאַנצע ייִדישע פאָלק. מיט 50 יאָר צוריק האָט עס עדלעך ווידער באַקומען די מעגלעכקייט איינצושטעלן אַ זעלבשטענדיקע מלוכה, אַן אייגענע הימס פאַר פאָלק ישראל.

From coast to coast

Reform discussed 'options' against Israel: Manning

[Cont'd. from page 3]

Despite recent Canadian support for a UN resolution that condemned Israel, Axworthy defended Canada's UN voting record. He said Canada recently voted against another measure calling for Israel's censure for its nuclear program.

In view of his recent success in getting so many countries to sign a treaty banning the use and production of land mines, Axworthy said Canada is redefining its foreign policy to include other "human security issues" like terrorism, drugs, public health and environmental concerns.

Preston Manning

After outlining the Reform party's plans for keeping Canada united, leader Preston Manning found himself fending off charges that Reform had sought sanctions against Israel following the passport affair.

Included in the UJA participants' kits was an Oct. 6 letter from the Canada-Israel Committee to Manning, taking the party to task for statements made by its foreign affairs critic, Bob Mills.

Mills had been quoted as saying Canada should seek visa, trade and intelligence sanctions against Israel for using faked Canadian passports in the botched Mossad bid to assassinate a Hamas leader in Amman.

Manning, who did not respond to the letter, explained that the party neither proposed nor supports sanctions. He said the measures Mills had discussed were merely options and not recommendations.

Reform was kept in the dark because there was no information for a week following the arrest of the two Mossad agents. Manning said that in the future, the government should provide the Opposition with confidential briefings on what it knows.

Manning said Reform supports Israel's right to existence, development and self-determination.

Asked about a recent published letter from Reform MP Ted White defending newspaper columnist Doug Collins, who questions the Holocaust, Manning said White was likely defending Collins' freedom of speech.

Several years ago, Manning said he refused to sign nomination papers for Collins, who was seeking a Reform seat in Vancouver, after Collins refused to sign a statement renouncing discrimination.

"I know the type of character Collins is. He's exactly the type I want to keep out of the party.

"He hates my guts. I was going to say the feeling is mutual, but that would not be appropriate," Manning chuckled.

Holocaust Museum

Despite opposition from some veterans' groups, plans to add a Holocaust gallery to the Canadian War Museum will proceed, said George McDonald, president of the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

"Culling the social history of war is definitely part of the mandate of the museum," McDonald said. "We are entirely committed to building the Holocaust gallery."

The Holocaust wing is part of a $12-million renovation at the war museum, which is overseen by the Museum of Civilization. Of that, $5 million will be raised privately, and $2 million will be used to construct the section on the Holocaust, McDonald noted.

He said the wing will occupy about 6,000 square feet.

Some veterans groups have said the wing would be out of place at the museum because the Holocaust is not part of Canadian military history. Others have said they were not consulted about the plans.

McDonald said the museum will consult with veterans' groups, but that the plans for the Holocaust gallery are firm.

David Sultan

Norman Spector, Canada's former ambassador to Israel and now publisher of the *Jerusalem Post*, is "conducting a personal vendetta" against Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy, stated Israel's envoy to this country, David Sultan.

In the wake of the passport affair, Spector publicly contradicted Axworthy by saying Canadian intelligence agencies and the Mossad have a long history of cooperation.

Sultan called the passport episode "embarrassing," but added, now, "it is behind us."

He revealed that Canada and Israel plan to embark on a joint project to mark Israel's 50th anniversary (see story, page 1).

Fly-in participants also viewed the Centenary of the Jewish Press exhibit and the Jacob M. Lowy collection of rare Judaic books.

King calls for renewed ties

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Martin Luther King III pledged to "reignite and rebuild" the relationship his late father had with American Jews in the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

At a B'nai Brith Covenant Breakfast, he described black-Jewish relations as having become "strained" over the last 15 years and said that each community must work toward finding common ground for dialogue once again.

"A people that does not remember their history is doomed to repeat the mistakes of the past," he said at Congregation Shaar Hashomayim.

King, in an interview later, said he feels relations between Jews and blacks have deteriorated because many blacks believe Jews are major owners in the media and entertainment industry, which are both seen as portraying blacks and issues important to them in a negative light.

He would like to see dialogue between the black community and influential persons in these industries to defuse "the anger and frustration."

King acknowledged that Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan has said some "derogatory" things about Jews that have been "interpreted as hostile," but suggested his attitude to Jews is ambiguous.

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From coast to coast

Nazi gold links rejected

[Cont'd. from page 1]

deposited 2,586 tons of gold in Ottawa for safekeeping. Among those states were Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Norway and Poland.

"Large amounts of gold crossed the Atlantic in the early war period, especially from the Bank of England and the Banque of France. After 1941, virtually no more gold arrived from Europe...All the transactions in question in this report were paper transfers of gold ownership between one central bank account at the Bank of Canada and other central bank accounts. There is therefore no possibility that tainted gold — gold looted by Germany — ever found its way into the Canadian gold stream."

McDowall found that in 1942 the Bank of England was desperate to obtain Swiss francs to support international trade. The Swiss agreed to the transaction. Britain transferred 56 tons of its gold, held in Ottawa, to the BNS on condition that Switzerland not physically transfer the gold except to other central banks in the Western hemisphere or, on paper, to other neutral countries.

Meanwhile, in the spring of 1942 the BNS began looking for ways to build up its internal gold reserves as a check on inflation. It arranged with the Portuguese central bank to trade four tons of its gold, held in Ottawa, for a similar amount of gold held by the Portuguese in a vault in Switzerland.

"Thus, the Swiss succeeded in obtaining the free use of four tons of gold in Switzerland in return for surrendering four tons of assuredly clean gold in Canada."

He noted that during the war the Nazis looted gold from occupied countries as well as plundering it from individuals, including "non-monetary gold stripped from the Jewish victims of Nazi death camps.

"This sinister gold passed through the mill of Nazi refining and had been filtered through bank accounts and commercial transactions with European neutral banks."

However, the report also found that the gold transferred by the Portuguese bank to the BNS in 1942 "was generally believed to be drawn from an account 'thought to be without German taint'. There is no absolute assurance that this swapped gold was beyond all possible taint, but this evidence and the complete absence of any indication of concern on the part of Allied bankers involved in the swap indicates that this was likely the case. Once again, national liquidity needs, not schemes to launder dirty German gold, seemed to drive the transaction."

In preparing his report, McDowall notes he had unrestricted access to all Bank of Canada documents, board minutes and ledgers. Altogether, he perused 350 files.

In recent years, controversy over looted gold and dormant Swiss accounts has led to the creation of historical commissions in Switzerland, Portugal, Sweden, Britain and the United States. The Eizenstadt report prepared in the United States, "does not contain a single mention of Canada in connection with the issue of looted gold, despite the survey of over 15 million documents in reaching its conclusion," McDowall wrote.

Congress said it was satisfied with McDowall's findings. The report is "comprehensive, fair-minded and indicates that Canada behaved properly and is not a villain in the Nazi gold piece," said Irving Abella, chair of Congress' war crimes committee.

Immigrants group planning to revitalize historic landmark

By JOEL JACOBSON
Atlantic Correspondent

HALIFAX — "Nothing has changed. It's absolutely gorgeous," gasps Herman Newman as we walk through Pier 21 on the Halifax waterfront.

"I can come here and sit and walk for hours," says the Holocaust survivor, who, as a 17-year-old, entered Canada at this Halifax landmark, which welcomed more than 1.5 million immigrants between 1928 and its closing in 1971.

Newman arrived in 1948, later married Anna Clare of Halifax, raised three sons, became a successful real estate developer and moved to Toronto two years ago to be closer to their children and nine grandchildren. But he makes sure he spends part of every Remembrance Day at Pier 21.

"People like me get nostalgic. All I have left [of my youth] are memories and, like prayers, they strengthen your way of life."

Newman has willingly shared his story of the lengthy time spent in Auschwitz and Dachau with thousands of people so it will not be lost.

He tells about spending two teenage years in a British hospital, recovering his strength, before being offered the opportunity to settle in Canada.

"I left there because I was tired of saying thank you. I wanted to be on my own. I had a chance to be adopted in Toronto but refused. When I came down that gangplank in Halifax, my first thought was 'I'm a free man. I just want to stay and build my own life.'"

Newman was only one of the large number of immigrants who first set foot on Canadian soil at Pier 21. The Pier 21 Society is in the midst of a $9-million campaign to revitalize the immigration shed, to pay tribute to and honor the legacy of those who passed through the historic landmark.

"If the walls of Pier 21 could talk, they would tell my story and that of many others who came through here," says Canadian author Peter Newman, a member of the national advisory committee, which also includes Trevor Eyton of Brascan, Peter Herndorf of TVOntario, Ann McCaig, chancellor, University of Alberta, Sen. Mira Spivak and Dr. Joseph Y.K. Wong, honorary chair, United Way Greater Toronto.

Ruth Goldbloom, Halifax, chair of the Pier 21 Society, is enthusiastic about the response to the fundraising campaign to which federal, provincial and municipal governments have committed $4 million.

"Canadians from coast to coast are responding with offers of memorabilia and stories. We've already raised $2 million from the private sector but need more to make the new Pier 21 a reality. People can find us at Web site [http://pier21.ns.ca/11]."

Herman Newman looks from the pier to George's Island, a few hundred metres away. "I remember standing on the deck of the *Aquitania* and seeing that island from the mouth of Halifax Harbor. I knew I'd make my home in Halifax."

LifeStyle

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Registration is now being taken for the following 1998 programs. New sessions begin in January.

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Bikes and Balls - Offered in weekly winter classes and as a full-time **summer camp program**. Skill exercises and games develop the hand-eye co-ordination and balance skills necessary to participate in these two very popular social activities. Dr. Richard Klein, of the University of Illinois, has introduced a prototype of his unique training bike. It is designed to make learning to ride without training wheels quicker and easier and without falling off. Ages 3 and up.

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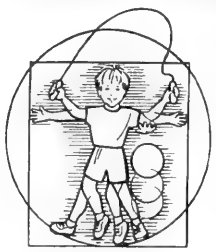

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Steeles Memorial Chapel keeps up the good work

Founded in 1927 as a community chapel with a board comprised of members from community organizations, Steeles Memorial has kept pace with the northward movement of Toronto's Jewish community. College Memorial Chapel as it was then called had its earliest locations on Bathurst St. and on College St. Steeles Memorial is now located on the border of Thornhill and the City of Toronto.

During the 70 years since its founding, Steeles has broadened its mandate from providing dignified funerals at a reasonable cost to include ongoing charitable work on behalf of charities and institutions in the Jewish community and beyond.

As a non-profit community institution, Steeles supports Jewish community organizations such as ORT, REENA Foundation, the Ronald Feld Fund, the Jewish Russian Community Centre, the Jewish Public Library, Chabad Lubavitch of Toronto, Israel Cancer Research Fund, Baycrest Centre, Camp Ramah, and many schools, yeshivot, senior projects, and synagogues.

In addition to community-based organizations, Steeles assists needy families and individuals through an outreach program, working with rabbis of all denominations to discreetly find families in need and offer them assistance. As John H. Pollock, Q.C., Legal Counsel states: "We are always there to help. We are the ones who are privileged to perform the mitzvah of assisting the needy."

Steeles sees itself as assisting the broader community as well, by allocating donations among charities such as the Salvation Army, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, the AIDS Committee of Toronto, the Canadian Cancer Society, the Canadian Diabetes Society, and a number of medical research foundations. Moreover, Steeles donates to the Toronto Hospital, the Hospital for Sick Children and many other Toronto area hospitals.

It is a policy of Steeles that if a Jewish child under 18 years of age passes away, the funeral is without charge. "At such a time," says Henry Lederman, the Treasurer of Steeles, "there is more than enough grief and trauma for a family to deal with." This is a unique practice that Steeles Memorial offers.

Steeles Memorial is involved in many aspects of Jewish life, and has an innovative approach to Tzedakah. While resources are not bottomless, no worthy cause goes unconsidered; new ideas for charitable work are constantly being explored. At present, a project to house the homeless is being pursued. "Where we're needed, and to the extent we can help, we will," says President Mike Rogow.

Every funeral at Steeles Memorial is also helping a large number and variety of worthy causes. The deceased are memorialized by the giving of Tzedakah. The recipients of these benefits are those organizations which improve the quality of life for the poor, the sick, children and the aged. "This is perhaps why Steeles has gained greater acceptance over the past decade," says Rogow.

Steeles, always sensitive to the needs of the families they serve, offers options and flexibility in funeral arrangements. Cost is often tailored to the ability to pay. Alternatively, more modest arrangements are available, always with sensitivity and dignity. Steeles is aware that there are families who are unable to pay anything. Full service is available, in which Steeles handles every detail.

Whatever the choice, one thing is *not* flexible: all funerals are in accordance with the principles of halachah.

Steeles also suggests families consider funeral pre-arrangement. Staff are available to answer questions often asked about funeral pre-arrangement.

Steeles Memorial Chapel is located at 350 Steeles Avenue West, in Thornhill. For information please call President Mike Rogow: (905) 881-6003 or (416) 733-2000.

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Hospital For Sick Children
Beth Jacob High School
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Israelis celebrate 50th anniversary of UN resolution

By Jerusalem Post Staff

JERUSALEM — Some 10,000 people participated in a recent street celebration in Tel Aviv marking the 50th anniversary of the UN partition resolution that led to the creation of the state.

The event recreated the moments of waiting for the results of the UN vote 50 years ago, and the celebrating that occurred after it. The crowd held signs that read "Boo to the White Paper" and "A Hebrew state now!"

Actor Tuvia Tzafir played the roles of Golda Meir and David Ben-Gurion.

At a ceremony at Independence Hall, Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo presented a gift of appreciation to the ambassadors of the 33 UN member nations that approved the resolution.

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav, who represented the government, noted that the State of Israel had still not achieved peace with all its Arab neighbors, as it had hoped 50 years ago.

"Let us hope that during the coming jubilee we will reach a comprehensive peace and that all Jews will immigrate to Israel," he said.

Gideon Samet, 93, who covered the celebrations 50 years ago for *Ha'aretz*, recalled the original event as one of "fear, pride, and gumption."

Geula Ben-Eliezer, the daughter of David Ben-Gurion, recalled her father's depression as he feared the impending invasion of the Arab armies.

"We need men like him today," she said. "But where will they come from?"

There were also a number of special performances in the city, including a concert by the Israel Philharmonic and a festive performance by the Batsheva Dance Company.

Strikers defy court ruling

By MICHAL YUDELMAN, DAVID HARRIS, AND DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A strike by 150,000 clerks and municipal workers was to continue for a second day Monday in defiance of a National Labor Court ruling Sunday that permitted only a 24-hour walkout.

The Histadrut also planned to discuss widening the sanctions at a meeting Monday, after threatening Sunday to have civil servants and bank workers join in the strike unless progress was made in talks with the Treasury.

The strike encompasses workers of 360 local authorities, and has paralyzed day-care centres, nursery schools, government corporations and national institutions like the Jewish Agency and Jewish National Fund.

Magen David Adom and fire fighters were operating only on an emergency basis.

Many schools were also disrupted, since maintenance personnel and secretaries were also on strike.

An additional 20,000 clerks were expected to join the strike Monday, which would affect the Clalit health fund, Jerusalem hospitals, universities, ORT schools, other colleges, Amidar, Amigur and Zim.

The strike was launched in protest against government demands for cost-cutting measures by local authorities to reduce an overall NIS 4 billion deficit. Some cuts would erase workers' bonuses.

No progress was reported at a meeting between Histadrut strike organizer Shlomo Shani and Treasury director of wages and labor agreements Yossi Kucik.

Kucik charged that the strike offered a "seal of approval to illegal work agreements in the municipalities and encourages excessively high wages."

He has held up paying local authorities. He demands that the authorities agree not to use the funds for wage bonuses, and to put them instead toward efficiency measures.

A Treasury statement listed a series of alleged illegal fringe benefits being paid to many Histadrut local council workers. This list included global overtime, vehicle stipends to employees who allegedly don't use their own cars and supplementary milk payments.

The National Labor Court, which upheld the strike but gave it a 24-hour limit, was expected to decided Monday about whether to issue back to work orders.

A number of regional councils have issued back to work orders that were ignored.

Civil servants and bank workers are considering whether to join the strike in the next few days, in protest against hundreds of dismissals and alleged violations of work agreements.

Bank employees are also angry with a government decision to take the management of provident funds out of the hands of the banks.

The Union of Local Authorities in Israel (ULAI) has also threatened to take legal action against Histadrut activists. ULAI chair Adi Eldar warned.

He called on the parties to return to the negotiating table to resolve the dispute.

Eldar, who is mayor of Karmiel, said it was totally unfair that hundreds of thousands of people should suffer having municipal services shut down.

Karmiel municipality spokesperson Leviah Fischer said the worst effects of the strike were felt by parents and especially single mothers who could not send children to kindergartens.

"It is a very difficult problem for working parents," she said, adding that many were forced to stay home from work.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Cabinet endorses pullout resolution

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The resolution also contained an unequivocal expression of support for the West Bank settlements.

"The government will take all the necessary measures for their existence and strengthening," it said.

These measures will be designed to "reduce points of friction between Israeli settlers and local Palestinian residents and increase the security of both populations" — words that could be interpreted to mean enlarging the existing settlements and building more bypass roads around Palestinian towns and villages.

Israel Radio said Naveh and Netanyahu's political adviser Uzi Arad, travelled to Egypt Monday to brief Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and his top adviser Osama el-Baz on the proposal.

Naveh said contact also will be made with the United States, Jordan, and other countries.

Sources close to Sharon not only indicated their satisfaction with the meeting's outcome, but contended that it reflected his proposals.

One of the points he raised, which the cabinet will consider, is that if Arafat should declare an independent Palestinian state, Israel immediately would annex the projected security zones (including the Jordan Valley), settlements, access roads and military bases.

Sharon also urged his cabinet colleagues to tour the areas to be designated as security zones as soon as possible, a proposal unstintingly endorsed by Netanyahu.

Naveh explained that the extent of the proposed troop redeployment will encompass the first and second pullbacks required by the Oslo Accords.

The cabinet secretary confirmed that if the Palestinians defer or reject the proposals due to emerge from the ministerial team's deliberations, the consequence will be a delay in the next troop pullback.

The Palestinians had mixed reactions to the cabinet decision.

Several Palestinian officials charged the plan is "a continuation of the Israeli government's attempt to evade the agreement on further redeployment."

But Arafat's spokesperson, Marwan Kanafani, called the decision encouraging.

"The decision to redeploy is encouraging, but some of the terms mentioned cause us to be skeptical as to the government's sincerity in implementing the redeployment," he said.

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat charged that the PA had not received any official statement from the Israeli government and would comment only when such a statement was received.

"We cannot negotiate such issues via the media. We don't know if Netanyahu's decision is in response to U.S. or European pressure or due to internal problems within the Likud," he said.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai is expected to convene top security advisers and senior IDF officers to discuss the various options regarding the pullback in the territories, defence sources said.

But the sources said that the meeting will not discuss percentages, since that is contingent on the government's decision.

With files from Lamia Lahoud, Mohommed Najib, Margot Dudkevitch and Arieh O'Sullivan.

Compensation talks deadlocked

By DEIDRE BERGER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

FRANKFURT — Talks between German and Jewish officials about expanding compensation payments to Holocaust survivors appear to be deadlocked, just weeks before a final report is expected.

Rabbi Andrew Baker, director of European relations for the American Jewish Committee, said he was disappointed by the latest discussions.

Among other issues, Jewish organizations have demanded that Germany pay eastern European survivors reparations similar to those now given to survivors living in western countries.

The Week in Israel

Nov. 24

• Two Hezbollah fighters were killed in an overnight clash with the IDF in southern Lebanon. No IDF members were hurt.

Nov. 25

• David Levy praised France for ordering an inquiry into property seized from French Jews during World War II. He made his comments in Jerusalem during a visit from the French foreign minister.

Nov. 26

• Palestinian Authority chairman Yasser Arafat refused an offer from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to meet to discuss further possible redeployments from the West Bank.

• More than 40 Australian athletes who survived the collapse of the entry bridge during the Maccabiah Games last summer will sue Israel, the Maccabi World Union, the Tel Aviv Municipality and the company that built the bridge. Four Australians were killed in the incident at the games' opening.

Nov. 27

• Israel and Jordan held joint naval exercises in the Gulf of Eilat.

Nov.28

• Netanyahu announced that Moshe Leon is to succeed Avigdor Lieberman as director general of the Prime Minister's Office.

Fifty Years Ago in Palestine

JERUSALEM — (Dec. 5) The no-man's land between Tel Aviv and Jaffa erupted into flames and gunfire today, as frenzied Arab bands made several attempts to invade Tel Aviv.

Jerusalem, where it was thought there would be wild riots today following the offering of special prayers in all mosques, was relatively quiet.

NEW YORK — (Dec. 10) An appeal for monetary and other assistance to the Jewish community of Aden, where scores of Jews have been killed by rioting Arabs during the past 10 days, has been received by the World Jewish Congress headquarters here today.

With files from the JTA.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Islamic rebellion rocks Egypt

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Fifty-eight foreign tourists, mainly Swiss, were murdered in one fell swoop by Islamic fundamentalists in Luxor, Egypt, last month. The cold-blooded rampage, the worst in the country's history, made a mockery of the government's boast that the radicals had been decimated.

Mideast Analysis

Now in its fifth year, the Islamic rebellion has claimed the lives of some 1,200 individuals, far less than the toll exacted by Algeria's civil war but far more than the deaths recorded in Israel's struggle against Hamas terrorism since 1994.

The Islamic Group, a violent offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood, the first modern Islamic movement in the Arab world, has spearheaded the terrorist campaign in Egypt.

Founded in the late 1970s by Muslim theologians, army officers and lawyers, the Islamic Group is a breakaway faction of Jihad, which carried out the 1981 assassination of then president Anwar al-Sadat. Its chief objective, the establishment of an Islamic state in Egypt, has been fiercely resisted by the secular regime, headed by Sadat's successor, Hosni Mubarak.

The government, which has ruled by decree since Sadat's murder, has spared no effort to crush the radicals, whose spiritual leader, Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman, is presently serving a life sentence in the United States for his role in the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York City.

Yet, judging by the massacre in Luxor, the centre of Egypt's vital tourist industry, the ongoing security crackdown has, at best, been only a qualified success.

Apart from tourists, the Islamic Group has taken aim at police officers, cabinet ministers, Coptic Christians, secular journalists and intellectuals (including Nobel Prize literature laureate Naguib Mahfouz), diplomats and even Mubarak himself.

In June 1995, gunmen tried to kill Mubarak in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Five months later, suicide bombers stormed the Egyptian Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, killing 15 people.

Tourists, ministers targetted

Tourists, in particular, have been targeted because they generate valuable hard currency. Tourism is one of the five pillars of the Egyptian economy, the other four being remittances from Egyptian workers abroad, revenues from the Suez Canal, cotton and oil.

Aside from the Luxor incident, the most spectacular attacks against tourists have been mounted in the past two years. In April 1996, 18 Greek visitors, having been mistaken for Israelis, were mowed down as they left their hotel in Cairo. This past September, two brothers in sympathy with the Islamic Group killed 10 people, mostly Germans, outside Cairo's fabled Egyptian Museum.

The upsurge of Islamic violence in Egypt is anything but new. Throughout its modern history, Egypt has been repeatedly confronted by the Islamist challenge. Typically, Egypt's secular nationalist elite has hewed to a carrot-and-stick policy in dealing with the Islamists. When attempts at co-option have failed, repression has been the weapon of choice of successive leaders from Gamal Abdel Nasser to Sadat. It is an endless battle.

Be they extremists or moderates, the Islamists have won a sizable following. They feed on poverty, official corruption and the trend toward greater religious conservatism.

Of late, Egypt's heretofore anemic economy has begun to boom. But the new wealth has largely benefited the well-connected moneyed classes, hardly having trickled down to the impoverished masses. The state, in a bid to outflank Islamic militants, has promoted its brand of Islam by grafting Islamic law on the legal system and by appointing pliable clerics. But the tactic has yielded fairly disappointing results, while Islamists have taken over professional and student unions, gained a foothold in parliament, imposed their narrow, puritanical values on society, and continually called for a severance of Egypt's diplomatic relations with Israel.

Egypt's present relations with Israel are quite chilly, but if the Islamists win power, the entire strategic situation in the Middle East will be drastically altered.

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CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest

The CJN announces its third annual Chanukah poetry contest.

Who can enter: Anyone can enter except *CJN* employees or members of their family.

There are three age categories for entrants: 1. Twelve years old and under; 2. Thirteen to 18 years old; 3. Eighteen years old and up.

How to enter: The poems must be about Chanukah; they cannot be longer than 40 lines. A maximum of one poem per entrant may be submitted. Please include your name, age, address and phone number with the poem.

We would prefer to receive typewritten poems if possible.

We will return poems if you send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

You may mail or deliver your poems to:
CJN Chanukah Poetry Contest, The Canadian Jewish News,
1500 Don Mills Road., Suite 205, North York, Ontario, M3B 3K4.

The contest closes at 5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8, 1997.

Prizes: The judges will choose six poems to be published, two from each of the three categories, which in their opinion, most poetically and evocatively convey an aspect of the meaning of Chanukah. Each of the "winners" will also receive a cheque for $50.

Only six poems will be selected as "winners". Space permitting, we may publish other poems as honorable mentions. The decisions of the judges will be final. The odds of "winning" depend upon the number and the quality of submissions received.

How the winners will be notified: "Winning" entrants will be notified by telephone before the start of the Shabbat on Friday, Dec. 12, 1997.

When the prizes will be awarded: The winning poems will be published in *The CJN* of Dec. 25, 1997. We look forward to receiving your poems. May the miracle of Chanukah and the magic of its light be reflected in your poems.

Any litigation respecting the conduct and awarding of a prize in this contest may be submitted to the Regie des Loteries et courses du Quebec.

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Israel & the Jewish World

Israel to prosecute builders of Maccabiah bridge

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — The contractors who built a bridge that collapsed during the opening ceremonies of July's Maccabiah Games are going to face trial.

State Attorney Edna Arbel has decided to bring charges against those responsible for organizing and constructing the bridge, Israeli media reported.

Those who will be charged include Baruch Karagula and Yehoshua Ben Ezra, the contractors who built the bridge; Micha Bar Ilan, the bridge's engineer; Adam Mishori, the head of Irgunit, the firm that subcontracted to Ben Ezra and Karagula; and Yoram Eyal, the head of the organizing committee for the international games.

The decision comes just one week after more than 40 Australian survivors of the bridge collapse announced that they will sue Israeli officials and the company that built that bridge.

Two Australian athletes were immediately killed July 14 and hundreds of other participants at the Games injured, when a pedestrian bridge collapsed during the opening ceremony at the Ramat Gan stadium, plunging scores of people into the Yarkon River.

Two more Australians died weeks later as a result of complications that medical officials linked to contaminants in the river water.

Law suits planned

By JEREMY JONES
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

SYDNEY, Australia — More than 40 Australian survivors of July's Maccabiah Games' bridge collapse have announced they will sue Israeli officials.

The survivors will also sue the Maccabi World Union, which organized the Games, and the company that built the bridge, according to lawyer Peter Redlich, who said he will represent most of the injured.

He described the bridge collapse as the result of the most "gross example of negligence" he has seen in 40 years.

Other suits may be filed by families of the athletes who died, and by the family of Sasha Elterman, 15, who has been hospitalized with a brain abscess that doctors say was caused by the polluted water.

Maccabi Australia president Tom Goldman responded to news of the proposed suit, saying, "Nobody has really stood up and been held accountable and responsible, and it has to be done.

"It is close to 4½ months" since the accident. "That's a long time," he said, speaking before Israel announced it would prosecute builders of the bridge.

One Australian athlete injured in the incident, tennis player Sasha Elterman, 15, has been hospitalized with a brain abscess that doctors say may have been caused by the polluted water.

A week after the bridge collapse, an Israeli commission found that the accident was caused by a chain of failures involving the bridge's planning and construction.

The commission found the engineer and contractors who built the bridge at fault for poor planning and execution.

The commission also found that the contracting company that built the bridge had no experience in bridge construction.

It also criticized Maccabiah organizers for trying to cut costs and for failing to closely supervise the construction work.

Leaders of the Australian Jewish community have expressed frustration with what they said was the slow pace of the investigation.

In recent visits to Israel and in meetings with prosecutors, they have demanded that those responsible for the collapse face charges.

Switzerland dragging its feet: Bronfman

By BATSHEVA TSUR
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — By channeling money to Germany in return for stolen Jewish gold, Switzerland in fact prolonged World War II, World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman charged last week.

Furthermore, Switzerland is now dragging its feet with regard to heirless assets belonging to Jewish victims and should follow the example of other European countries such as Norway, which have reassessed their attitude and are taking action, Bronfman said.

"It is like pulling teeth to get the Swiss to do something" at the Volcker committee, Bronfman told a session of the Knesset Committee on Restitution of Jewish Property.

"Its work is slow and ponderous. Switzerland should examine its past with speed like other European countries... I hope we can achieve an honorable end" to the Holocaust restitution process, he said.

Repeating past allegations, Bronfman also accused the Swiss of turning a blind eye during the war to transports of Jews to death camps on trains that went through Zurich.

Thomas Borer, a Swiss Foreign Ministry envoy who heads a Swiss task force on World War II, denied the accusation.

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Mount Sinai doctor gets research award

TORONTO — The Eli Lilly Canada/National Cancer Institute of Canada's cancer research awards were presented recently to Canadian scientists.

Three of Canada's most respected researchers received their 1997 awards from the National Cancer Institute of Canada for outstanding research that has had worldwide impact on our understanding of cancer.

"We are honored to celebrate some of Canada's best scientists," said Dr. Robert Phillips, executive director of the National Cancer Institute of Canada, the research organization that distributes funds from the Canadian Cancer Society and the Terry Fox Foundation.

"These awards give us an opportunity to tell the public that Canadian research is having an impact far beyond the borders of Canada. We are grateful to Eli Lilly for sponsoring these awards."

Each award has a $1,000 prize and the Robert L. Noble Prize recipient is given an additional $20,000 for a research project.

The 1997 Canadian winners are:

Dr. Alan Bernstein, director of the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute, Mount Sinai Hospital, and professor of molecular and medical genetics, medical biophysics, medicine, University of Toronto, received the Robert L. Noble Prize. This prize is given to a scientist who has made the most significant scientific research contribution to a greater understanding of cancer.

Dr. Norman Boyd, head of epidemiology and statistics at the Ontario Cancer Institute, director of Preventive Oncology at Cancer Care Ontario and professor of medicine, University of Toronto, received the O. Harold Warwick Prize, which honors excellence in cancer control.

Dr. Jerry Pelletier, associate professor of biochemistry and oncology at McGill University, received the William E. Rawls Prize, which recognizes outstanding achievement by a promising researcher in the early stages of his/her career.

Dr. Tak Mak, director of Amgen Institute, senior scientist at the Ontario Cancer Institute and professor of medical biophysics and immunology, University of Toronto received the 1996 Robert L. Noble Prize. Mak was honored for his breakthrough work in tumor biology, the discovery of the gene for the blood's killer T-cell receptors, and for producing genetically altered mice for in-depth studies on the immune system and cancer.

Eli Lilly Canada Inc. is a research-based pharmaceutical company that is involved in the discovery, development and marketing of treatments for cancer, cardiovascular diseases, diseases of the central nervous system, infectious diseases, diabetes, osteoporosis and women's health.

Increase in Bell's Palsy reported

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An increase in the number of cases of Bell's Palsy in the Greater Toronto Area has resulted in a study to find a cause.

The total of 300 cases reported in the past few months triggered the study, said Dr. Andrew Morris, the principal investigator at Mt. Sinai Hospital and Toronto Hospital.

There is a suspicion that the cause may be an entero-virus, such as that which causes the flu, gastro-intestinal symptoms or diarrhea, but this has yet to be confirmed, Morris said. On the basis of past studies, herpes viruses are also sometimes implicated.

Bell's Palsy results in a partial paralysis of facial muscles and usually clears up in six to eight weeks.

The first "cluster" of six patients with the disorder was reported by neurologist Dr. Warren Goldstein, of York Region. The cases were in Newmarket, Richmond Hill, Thornhill and Aurora.

A collaborative study by several hospitals confirmed that the increase was area-wide and not confined to any age or ethnic group.

What has caused some concern, Morris said, is the possibility that it is contagious, as two sets of spouses, two cousins and five doctors have been diagnosed.

However, he said, ordinary precautions, such as not sharing the same towels or eating utensils should be sufficient to prevent the spread of the disorder. Cutting off contact between patients and children or other family members would be extreme.

Those monitoring the situation are anxious that physicians report any cases that have developed since Aug. 1. The same applies to patients. The hot line number at Mt. Sinai Hospital is 416-586-4999.

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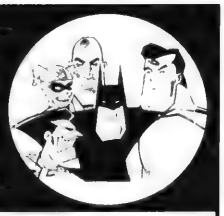

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by Barry Grossman & Stan Goldberg

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SO WHO DO WE HELP?
THERE ARE POOR FAMILIES THAT CAN'T BUY CHANUKAH GIFTS FOR THEIR CHILDREN!
MENDY
WHAT CAN WE DO? WE DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY!
THAT'S OKAY, BECAUSE WE CAN ALL DO CHORES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND RAISE THE MONEY!
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BAKE SALE
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RUFF
WHOA!
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WE DID IT, EVERYONE. LET'S GO BUY THOSE CHANUKAH PRESENTS!
ALL THE GIFTS ARE BOUGHT!
OKAY, CLUB MEMBERS, ALL THE PRESENTS ARE OUTSIDE! LET'S TAKE THEM TO THE TEMPLE SO WE CAN GIVE THEM OUT!
MENDY, ALL THE PRESENTS ARE MISSING!
MISSING, OH NO!
WHO COULD HAVE TAKEN THEM?
LETS ASK RABBI KLEIN TO HELP US!
YES! LET'S GO!
THE CHILDREN EXPLAIN THE WHOLE STORY TO THE RABBI.
HMMM! SO YOU LEFT THE BOXES IN FRONT OF YOUR CLUBHOUSE...
ABOUT 3:30 THIS AFTERNOON! ISN'T THAT WHEN THE RECYCLING TRUCK COMES BY TO PICK UP PAPERS AND CARDBOARD BOXES?
YES! THAT'S IT!
THEY THOUGHT IT WAS THERE TO BE RECYCLED! LET'S HEAD FOR THE RECYCLE PLANT!
MAYBE IT'S NOT TOO LATE! THANKS, PAPA!
YEAH, WE PICKED UP YOUR BOXES! THEY'RE OUT THERE...SOMEWHERE!
OKAY, MITZVAH CLUB! LET'S GO FIND THEM!
GO! GO!
GREAT! WE GOT THEM ALL! LET'S TAKE THEM BACK TO THE TEMPLE!
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CONT'D. ON NEXT PAGE

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Yoga "really cool"

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

When 10-year-old twins Courtney and Tara Neray heard Temmi Ungerman Sears talk about learning yoga, they thought it sounded like something cool to do. Now that they have taken classes with her since October, they think it is *really* cool.

When people think of yoga, they often think of twisting into weird positions or standing on your head. While that may be part of very advanced yoga, Ungerman Sears sees yoga as "more of a fitness program – a lifestyle."

She says that yoga has many benefits, like more open joints, toned muscles, increased flexibility and better balance and coordination.

Yoga also gives you "an inner sense of calm," she says.

Right now, she runs her program at Cedarvale Public School, as well as in private classes in her home, but she says that she eventually wants to open in her own place.

Children, Ungerman says, are by nature "action based, and not only love to move but need to move." While they learn nearly the same yoga poses as adults do, she concentrates more on "novelty, variety and speed."

It bothers her how stiff kids are, because, she thinks, "they are getting less exercise and are always sitting in front of a computer."

Also, she says, a lot of youngsters have so many after-school and weekend activities, that they are stressed out. Yoga is a great way to exercise, and also to relax.

"Kids need time to play, and learn, and enjoy their body," she says.

The class begins with warm-up group games, yoga poses and stretching. Then there are yoga poses, breath work, and – what the kids like best – the relaxation at the end.

"They lie flat on the floor, palms upturned, and wear black silk eye pillows to black out the light. The pillows are filled with lavender and flax seed, so they smell really good."

Each week, she talks about a different theme from nature, such as the beach, the ocean, or a forest.

Breathing exercises are an important part of every class. "Breath is the bridge between the mind and body," she says.

Besides working with children, Ungerman Sears works with women before and after they have a baby, people with weight problems and those who have been abused. She even works with kids who have ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).

But her favorite is working with young children. "They can do anything. Just by practising, they improve."

She says the greatest reward for them is "increased self-confidence and self-esteem."

The kids are given things to practise during the week. Tara and Courtney practise with their younger brother.

They even tell you with a giggle that their father now does yoga in his office at lunchtime.

In photo, Temmi Ungerman Sears (centre) helps Courtney (left) and Tara Neray perfect a yoga pose. [Leila Speisman photo]

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Jerusalem Trio

Concert bridges cultural gap

"Culture is Israel's bridge to the world, never permitting us to be isolated." – Aura Herzog, wife of Chaim Herzog, former president of Israel.

BY ADAM BELLO
Special to The CJN

The Jerusalem Trio in performance: (from left) Roy Shiloah, violin; Yaron Rosenthal, piano; and Ariel Tushinsky, cello.

TORONTO — To strengthen the cultural bridge between the two countries on the eve of Israel's 50th anniversary, the Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation's (CICF) local chapter arranged for the Toronto premiere of the Jerusalem Trio.

The audience became acquainted with Israel's youngest musical diplomats at the trio's recent showcase performance at the Jane Mallett Theatre of the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts.

"For me, it was very exciting to see this young talent being developed in Israel, and the reception they received here was fantastic," said Lorand Fenyves, a professor in the faculty of music at the University of Toronto and co-founder of the Tel Aviv Conservatory and Academy of Music (now part of the Tel Aviv University).

"It is important they receive this kind of support because they are very committed and I think the trio will have a bright future."

The Israeli musicians played selections by Beethoven, Schumann and Shostakovich, and seemed particularly inspired by the latter composer.

Their choice of Shostakovich's *Piano Trio No. Two (Opus 67)* was most appropriate, they later told *The CJN*, in that it reflects on the time period into which Israel was born, because the composer drew on chassidic themes in a post-World War II context.

"Chassidic music is filled with both laughter and tears, and Shostakovich realized you can't have one without the other," said violinist Roy Shiloah, 26, of Beersheva. "This macabre tale of demonic dance has one finding emptiness, madness, sadness and then madness again, and in the process, drawing on synagogue imagery, including the singing of the Kaddish by the cantor.

[Cont'd. on page 43]

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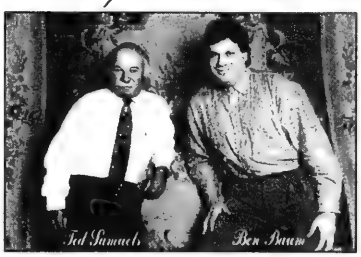

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Travel, Arts & Business

Artist gives Canadian perspective to Holy Land

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Ron Clavier waited until his 25th wedding anniversary before visiting Israel for the first time, but the impact was instantaneous.

He felt that he had come home, he says.

A psychologist holding a doctorate from Chicago's Northwestern University and an artist like his father before him, he responded with a series of intuitive oil paintings that are featured in a solo exhibition, The Holy Land: Canadian Perspective, at Rosedale United Church, Dec. 5 to Jan. 15, 1998.

Clavier looks on displaying his works in a church as an ecumenical outreach, a bridge between peoples. Rosedale United's recently retired minister, he notes, has led congregational tours to Israel.

Originally from Montreal, Clavier and his wife and two daughters have lived in various parts of Canada and the United States but are now settled in Toronto where he has a clinical and consulting practice.

Exploring Israel during his trip, he experienced a magnetism reaching into his Jewish core. He sought not only the familiar sites, interpreting them afresh, but also lesser known scenes for their distinctive appeal.

> *'this holiest of places'*

Accompanying each work in the exhibition is a quote from one of three sources: the Bible, British artist David Roberts' *Holy Land* journal, or personal reflection.

In conjunction with his painting, *Western Wall*, is this statement: "As a Jew who has always emphasized the humanistic and cultural aspects of my heritage, I always wondered how I would feel at this holiest of places... When the time came, I was surprised by the sense of peace and warmth that overcame me.

"In the midst of crowds of chanting worshippers, I felt as though I was about to have a private encounter. Everybody else seemed to melt away and I found myself reciting what I consider to be the most fundamental principal of Judaism: Shema Yisrael, HaShem Elokeinu, HaShem Echad (Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One)."

Sabra brings to life the prickly pear cactus under a desert sun. Here Clavier explains that the plant's fruit, hard and prickly on the outside, soft and sweet on the inside, is often used to define the character of the native born Israeli, who is known as a sabra.

Although Clavier's Holy Land exhibition is primarily scenic, many works on his office walls are figurative portraits, exemplifying his belief in the unity of human anatomy and the human psyche.

Sabra brings to life the prickly pear cactus.

Rosedale United Church is at 159 Roxborough Dr. Exhibition hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and Sunday mornings. For more information, call 489-0300.

Concert bridges cultural gap

[Cont'd. from page 42]

"Our interpretation of the piece is to play it with a sense of life and suspense, like the calm before the storm and then the storm at the moment it hits," said cellist Ariel Tushinsky, 28, of Tel Aviv.

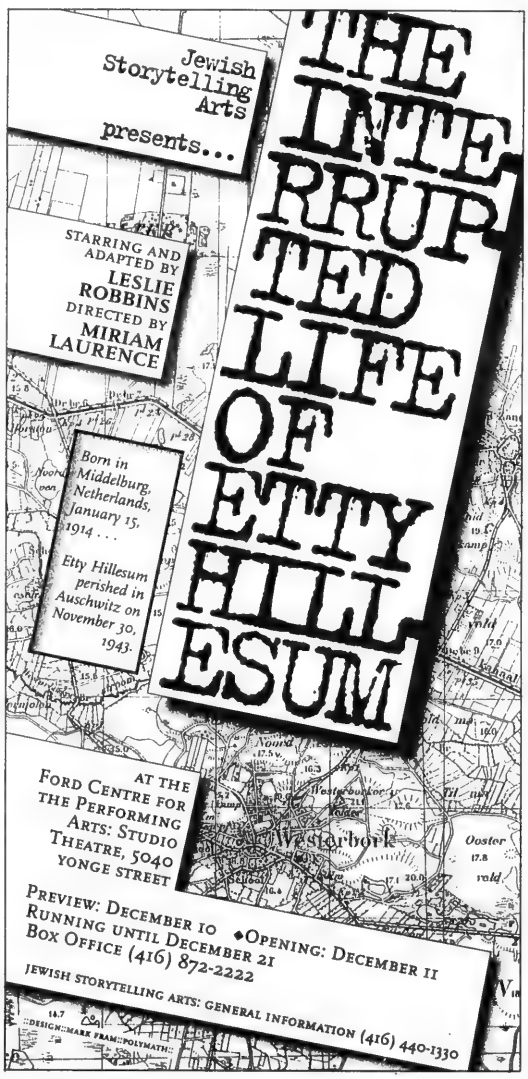
Shiloah and Tushinsky, both previously soloists with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, founded the trio with Haifa-based pianist Yaron Rosenthal, now 29, a former soloist himself with the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra.

Since performing together in 1989, the Jerusalem Trio have recorded in Israel, Europe, Australia, South America and the United States. Garnering critical acclaim in international competition, the trio were prize winners of the 1995 Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition.

The Toronto concert followed the trio's national debut in Ottawa, and served to raise funds to help future generations of Israeli artists.

The members of the trio are all recipients of the foundation's Sharett scholarship as artists-in-residence at the Banff Centre for the Arts in Alberta. Shiloah says the mixed residency program of study and performance will give the trio the opportunity to prepare for a worldwide tour scheduled to start in February.

Following the St. Lawrence Centre appearance, the Jerusalem Trio headed to Vancouver to meet with musicians Murray Perahia, Issac Stern and Bernhard Greenhouse, all of whom have coached them.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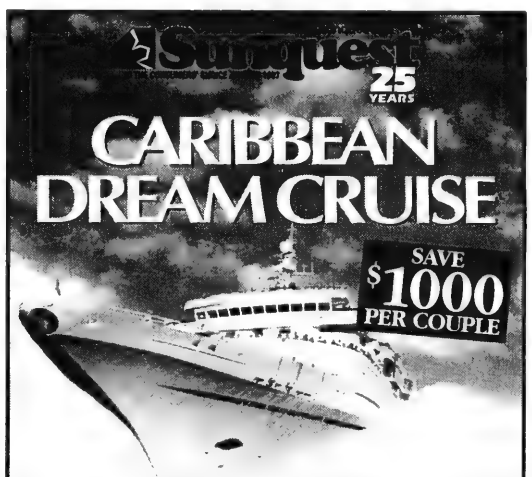

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

WAXMAN TURNS AUTHOR

Well-known actor-director **Al Waxman** has just signed with Malcolm Lester Books to write an autobiography.

"We're thrilled to be publishing his story," says Lester. "What he's written to date indicates that this will be an engrossing, beautifully crafted memoir that will delight all."

Waxman, a veteran of more than 1,000 productions including his recent portrayal of Willie Loman in *Death Of A Salesman* at Stratford, was inducted into the Order of Canada earlier this year. His autobiography is due for release in 1999.

* * *

History Through Ephemera: Jewish Life at the Turn of the Century As Seen Through Ephemera is an exhibit of items from the collection of Barbara Rusch, founder and president of the Ephemera Society of Canada.

Opening reception is Dec. 10, 8 p.m. Shaarei Shomayim Congregation, 470 Glencairn Ave., Toronto. The exhibit continues to March 1998.

* * *

Patinkin Records in Yiddish: **Mandy Patinkin**, who performed two concerts at Toronto's Hummingbird Centre recently, opened his first show with a rousing rendition of the Yiddish tune *Ten Pennies*. He sang a few other Yiddish numbers for his greatly appreciative audience, including a hilarious version of the **Irving Berlin** classic *White Christmas*.

Patinkin, famed for his roles in *Yentl*, *Evita* and other movies, announced that he had just finished recording a CD of Yiddish songs that is expected to be released next spring.

* * *

Literary Prize: U.S. novelist **Robert Cohen** was to receive the Ribalow Prize in New York this week for his novel *The Here And Now*, which tells the story of a chance encounter on an airplane between **Samuel Karnish**, a Manhattan magazine editor who has seen better days, and a chassidic couple.

The Ribalow Prize is administered by *Hadassah Magazine*. Previous winners have included **Francine Prose**, **Lore Segal**, **Ann Roiphe** and **Anita Desai**.

* * *

Bernstein Auction: An autographed Bosendorfer piano, a composing desk, conducting batons, records, Judaica, clothing and pre-Columbian art are among the former possessions of composer-conductor **Leonard Bernstein** that are soon to go on Sotheby's auction block in New York.

The collection, which once graced Bernstein's apartment in the famed Dakota building in Manhattan, includes about 1,000 volumes on music, literature, religion and philosophy. Bernstein's library also contained some 150 volumes of Judaica, including a Talmud published in Vilnius in 1927 and inscribed works by **Abba Eban**, **Chaim Herzog** and **Elie Wiesel**.

The sale is scheduled for Dec. 10 and 11 in New York. Some of the proceeds will go to the Bernstein Education Through the Arts (BETA) Fund.

* * *

Arts Briefs: Singer-actor **Theresa Tova** is the guest artist at a Chanukah Celebration hosted by The New Fraternal Jewish Association, Dec. 16, 8 p.m., Lodzer Centre, 10 Heaton St. Also **Dr. Ruth Borchiver** speaks on the significance of Chanukah. $5. 416-663-0497...

Charactors Theatre Troupe presents *The Children's Hour*, a play by **Lillian Hellman**, directed by **Randy Pryce**. $14. Vaughan City Playhouse, Dec. 10-13. 905-709-4057...

Gallery One has published a limited edition poster of **Helen Frankenthaler**'s work *Skywriting*. The seriagraph is printed in an edition of 500 and costs $250. 416-929-3103. Also, new paintings by **Mary Pavey** are on view thru Jan. 28. 121 Scollard...

Nightwood Theatre presents *Random Acts*, written and performed by **Diane Flacks**, through Dec. 14 at Buddies In Bad Times Theatre, 12 Alexander St. 416-975-8555...

Harpist **Judy Loman** performs with soprano **Monica Whicher** and the Toronto Children's Chorus on Dec. 13, St. John's Anglican Church. $15-$18. Proceeds to HAADD (Homes for Adults with Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders). 416-922-3124.

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CORRECTION

In the story "Humpback whales entertain visitors to Sandyneck Harbor," Nov.6 page 48, Sandyneck Harbor was incorrectly placed. It is in Hyannis, Mass. not Ryannie.

Business Profile

CARP leads the battle against CPP reform

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The political clout of Canadian seniors has become legendary.

In 1985, angry seniors confronted then prime minister Brian Mulroney over suggested changes to seniors benefits, and the besieged government issued a statement affirming the principle of universality.

By 1997, government strategy was taking into account seniors' political muscle. Federal officials, including Finance Minister Paul Martin, went to great lengths to consult with elderly Canadians and seniors groups across the country.

One of those who received a visit from a federal delegation was Lillian Morgenthau, president of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP), one of Canada's most influential seniors groups. The amicable meeting between Martin and his aides, on the one hand, and CARP representatives on the other, focused on federal plans to introduce a new Seniors Benefit (SB) that will take the place of the Old Age Security (OAS) and Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) programs. The participants also discussed RRSP rules and financial support for those who care for elderly parents or friends.

A visit by the senior minister responsible for the country's financial affairs was certainly a feather in the cap for Morgenthau. It pointed to the importance attributed to CARP by the highest levels of government – quite a heady achievement for an organization that 12 years ago consisted of Morgenthau and her husband, Murray, and which was run out of the basement of their home.

Today, CARP boasts a national membership of 310,000, a head office in Toronto and regional representatives across the country. It prides itself on keeping health and shelter issues on policy-makers' front burners and representing the varied interests of those over 50 years of age.

It has been particularly scathing in its critique of the proposed Seniors Benefit, which was introduced in March 1996 and is to take effect in January 2001. "We feel it is a flawed instrument and should be redone," said Morgenthau.

Although the government claims 75 percent of seniors will do better under the SB compared to current seniors programs, CARP cites numerous financial experts to the contrary. Under the proposed benefits scheme, recipients will get only $120 a year more than they do under the current package, hardly a make or break figure. Meanwhile, Canada Pension Plan (CPP) recipients will see their benefits cut by $12 a month, meaning those who receive both the CPP and the SB will be worse off by $2 a month, CARP points out.

CARP is highly critical of other aspects of the Seniors Benefit, particularly the provision that discriminates between singles and couples. Single seniors will receive $11,240 a year, couples $18,440. A single senior will lose all Seniors Benefits when their income exceeds $52,000, while that figure is $78,000 for couples.

Furthermore, the amount that retirees receive from the SB will be clawed back, based on income, at a much higher rate that that used for current OAS benefits. Today, seniors can earn $53,000 per person in retirement income before losing benefits to clawbacks and they do not lose their OAS benefits completely until their incomes exceed $85,000 a person.

Under the Seniors Benefit, low income seniors earning less than $12,250 (from other sources, such as an RRSP) will lose 50 cents of every dollar of family retirement income they receive. However, those who earn more than $25,921 in family income will lose 20 percent of other source income in clawbacks.

The effect of the new program will be "to eliminate any form of income support for seniors at a much lower income than is now the case. By the year 2001, middle class people will have significantly less retirement income," states a CARP analysis on the Seniors Benefit.

The analysis also suggests that "with the clawbacks, there is little or no incentive for any low, and some middle income Canadians to use RRSPs. If they do, they are likely to have just enough retirement income to trigger all the clawbacks and lose all the benefits of the tax-free Seniors Benefit payments."

Morganthau is passionate in attacking the proposals that discriminate between singles and couples. "It's against marriage," she said. "It suggests common law is the best thing."

Lillian Morgenthau, president of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons.

CARP has received many letters "asking if they'd be better off if they divorced or separated," she added.

CARP has called for massive changes to the SB as well as a 15-year transition phase to allow elderly Canadians to arrange their finances with it in mind.

For Morgenthau, fighting inequities that target seniors was the raison d'être for CARP's creation in the first place. In the mid-1980s when Murray turned 60, his insurance policy tripled.

"I said that's stupid. I'm not paying it. I investigated and got him the same coverage with no rise in fees," Morgenthau said.

At the time, Morgenthau was a housewife active in community volunteer work, helping the Baycrest Centre and B'nai Brith Canada among other places. "I felt [the insurance premium] was terribly unfair, especially after being associated with Baycrest. I realized there must be a lot of people out there in the same boat who didn't have the resources to reverse it."

Motivated by the desire to help seniors, Lillian and Murray discussed the idea of forming CARP. "There is no question in my mind that over-50s needed someone to tell them what was happening in Canada and to inform them of government action," she said.

They approached 10 friends and asked them for $10 each to help get the organization on its feet. Aided by Murray's administrative skills as a businessman, they had cards printed and published a four-page newsletter that was distributed to 312 people. The organization grew through word of mouth and over the years, before attaining national scope.

The list of issues it has addressed is impressive. In 1984, CARP criticized rules that required RRSPs to remain locked in before retirement and that limited the term of an RRIF to 20 years. It lobbied to remove the GST from dental and physio-therapeutic devices and it pushed to change rules that required 80-year-olds to take a yearly driving test. Now, octogenarians need be tested only every two years. CARP has a medical advisory board that advises seniors on new trends in health and it has protested proposals to require doctors to prescribe cheaper, generic drugs, arguing that these are not necessarily the most effective.

"Before CARP," Morgenthau said, "older people accepted everything. Now we tell them, don't accept anything.

"I believe everyone over 50 should belong to CARP, for their own sake," she said.

Sonny Goldstein, CLU,CH.F.C.
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SOBIE'S (416) 224-2526
162 Willowdale Ave., Willowdale
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Repairs to washers, dryers, dishwashers and stoves. 2 yrs warr. Same Day Service. **FREE est.**
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Weddings • Bar Mitzvahs
Tri✡Elm Catering
3 Banquet Halls • Joe Elmaleh
Glatt Kosher **631-7322** COR 200
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Brit Milah • Bar/Bat Mitzvahs (COR)
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We offer top service in cleaning & maintaining your Chandeliers & Fixtures
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Quality socks for children at below retail prices
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Air Conditioning, Electrical Contracting, licensed, repair services, reasonable, guaranteed. 905-882-5474.

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Marcantonio Furniture Repair Specializing in touch-ups. Restoration & general repairs done on premises. 654-0518.

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Remarkable Gift Ideas
Stunning selection. If you want to look good & feel good, we have incredible cosmetics made with natural herbs, especially for you! Call 416-244-9259.

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• Drywall • Plaster • Painting
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Sinks, tiles from $199. & up. **FREE** Estimate. 416-753-3097.

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Perry's Handyman Service. All types of repairs, reas. (416) 429-2728, pgr. (416) 374-5718.

Precision Painting. Int./Ext. quality work. Specialty painting, light carpentry. **FREE** Est. Call Steve, 416-932-9847.

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Calligraphy, for lovely handdone work.Reisa 905-889-7534.

Invitations for all. Unbeatable price, selection & service. Call Mark, A & D 905-731-5864.

Designs By Sharon. Fabulous invitations in all price ranges. Hebrew type avail., addressing envelopes in any colour, great specials! Gerri, 905-881-5884.

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Bar/Bat Mitzvahs. Pre-record speech &/or Haftorah in a studio setting onto your own personal CD. Preserve a wonderful memory. Prices starting from $300. Call 416-588-6751.

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AROMA Moving,any size truck + 2 men,$35/hr. & up. 450-0381

B-K Movers. 2-28' trucks. Homes, offices, apts. Family busnss. Reasonable. 274-6144.

G&M Moving and Storage. Apts., homes, offices. Short notice. Large or small. We carry supplies. 738-4030, 663-0630.

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Bargain Painter, apts, houses, offices. Mikhilov, 633-5973.

Benjamin & Moore painting & gen. improv. needs. Prof. workmanship. Comm./Res. 905-761-1542, pgr. 416-379-3082, Ben.

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Exp. painter/ plasterer/ vinyl tile flooring. Best prices. Free est. Guaranteed. Bill, 638-9249.

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Yoni Painting, Affordable High Quality Painting. **FREE** estimates. **Seniors Discount.** Call (416) 661-8515, Yoni.

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HAPPY DAYS (COR)
THE BAR MITZVAH SPECIALISTS!
★ Custom Centrepieces
★ Balloon Decorating
★ All occasion Gift Baskets
★ Party Rentals
(416) **789-GIFT**

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*** HOLLYWOOD ***
produces Stars. We produce *outstanding* **Videos** of your Simchas. **Bar/Bat Mitzvah** coverage from $495 and our "unique" **PHOTO PUZZLE** of your child as an alternative to the candlelighting ceremony.
SPOTLIGHT VIDEO
Fred or Shirley (416) 229-6000

Renewed Images. Photo restorations & hand colouring avail. Call 905-770-0230.

The Canadian Jewish news

CLASSIFIED/SERVICE DIRECTORY
PLEASE NOTE:
EARLY DEADLINES FOR THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

DECEMBER 25th
Deadline
Tuesday, Dec. 16th, noon

JANUARY 8th
Deadline
Tuesday, Dec. 30th, noon

The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days:
Thursday, December 25th
Friday, December 26th
Thursday, January 1st
Friday, January 2nd

The office will close early on the following days:
Wednesday December 24, 1pm
Wednesday December 31, 3pm

455 PHOTOGRAPHY/ VIDEO

SHOE BOXES
full of **Movie Film?** Your **Movie Reels** taking up space? We'll transfer all of it onto **VIDEO.** We're "SPECIALISTS" at preserving **PRECIOUS MEMORIES.**
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HOME CONTENTS LIQUIDATORS
"WE SELL AT YOUR PLACE OR OURS"
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Made To Measure
TABLE PADS
Dover Pad. Finest quality since 1950. Heat resistant to 600°F. Many colours. Home service, no obligation.
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Artege Table Pads Custom-made, top quality, heat resistant. Wide selection, courteous home service. 745-2711.

500 TUTORING/ LESSONS

Hebrew lessons by an exper. teacher. Call 787-8503.

Hebrew lessons by qualif. teacher. 905-886-1356.

510 UPHOLSTERY

Arctic Custom Upholstering Free est. Let us beautify your yesterdays furniture. Free armcovers, free toss pillows with every 2-piece suite. 665-3445.

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Shop at home. Verticals, venetians, rolling shades, pleated blinds, reupholstering, invisible repairs, cushion rubber change, stainguarding. Work guaranteed, **Free est.** Call anytime 224-2211, 223-1655.

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- CUSTOMER SERVICE -

The CJN **requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.**

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

REAL ESTATE Section

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

"WE OPEN DOORS FOR YOU"

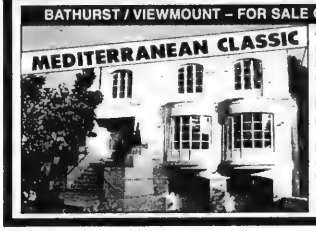
DAVID EICHORN REALTY LIMITED 787-1712

BATHURST / LAWRENCE

California-style ranch bungalow, pride of ownership, 4 bedrooms + family room, 69 x 120 ft. lot. ACT NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

SOLD

BATHURST / VIEWMOUNT – FOR SALE OR FOR RENT



Custom built, stunning quality craftsmanship + finishes. 4200 sq. ft. (approx.) + fin. bsmt. 9 1/2 ft. ceilings on main floor, Neff designer kitchen. Live your dreams NOW! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712

BATHURST / YORK DOWNS — NEW LISTING!
Spacious 4 bedroom executive home, family room, library, fin. bsmt. including in-law suite, gorgeous lot backs onto Clanton Park, only $499,000. Call Michael Klugman (416) 787-1712.

• • •

3000 BATHURST — CONDO — NEW LISTING!
Desirable unit, western exposure, shows to perfection, 2 bedrooms + den, very spacious 1,450 sq. ft. (approx.), **PRICED TO SELL** at only $239,000. Call now for an appointment! Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE
Detached bungalow! Renovated + decorated! Gleaming hardwood, new eat-in kitchen, finished floors, basement, a great deal at only $239,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712

GLEN PARK — CUSTOM-BUILT NEW HOME
Luxurious upgrades throughout, hardwood floors in bedrooms, European kitchen, oak trims + baseboards, approx. 3,400 sq. ft. + bsmt., fabulous location, asking $629,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / HILLHURST – RARE OFFERING
Upper Forest Hill, custom-built, luxury finishes, cathedral ceilings, 4,500 sq. ft. (approx.) + basement, dramatic curb appeal. A MUST SEE! Asking $949,000. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

• • •

BATHURST / LAWRENCE — STORE FOR SALE – REDUCED!!!
Vendor says SELL! Popular retail strip, vacant, ideal for user, only $149,900. Call David Eichorn (416) 787-1712.

Forest Hill
Real Estate Inc. Realtor
(416) 488-2875 (416) 226-1987

CENTRAL PROPERTIES

CENTRAL LOCATION! REDUCED! $849K
Value plus! Must be seen! Cathy Kwinter* 488-2875

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE – JUST $779K
Stone masterpiece to be built. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

8 YEAR NEW CUSTOM HOME! FINCH/$ENLAC
Gorgeous 5 bdrm. home. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE – BRAND NEW – $568K
Lux. brick 3 bdrm. + 4 bath, gar. Gitta Bogard* 488-2875

FAB. CEDARVALE HOME ON GREAT LOT!
3 bdrm. + mstr. ens., A/C, restored! Sammy Roth** 488-2875

JUST LISTED! VAUGHAN/ST. CLAIR
Immaculate 3 bdrm., detached. Faithe Sversky** 488-2875

NORTH PROPERTIES

RICHMOND HILL MUST SEE! RAVINE $359K
4+1 W/O lower, ideal home/office. O. Guvenal* 226-1987

CONDOMINIUMS

110 BLOOR ST. – EXCELLENT VIEWS!
2 bdrm. + den, an entertainers dream! Beth Sokol* 488-2875

LOWER VILLAGE GATE – GARDEN SUITE!
2 beds, 2 baths, great layout! Beth Sokol* 488-2875

**Associate Broker *Sales Representative

HARVEY KALLES
REAL ESTATE LIMITED REALTOR

Celebrating our 40th Year!

SPADINA/ST. CLAIR – JAN.-JUNE
Rental. Exquisite condo. 2000' Beautiful furnished designer decor., pkg. $2,500/mth. Gert Kerbel*

3000 BATHURST – $239K - 1ST AD
S. of Lawrence - lux. condo, 1500', 2 bdrm. & den, gourmet kit., 2 baths, 5 appl's, pkg., "Opportunity"! Gert Kerbel*

BATHURST/LAWRENCE – IT'S A JEWEL!
$279K - 6 rm. bung., fin. in-law apt., beautiful reno. Shows to perfection a "10+" 45'x120' lot. Gert Kerbel*

CALL CHAIM FOR AVENUE RD./LAWRENCE
Land value or custom built homes 2400-4200 sq. ft., mostly exclusive listings - my builders will pay top $$$$$ for your property. For appt. Call Chaim Talpalar*

PRESTIGIOUS BRIDLE PATH AREA
21 Bayview Ridge - Just reduced $400K - 2 acre ravine, 9 bdrm., 12 baths, suit large family. C. Talpalar* & J. Burstein*

* Sales Representative ** Associate Broker

A percentage of all our sales will be donated to "Turning Point Charity" supporting Homeless Youth.

(416) 441-2888 www.harveykalles.com

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

1 bdr in a 2 bdr condo for rent, facil, $475/mo. 905-709-6207.

Retired gentleman seeks same to share apt. on a Mexican Island. Call 789-0735

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

BATHURST/EGLINTON
Customized 4 bedroom, 4 bathroom penthouse. 2200 sq. ft. Walkout roof patio. Spectacular view.
CALL 416 - 485-1193

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
Very lg 1, 2, 3 Bdrms, ample closets, some 1½ baths & 2 balc; roof laundry, ravine setting, pool, ind. pkg., 6 apts per flr. From $850.
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377or 631-0388 - Super

Bath./Glencairn, lge bright 1 bdrm bsmt apt & 2 bdrm bsmt apt, avail Jan. 1st, n/pets, n/smkr. Steps to TTC, shops, shuls. 256-0470.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Century Village, Boca Raton, 2 bdrms, 1 1/2 bths, cac, all mdrn. appls, immac, full facil, clubhouse on premises. $57.5K U.S. Priced to sell immed., (furn or unfurn.). 216-464-3357, after 6pm or on weekends.

Century Village, Deerfield Bch,2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bth, scrnd-in patio, crnr unit, 2nd flr, 1bdrm. $41K U.S. Call 201-228-1842.

N.M. Bch, 2 bdrm, 1 bth, furn, move-in cond. 416-223-0686.

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Gorgeous Miami Beach studio apt. facing the ocean, pool surrounded by Palm trees, just a few feet from sand. Unit just decorated with new furniture, appl's. Perfect for vacationing families. Toll free: 1-800-832-5784 or 305-821-9404, ask for Nelsys.

Miami, Hallandale, 1 bdrm, 1 1/2 bths., ocean view, $1800./mo. U.S. 416-638-7257.

Miami, lux. 1 bdrm, kosher condo, nr. THE SHUL & Bal Harbour shops, 3 mos. (Jan.-Mar.) 416-783-9173,reasonable

N. Miami Beach, opp. ocean, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, tennis, fitness, clubhouse,full secur., $1950/mo US,min. 2 mos.631-9994, Mark

S. Miami Beach, 1 bdrm. renov'd., pkg, near shops, restaurants, shul, $1100./mo. U.S. Bernice, 416- 667-8045.

Surfside Bal Harbour on the Ocean, luxury 2 bdrm, 2 bth, min. 4 mos., $2000./ mo. U.S., walking dist. to Bal Harbour and Houses of Worship. Call 954-458-0913.

THE ULTIMATE VACATION. Luxury & privacy in a tropical paradise, 3 bdr., 3 bath villa, Ft. Laud., 2400' sq. ft., home theatre, 5 TV's, hot tub, pool, sports, kid's rec. Ideal for family/2 couples.Wk./mo.or Xmas 445-6200

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Palm Beach condo., oceanfront, 2 bdrms., 2 baths, furn., immed. occup. 416-504-4267.

BATHURST/WILSON – MUST SELL!!
- 3 Bdrm. condo, spac., 2 reno.bths., balc, best exp. - $149,900
- 3 Bdrm. bung., lge. liv. & din. rms. 2 baths, marble - $305,000
- 3 Bdrm., 2 sty, 2 bths., 2 kits., steps to all, bsmnt. apt. - $289,000

ANNETTE ROSENTHAL (416) 704-1471
Homelife/5 Star (416) 633-6666

BEST NORTH YORK BUY BATHURST & FINCH
3+1 Bdrms., 2½ Baths, Main floor family room & wood burning fireplace. Walk-out to deck & garden. Gorgeous parquet floors, new "privacy" windows, Italian designer 16" ceramics, state of the art kitchen, premium appliances, finished basement/entry from garage. Beautifully renovated.
Michelle Kahn/Ferne Kirschner CENTURY 21 Heritage Group Ltd. (905) 764-7111

10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE

Bath./Lawr,55',spac lrg 3 bdrm bung,bright,upgrades,new deck & kit,fin bsmt. **Private**. 782-1984

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

3 bdrm bungalow, top floor, 5 appls, Bathurst/Wilson, n/smkr. Call 635-6427.

24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY

York Mills/Bayview,No agents Private. 416-245-5888.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

Bath./Finch, Savoy, cornr, 21st flr, approx. 2600',3 bths, whirlpl, marble,extras galore! 736-8007

BATHURST-TORRESDALE
Just reduced! $229,000. End unit condo over 1600 sq. ft. family rm., gorgeous, upgraded, must be sold.

BEVERLY GLEN-BATHURST
$369,900, 3400 sq. ft. + 1500 sq. ft. in bsmt., 5 bedrooms, 5 baths, 2 ensuite, hardwood thru-out, open stairs to bsmt. Don't miss this gem.
SALLY ROSEN
(905) 884-4425
CENTURY 21 SMITH LTD.

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

The SKYMARK Specialist

DON MILLS & FINCH (TORONTO)
A few well-priced resales available: 2 bdrm. + fam. + sol. or balc., over 1,700 sq. ft. A couple of suites for rent. For our updated inventory, call Santee Leung, F.R.I.

Santee Realty Inc.
(416) 441-2003
(24 hrs.)

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

Yonge/Sheppard, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, 5 appls, pkg, walk to subway, avail. Jan. 1. $1400. incl. all util., n/smkr. Call 221-6436.

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Miami Bch., Mimosa, 2 bdrm, 2 bth, newly renov'd & furn, facing north, no balc. 416-789-5714.

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

ANBER MOVERS
(LOCAL MOVING)
SPECIALIST IN:
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NEW YORK ↔ FLORIDA
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Wieder Realty Inc.
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Seasonal rental or sale. Lg. studio apt.on pool deck overlooking lake. Attached to clubhouse. Social program
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230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Investors/partner req'd. Young bldr./engineer, 10 yrs. in bus., requires investor/partner. Bldr. desires to expand bus. & take advantage of excell. real estate market. Good opportunity for retired person. If inter., an interview can be arranged.782-3004

235 FINANCIAL SERVICES

Fed Up with Low GIC/CSB Returns?
Stock Market Too Volatile?
REITs and Syndicates too Complicated?
Here's a Solid Investment Opportunity:
- annual carefree return: 7.5% per annum
- guaranteed monthly income
- fully secured by ownership of real estate
- tax sheltering potential
- minimum $1,000,000.00 investment

Call (416) 363-4266

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Job opportunities. Please call Elias Sabastian at 757-7723.

Perm. p/t real estate legal secretary req'd for downtown sole practitioner, 2 days/wk. Candidates must possess strong real estate exper & Wordperfect 6.0. Flex. hrs. & pay. Fax résumés to: 416-595-5480.

Principal req'd. immed. for small congregational Sunday school in Brampton. Exper. teacher pref. For info. call 905-846-9752.

247 DAY CARE

Day Care in safe, warm, home, exper. ECE teacher + assistant, F/T, kosher nutritional meals, Bath/Centre area.905-771-0500

Daycare by exper. kindergarten teacher. 905-886-1356.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

AB Cleaning Service, very reliable house cleaning service, easy terms, convenient hours. Refs. Call 905-602-0339.

Cleaning lady available, very honest, experienced with refs. Call Janet, 416-638-8313.

EC Access Employ. Agency Filipino owned. Nannies/ Hskprs/Companions. **905-475-2518 or 416-917-2059.**

Exper. lady with HCA Certif. seeks job looking after elderly, also cleaning/driving. Call 690-9761,between 4-6pm.

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

GOLDEN CARE LTD.
People you trust taking care of people you love.
We have live-in and live-out caregivers. We specialize in helping seniors, and people afflicted with Stroke, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's.
LOW RATES WITH THE BEST PERSONAL SERVICE
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Old fashioned domestic services, reliable and honest. Best references available!
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(416) 289-4392

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RECEIVE THE PERSONAL TOUCH!
Live-in/out nannies, care for the elderly. Bonded, references.
Call MARLA
226-4325

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Harvscott Domestic Services
"Five stars above the rest"
Available: prof. cleaning ladies, nannies, housekeepers,party helpers. Exper. with refs. & legal. 905-771-7882.

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

I will keep your home clean & tidy on a regular basis (small offices also) at reas. rates. Call Angie, 630-9215, after 5 pm.

Jewish and Russian ladies avail. for child & elderly care, also housekeeping. 932-3042

Nannies, live-in/out, full/part-time, in-home elderly care, FT, PT, RN's, nurses aides, cleaning. Bonded,refs. **416-630-0674 or 416-224-9907. #1 Domestic.**

Reliable European lady will clean your house or apartment. Call 416-763-2320.

Filipinas, Nannies/Housekeepers in Phillippines, Israel & Hong Kong seeking sponsors anywhere in Ont. **No charge to employer**. Call Ontario Employment Agency, 416-699-6931.

Frustrated by trying to find a suitable nanny? Let us help you. We have dependable, caring nannies who are thoroughly qualified, personally interviewed & pre-screened. All refs. are checked. Some are CPR trained. Low finders fee.
Wee Care Placement Agency
416-789-3070

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

APPLE DOMESTICS NEED A NANNY?
- **No Fee to Employer**
- Professionally screened, Qualified, Live-in Nannies available for sponsorship.
- Choose from Nurses, Midwives, Teachers
- We prepare all documents for you.
- We have a 100% Approval rate!

(416) 730-0127

DOMESTIC SEARCH
Our Company is dedicated to fulfilling the domestic needs of your family. Tired of searching for the right nanny, housekeeper, elderly caregiver? We pre-screen, interview & verify references personally. Why not let the search end here?
CALL (416) 630-3773

European cleaning lady avail. Refs. avail. 905-874-1720.

255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED

Cook/Housekeeper, with refs. for adult family. Call 789-5505.

259 SENIORS

MPS Best-Care Ltd.
SENIOR'S HELP
Nurses, Nurses Aides, Caregivers, Homehelpers, Companions, live-in/out.
416-925-4417 (24 hr. 905-731-0567 Service)

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

INCREDIBLE HOLIDAY SPECIALS on 6 months/1 year terms! Sign with **SIZEABLE ENCOUNTERS,** the dating service for above-average sized singles and their admirers, by Dec. 20/97. Call **905-731-1366.**

Jewish Singles Registry,over 1495 members. Website, www.total.net/~jsreg. 483-4151

The Jewish Dating Network. Money-Back Guarantee. All ages, local, caring counsellors. **Call 1-800-263-6831**

265 PEOPLE SEARCH

Are you a descendent of the **Spiegel** family, originating from **Lagov, Poland?** Come to our family reunion, Fall of 1998. **Fax** pertinent family background & info. to: Pia Brown (Spiegel) at: 416-485-3155.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Ladies-Gentlemen!? Mr. Cupid Sociable Services can assist you to find relationships or friends. Call 782-7592

Replying to a Companion ad with a CJN Box Number?

Address your mail to:

The Canadian Jewish News
1500 Don Mills Rd.
Suite 205
North York, Ontario
M3B 3K4
Box # _____

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

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330 OBITUARIES

SHUKEN, Benjamin - on Nov. 14, 1997, late of 479 Wilson Ave., #3.
JACOBSON, Ruth - on Nov. 15, 1997, late of 30 Menin Rd.
JUDKIEWICZ, Regina - on Nov. 16, 1997, late of 6020 Bathurst St., #505.
SUTTON, Paul - on Nov. 16, 1997, late of 4 Paul Markway.
ROTMAN, Sarah - on Nov. 18, 1997, late of 10 Tichester Rd., #205.
RUBIN, Rae - on Nov. 18, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
GALLOON, Samuel - on Nov. 19, 1997, late of 19 Lower Village Gate, #410.
PERLMAN, Phyllis - on Nov. 19, 1997, late of 2045 Lakeshore Blvd., #2901.

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*Hot/Cold Platters and Full Course Meals
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3457 BATHURST ST.

330 OBITUARIES

SZOSTAK, Leon - on Nov. 16, 1997.
MEYERS, Esther - on Nov. 17, 1997.
PACIORNIK, Anna - on Nov. 17, 1997.
BERENSTEIN, Ekaterina - on Nov. 18, 1997.
BEYGINA, Maria - on Nov. 18, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
COPPEL, Anna - on Nov. 18, 1997, late of 70 Macklin St. N.
ROSEN, Michel - on Nov. 18, 1997, late of 103 Hove St.
DONNENHIRSH, Amelia - on Nov. 19, 1997.
FELDBERG, Margaret - on Nov. 20, 1997, late of 2 Silverton Ave.
WEISZBERGER, Martha - on Nov. 20, 1997.
WLOSKO, Sidney - on Nov. 20, 1997, late of 90 Fisherville Rd.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

KING SOLOMON'S CATERING COR 630-0666 SHIVA CATERING

330 OBITUARIES

COHEN, Annie - on Nov. 21, 1997, late of 72 Palm Dr.
FORMAN, Sally - on Nov. 21, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
SHEMEN, Toby - on Nov. 21, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
BERGER, Leo - on Nov. 22, 1997, late of 1101 Steeles Ave. W.
HUROWITZ, David - on Nov 22, 1997, late of 85 Waterloo Ave.
MOOS, Henry - on Nov. 22, 1997, late of 38 Berkindale Dr.
FISHMAN, Sarra - on Nov. 23, 1997, late of 131 Torresdale Ave.
PACIORNIK, Ruvin - on Nov. 23, 1997.
ZOMBORY, Anna - on Nov. 23, 1997, late of 3555 Bathurst St.
BRAUN, Robert - on Nov. 24, 1997, late of 34 Michael Crt.
COHEN, Pearl - on Nov. 24, 1997.
HARDAS, Manya - on Nov. 24, 1997, late of 91 Townsgate Dr.
BOLDAN, Emil - on Nov. 25, 1997, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E.
GLEIZERMAN, Sonia - on Nov. 25, 1997, late of 3 Goldfinch Crt.
TAPIERO, Judah Leon - on Nov. 25, 1997, late of 7 Crown Heights Cres.

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-EXCH./SHARE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
358 BRIDAL
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
386 DANCING
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
483 SKIING
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
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546 WORD PROCESSING
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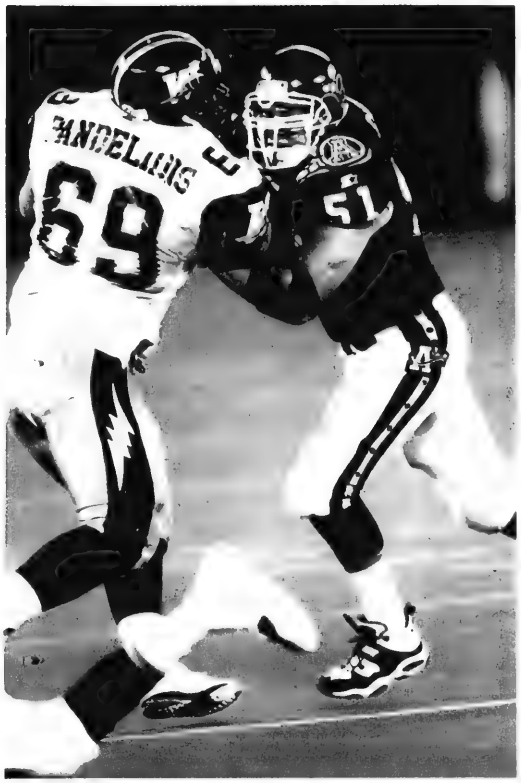

Backup defensive lineman Noah Cantor (right) tangles with a Blue Bomber in a regular season matchup. [John Sokolowski photo]

Argo lineman confident going into Grey Cup

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Let's face it. It would have taken an upset of biblical proportions for the Saskatchewan Roughriders to knock off the Toronto Argonauts as Grey Cup champions in the season just past. With their star-studded, salary cap-exceeding lineup, the Argos were clearly the class of the Canadian Football League (CFL).

So, it should come as no surprise to anyone who follows the football wars to learn that the Argos were never nervous about losing the big game.

"We were very relaxed, very confident," said Noah Cantor, a backup defensive lineman and kicking team specialist with the Boatmen. Only when the team hit the field for the pre-game warm-up did the players start feeling excited. Last year, there was more nervousness, though not about the game itself. Players were concerned about their footwear and the field conditions, he said.

With the 47-23 Argo victory, the 26-year-old earned his second diamond-encrusted championship ring. By no means "a jewelry person," Cantor wears his first ring only on special occasions, and to show his buddies what all his hard work and dedication got him. After all, he said, "this is always what you play for."

Cantor said his teammates knew right from the start of the season they had the horses to win it all. "It's a great bunch of guys," he said. "Last year, it was a whole new groups of guys so it took longer to gel. We had a good feeling right from the start of the year."

Noah Cantor

Comparing the '97 Grey Cup to last year's win, Cantor said "it feels the same. It's still something you have to work for all year long. The excitement wasn't the same as last year, because that was my first year, but the satisfaction is still there."

As for the game itself, it passed so quickly, "it seems like a big blur now."

At six-foot-four, 265 pounds, Cantor was a key member of the kickoff and return teams and he got in for a couple of short yardage situations. Though coach Don Matthews was quoted saying the Argo backups are an integral part of the team, Cantor would be happier playing a different role.

"As a backup, you don't feel you're an important component. It's hard as a backup. You want to play as much as you can. I find it hard to play that role."

Cantor believes he could be a starter on other CFL teams and he may get the chance to prove that someday soon. After three years with the Argos, his contract is up and he becomes free agent at the end of February, able to sign with any Canadian team without restriction.

Although he's still in the celebration mode and hasn't thought too much about it, Cantor is hopeful he'll earn a starting position with the Argos next season. The entire Argo defensive are becoming free agents and it's still not clear who'll be back with the team next year, he said.

That holds true with other parts of the team as well. Late season rumors had coach Matthews considering a move to the NFL and, despite his protestations to the contrary, there's talk that Doug Flutie might once again try his luck in the No Fun League.

In the two years he's played for Matthews, Cantor is impressed with the coach's knowledge of the game and his preparation. "Everything that happens, he's aware of it. If you make a mistake on the field, he'll let you know. He watches a lot of film. He's very well prepared and he's a great motivator."

In the aftermath of the Grey Cup, Cantor enjoyed the afterglow of the victory and hung out with some of his old St. Mary's University buddies. Together, they attended the Vanier Cup, which St. Mary's lost twice in Cantor's day.

Then Noah, the son of Bev and Danny Cantor, headed back to his hometown of Ottawa and a stint behind the counter of his family's retail meat store, The Butchery. Like last year during the holiday season, "I'll be handing out the turkeys," he said.

The Butchery is operated by Noah's brother, Mark, while his father, Danny, runs the wholesale end of the business.

SUNNYBROOK 4:23 P.M.
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SENIORS SUNDAYS – SENIORS: RECEIVE A 10% DISCOUNT ON YOUR TOTAL FOOD BILL WITH A MINIMUM $20.00 PURCHASE! Cash or Debit Card Only with promotion. PST, GST, Tobacco and specific advertised items excluded from this offer. Offer is available Sundays only. Offer Valid Until January 25, 1998. (Wilmington Store Only)
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PROD. OF THE TROPICS GOLDEN PINEAPPLE 2.99 each
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FROZEN BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST QUARTERS 6.99 lb/15.41 kg
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241 WILMINGTON AVE., (Bathurst Manor Plaza) Sun. 9-5 • Mon.-Tues. 9-7 • Wed. 9-9 Thurs. 8-9 • Fri. 8-7 • Saturday 9-6
305 FINCH AVE. W., (Finchurst Plaza) Sun. 10-5 • Mon.-Fri. 9-9 • Saturday 9-6
Specials effective Wed., Dec. 3rd to Tues., Dec. 9th.
We reserve the right to limit quantities to normal family requirements. Limited quantities on some items. We reserve the right to correct printer's errors.

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

H	E	M	■	O	D	E	■	T	O	E	■	L	F	H
O	R	E	■	S	I	N	■	E	N	D	■	C	I	A
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■	■	■	G	E	T	S	■	S	W	E	E	T	E	R
C	A	N	■	S	H	E	C	H	E	M	■	H	E	R
A	T	O	M	■	E	D	D	I	E	■	C	A	S	S
N	A	M	E	S	■	U	S	E	■	P	A	L	■	■
A	R	A	M	A	I	C	■	L	I	L	L	I	A	N
D	A	D	■	L	I	E	■	D	N	A	■	A	Y	N
A	H	S	■	K	I	D	■	S	K	Y	■	H	E	W

7-0! Yikes!!

JERUSALEM — Israel's all-star women's soccer team made an athletically unspectacular entrance into international competition recently.

During a World Cup preliminary match in Bat Yam, the visiting Romanian squad trounced Israel by a score of 7-0.

However, the 500 spectators who watched the proceedings tried to remain upbeat.

The Inside Back

Law's image takes beating

A lot has been written lately about the rule of law in Israel; how the attacks by politicians and other public figures have damaged the image of the court system in the eyes of the citizens. I would like to tell a story which highlights another side to this issue.

"Sharon," is a young woman of limited means. She works for the police force in the bookkeeping department and lives with her parents. She decided to purchase an apartment and rent it out, using the rent money to pay the mortgage.

On the advice of family, she rented out the apartment. After a few months, the tenant stopped paying the rent and utilities. Neighbors reported that violent and unsavory people were coming to the building at all hours. Sharon's repeated attempts to rectify the situation did not help, and that was when she came to me.

We had to deal with the problem on two levels. Sharon was able to partially limit her losses by having the electric company, gas provider and telephone company cut the apartment off, but Sharon already owed thousands of shekels to them. When the tenant illegally hooked up to the main lines in the building, Sharon found herself having to pay the new bills and deal with the neighbors, who were furious about the dangerous situation.

Our main task, however, was to turn to the court and obtain an eviction order. Kafka would have been proud: We filed a lawsuit on May 28.

Sharon served the papers the same day. Twenty days later, since the tenant ignored the lawsuit, we petitioned for a default judgment. The judgment was obtained on June 22. The court ordered the tenant to leave immediately. Sharon delivered the judgment to the tenant and we opened a file with the Sheriff's Office (the department that enforces judgments).

It took the Sheriff's Office weeks to print out the first "warning," which the law entitles the tenant to receive. Once the "warning" had been issued, the tenant had 20 days to respond. She did not answer the warning and remained in the apartment.

On Aug. 10, we filed a motion for contempt of court. We received a court date for Nov. 17. The Sheriff's Office sent another warning.

On Sept.16, we filed with the Sheriff's Office for an immediate eviction, since the tenant had still not responded to the various warnings. On Oct. 6, they decided to send her a notice and give her 20 days to respond. However, due to the High Holy Days, a foul-up in the Sheriff's Office and a lack of human resources, it was only delivered to her on Nov. 11.

The contempt of court hearing was on Nov. 17. The tenant didn't bother showing up. The judge said that while the tenant hadn't obeyed the order, it was too early to call it contempt of court and dismissed the motion. She also wished us luck.

On the evening of Nov. 23, 10 days before the scheduled eviction, the tenant was seen abandoning the apartment. Sharon was left with a debt of 30,000 shekels (about $12,000) and great bitterness about the justice system. Throughout the entire period, she had said several times that instead of suing, she should have brought some bullies to solve the problem.

I argued with her constantly. As an officer of the court, it is my duty to discourage vigilante justice and I take that responsibility seriously. I also begged her not to get into trouble and insisted that whatever financial damage she suffered paled in comparison to what "getting into trouble" could do to her career on the police force.

The courts in Israel are known as being fair, impartial and enlightened. They are also clogged and overburdened, leading to ridiculous delays, impatient judges and frustrated litigants. Much of the problem can be traced to the litigious nature of society and the failure of attorneys to sacrifice some income in the interest of their clients by encouraging negotiations and settlements.

At the same time, Sharon's story, petty as it may seem, probably has more to do with the damage to the image of the rule of law in Israel than all the comments of the public figures put together.

CANDY KISS COOKIES
THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...
HERB CAPLAN
WE SELL Inglis FOR LESS
1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

60 chocolate kisses
powdered sugar

Dough:
1/2 lb butter or margarine
2 1/2 cups all purpose flour
1/2 cup sugar
1 extra large egg
1 tsp vanilla

In food processor fitted with metal blade, mix flour and butter until crumbly. Add sugar, egg, and vanilla. Mix until blended. Dough will be slightly dry. Place on a flat surface and knead into a ball. Divide into 2 and wrap in waxed paper and refrigerate. Take about 60 chocolate kisses and unwrap them. Preheat oven to 350°F. Break off small piece of dough and place candy kiss inside dough and work dough around the kiss making a ball with the kiss in the centre. Repeat with remaining dough and kisses. Place on ungreased baking sheet. Bake 18-20 minutes or until cookies are solid and bottoms are lightly browned. Remove from baking sheet and immediately roll in powdered sugar. Cool and roll in sugar again. May by frozen. Enjoy!!!

About Life

Dear Ella,

Well, here it is the beginning of December and I am starting to panic like I do every year, because I have nothing to do on New Year's Eve.

I haven't been asked out on a date, invited to a party or even to a friend's home to spend the evening together.

Every year around this time, I get this nauseous feeling in the pit of my stomach. I don't know why I can't seem to let this evening go by just like every other evening. I'm embarrassed to say that I have spent more than a few New Year's Eves alone on my couch, often in tears, watching that annoying ball fall in Times Square. I think about what other people are doing and wonder why I can't be one of those lucky people with great plans. Any suggestions as to how I might get through this one?

Alone Again on New Year's

Dear Alone Again on New Year's,

Boy oh boy have you ever put some pressure on yourself!

First, you only get out of something what you put into it. Have you picked up the phone and asked any of your friends to spend the evening with you? From the sound of your letter, you are waiting patiently for nothing to happen.

Second, what about checking out ads in the papers for parties, possibly singles parties in your age group? Is it because you are uncomfortable to go alone? If that's the reason, remember that many people are there because they too didn't want to spend New Year's Eve alone.

Third, put your warmest winter attire on and head down to Nathan Phillips Square. The mood of the crowds is contagious.

Fourth, and probably your best bet, is volunteer your time. How about spending the evening with people who can't go out? Maybe in an old age home, a hospital or a hospice? I'm sure you'll find many people who could sure use a visit, especially on New Year's Eve. I'll even bet that you come out of there feeling really good, like you've started 1998 on the right foot.

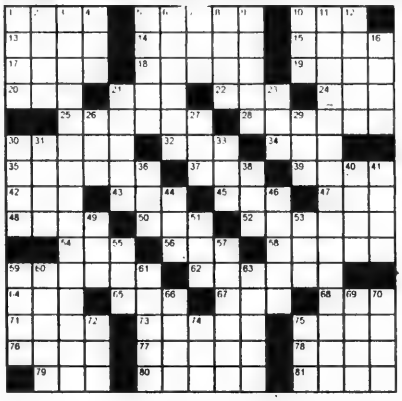
So pick yourself up, dust yourself off and stop feeling sorry for yourself. Here is a chance for you to prove that you can take charge and make your own things happen.

Happy New Year.

Readers may submit their questions to Ella at The CJN. *But Ella is not a professional counsellor. She brings to the questions posed by readers her unique brand of earthy wisdom. Her advice is not a replacement for medical, legal or any other advice. For serious problems, consult a professional.*

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across

1. "Mr. __". Lorre film
5. Arks
10. Byzantine or Messianic
13. Ruth's son
14. Desert station
15. Writer Ayn __
17. Kedem plant
18. Leg joint
19. Borne
20. In addition (abbv.)
21. Biblical measure
22. Speak
24. Vase
25. Plays for Sills
28. Uzis
30. Milt
32. Tref meat
34. Tal (Eng)
35. Mogul Hammer
37. Daled: (Eng.)
39. Dealmaker Monty
42. American Mossad?
43. Jew
45. Poet Baeck
47. Jamie __ Curtis
48. Greenberg
50. Nickname for Salk
52. Rabbi Mordecai
54. Rickles
56. Hebrew letter
58. Napped
59. Imitated the Israelites
62. Country
64. Shikker's choice?
65. Sign a Ketubah
67. Title for Golda
68. Gottex suit top
71. Hebrew letters
73. Bandleader Shaw
75. "__ No Evil" Sharansky work
76. Bigot's forte
77. "Bonanza" dad
78. To Israel (Heb)
79. Haifa to Jerusalem (dir)
80. Rosenbergs?
81. Methuselah

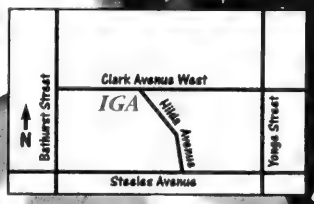
Down

1. Wander
2. Levaye notice
3. Mt. Sinai gift? (2 words)
4. Ha-Levi specialty
5. Step
6. Mother of Samuel
7. Noodge (Eng)
8. Chaverim (Eng)
9. Nazarite no no
10. Sid Gordon's stat
11. Righteous gentile
12. Previn
16. Lion's lairs
21. Youngman
23. Jew
26. Not on Pesach?
27. Shiva mood
29. Yiddish disdain
30. Political party
31. Jan Peerce specialty
33. Brooks
36. Dead send
38. Screech
40. Jump
41. Acted the Usurer?
44. Makes a "fey" a "pey"
46. Desert sweetspot
49. Head (Yid)
51. Capable
53. Arafat's gang
55. NIS word
57. Seven bad years?
59. Mezuma (Eng.)
60. Meir to Myerson
61. Monty Hall specialties
63. Life and Knowledge
66. Let slip
69. Demolish
70. Israeli silver medalist
72. Prophesize
74. Three comb form
75. Air Org.

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 50.)

IGA Grand Re-Opening!



441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

One of the things we're most excited about in our newly redesigned store is our Kosher Kitchen. Fresh hot and cold items will now be prepared on the premises.

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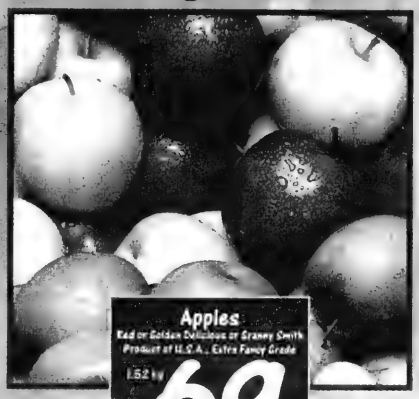

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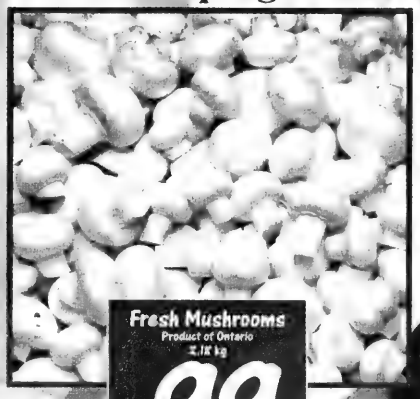

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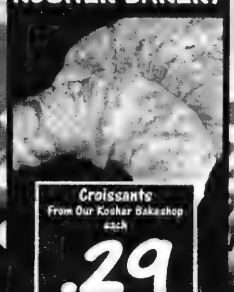

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The Canadian Jewish news

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

U of T launches Chair in Israeli studies. *Page 3*

Sovereign Palestine will be the solution to the Arab-Jewish conflict, Israeli author Amos Oz says. *Page 5*

National

Israel still obliged to use land mines 'as necessary for self-defence,' ambassador to Canada says. *Page 26*

McDowall report should put to rest fears of Canadian connection to Nazi gold scandal. *Page 30*

Arts

Diane Flacks takes on eight characters in *Random Acts*. *Page 41*

Health

Mostly women are taking on the role of caring for elderly, professor says. *Page 49*

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 24
National 26
Just Between us 33
On Campus 38
Fashion 39
Travel, Arts & Business 41
International 45
Health 49
Classified 50
Sports 54
Ask Jesse 55
Crossword 55

Shabbat: Vayishlach
Candlelighting: 4:22
Kislev 13, 5758
Havdalah: 5:27

Canada joins world effort

Nazi gold will be tracked

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

OTTAWA — Canada stands ready to help the world unravel the whereabouts of Nazi gold plundered during World War II, says a senior official of the Bank of Canada.

But at this point, Canada's contribution will be information, not cash.

The central bank sent a representative to last week's first-ever talks in London, convened to probe one of the great mysteries of the war, and the Holocaust.

The landmark three-day conference, attended by 240 delegates from 41 countries, examined Nazi gold trafficking and considered whether looted gold stocks could be used to compensate the world's estimated 300,000 Holocaust survivors.

The Bank of Canada, fresh from issuing a report that dismissed any wartime banking links between Ottawa and the Third Reich, sent its special advisor to its gold history project, Paul Cliffen, to the conference.

Also attending was an economic counsellor from Canada's high commission in London.

Tabled at the conference was the report by Carleton University history professor Duncan McDowall, which found no evidence that Nazi gold made its way into Canada [*CJN*, Dec. 4]

Continued on page 48

CLASH IN GAZA

Israeli soldiers and Palestinians clashed last week over a disputed plot of land near Rafah in Gaza Strip. The violence erupted as hundreds of Palestinians threw stones and firebombs at an IDF outpost. Five Palestinians were reported injured. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Bar-Ilan faculty backs Ne'eman

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An ad that appeared in recent editions of the *Jerusalem Post* and *Ha'aretz* is being described as a positive signal from a moderate wing of the Orthodox camp in favor of denominational compromise in Israel.

The ad was placed by 75 members of the faculty of Bar-Ilan University (BIU), the academic institution that represents the modern Orthodox stream in Israel. It affirmed the value of Jewish unity and called "on representatives of the religious establishment and representatives of non-Orthodox movements to support the compromise which appears to be emerging from the proceedings of the Ne'eman committee."

The ad goes on to say "any compromise solution must fall within the parameters of Halachah and provide formal representation to non-Orthodox movements." It is signed by the school's rector, Prof. Yehuda Friedlander, five faculty deans and 69 members of the faculty.

It referred to the committee headed by Ya'acov Ne'eman that is attempting to hammer out a compromise to forestall introduction of a Knesset bill that would make invalid non-Orthodox conversions in Israel. The committee includes members of the Reform, Conservative and Orthodox streams of Judaism.

David Weinberg, director of public relations for BIU, said the ad was a "private expression of opinion by several faculty members," though it represented the prevailing mood on campus, where 25,000 students and 1,300 faculty study.

Continued on page 48

Tax extension aids charities

OTTAWA — Jewish charities across the country are expecting to save millions of dollars thanks to the federal government's extension of the deadline for charitable donations to be considered tax credits.

Because of the postal strike, Ottawa extended the deadline from Dec. 31, to Jan. 31, 1998. That will give non-profit organizations time to make up for the virtual shutdown of donations during the strike.

For UJA Federation in Toronto, the extension is expected to mean about $3 million in additional contributions.

UJA says most charities raise between 30 and 50 percent of their annual contributions in December, and donations this month have increased dramatically.

Without the new deadline, there would have been just 18 business days for donors to receive a tax advantage for their gift.

INSIDE

Two hundred years after Heinrich Heine's birth, his life still evokes controversy and emotions. Please see page 9.

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Albright wants 'credible plan' from Netanyahu — please see page 45

The News in Brief

CANADA

Associated Scholarships

TORONTO — Associated Hebrew Schools is now accepting applications for scholarships for the 1998/99 academic year.

Students planning to study for a career in Jewish education and/or those pursuing programs in higher Jewish studies may be eligible.

For more information, call 494-7666, ext. 334.

Correction

TORONTO — Last week's news briefs stated that Ted Beavis was believed to be the first Canadian convicted for distributing hate literature under Canada's hate crimes laws. However, in 1985, Donald Andrews and Robert Smith were convicted of wilfully promoting hatred in a newsletter.

ISRAEL

Ne'eman Criticized

JERUSALEM — Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman, the key figure in the effort to resolve the religious pluralism controversy, has come under criticism by the Orthodox for addressing a conference of the Reform movement in Israel.

Ne'eman told the Nov. 27 opening session of the annual convention of the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism that the current conflict between the different streams of Judaism would be resolved "not through the courts or legislation in the Knesset, but through understanding."

Ne'eman, who heads the committee charged with finding a compromise to the religious pluralism controversy in Israel, said that all disputes between the various streams should be resolved according to Halachah, or Jewish law.

Farrakhan Visit Allowed

JERUSALEM — The leader of the Nation of Islam will not be prevented from entering Israel should he decide to visit.

But no state official will meet the Rev. Louis Farrakhan unless he apologizes for his anti-Semitic remarks and denial of the Holocaust, the Foreign Ministry decided.

The ministry said that since Farrakhan was a U.S. citizen he could enter Israel for a private visit.

WORLD

Debate Delayed

NEW YORK — The United Nations General Assembly temporarily halted discussion last week on a controversial resolution that would grant the Palestinians member status without voting privileges.

The decision to postpone the discussion was made after the Arab-sponsored proposal caused days of behind-the-scenes wrangling and it became apparent that there wasn't any widespread support for it.

The Palestinians currently have observer status at the United Nations and there is fear that any change to that status would further upset the faltering Middle East peace effort.

Jewish Judge to Help PA

SYDNEY, Australia — An Australian Jew will help the Palestinians rearrange their legal system.

The unusual pairing was created after an Australian legal group, which is headed by a prominent Jewish figure, Justice Marcus Einfeld, was appointed by the Palestinian Authority to overhaul its judicial system.

'Day of Judaism'

ROME — The Polish Catholic Church has designated Jan. 17 as an annual "Day of Judaism" in Polish churches.

The day will be dedicated to interfaith dialogue and to teaching Polish Catholics about Judaism.

The initiative, slated to involve all Roman Catholic dioceses in the country, follows the example of the Italian Catholic Church, which declared Jan. 17 an annual Day of Judaism in Italy several years ago.

Stanislaw Krajewski, Warsaw consultant for the American Jewish Committee and a Polish Jewish leader long active in interfaith relations, praised the church's initiative.

Interfaith Dialogue

SYDNEY, Australia — Representatives of Australia's Jewish community have held the first official interfaith dialogue with their counterparts from the Anglican Church.

The day-long meeting here was aimed at finding common ground and at overcoming misunderstandings between the New Zealanders rally to fight neo-Nazis

Anti-racist Rally

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — The fight against hate crime has spread to New Zealand.

The country's Jewish community, spurred by a large increase in racist attacks, hosted a rally last week in Wellington, the country's capital, with the aim of developing a strategy to stop racist groups.

One of Germany's Last War Crimes Trials

FRANKFURT — Germany has launched what may be one of its last trials of suspected war criminals.

The trial revolves around the 1942 murders of 65 Jews – including about 20 children – by a Nazi paramilitary unit in a Ukrainian village.

Ernst Hering, 75, stands charged with sealing off the village of Israelowka during the roundups and standing guard while others carried out the executions.

Although he is not accused of shooting any of the victims, prosecutors say he was aware that the goal of the roundups was to kill Jews.

Hering, who is being tried in juvenile court in Cologne because he was 19 at the time of the incident, admitted last week at the start of his trial that he was in Israelowka during the roundups of the adults, but claims he can barely remember the events.

Fifty years after the Nuremberg trials, when dozens of leading Nazi officials, doctors and judges were convicted, Hering's trial could be one of the last such trials in Germany because of the difficulty in finding witnesses from so many years ago.

It comes after decades of German prosecution of Nazi war criminals. German authorities are continuing to investigate some 4,000 suspects, according to officials.

Willie Dressen, director of the federal office charged with investigating war crimes, said that despite the problems, he remains undeterred.

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U of T launches Chair in Israeli Studies

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Arab-Israeli peace process is at an impasse and it's time for the Palestinians to step up and make an offer based on a West Bank map first discussed while Yitzhak Rabin was alive, a prominent American journalist said last week.

Thomas Friedman, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner and author of the bestseller, *From Beirut to Jerusalem*, was speaking at the University of Toronto as the Andrea and Charles Bronfman Chair in Israeli Studies was announced.

The Bronfmans donated $2 million to establish the chair and to provide financial support to U of T students for research and study in Israel.

The initial inspiration and driving force for the establishment of the chair was Jehudi Kinar, consul general of Israel to Toronto and western Canada.

"Fifty years after its rebirth, the miracle of modern Israel is of broad interest," said Charles Bronfman. "Andy and I are happy that students at the U of T will have the opportunity to delve into the social, political and economic revolutions that have taken place within this remarkable society."

Bronfman said he was contacted by former U of T chancellor Rose Wolfe and asked to contribute to the university. They chose to support a "unique program" that studies "a unique nation," he said.

In the lecture, which combined keen analysis, colorful anecdotes and provocative conclusions, Friedman examined various aspects of Israeli politics and Middle Eastern society.

Charles Bronfman

Though the Palestinians are the weaker party, "they have the fundamental incentive to lay their cards on the table," said Friedman, foreign affairs columnist for the *New York Times*. He suggested a map fashioned by former Israeli cabinet minister Yossi Beilin and Abu Mazen, Yasser Arafat's principal deputy, could serve as the foundation for furthering the peace process. The map leaves Jewish settlements in Israeli hands while giving the Palestinians most West Bank land. It leaves Jerusalem in Israeli hands while giving the Palestinians a capital, Al Quds, just outside the city's boundaries.

Advancing that sort of map will compel Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to finally indicate if he backs the Oslo process or opposes it. "For the life of me, I don't have a clue which camp he's in," Friedman said.

He suggested Netanyahu would have to forge a coalition of 75 percent of Israelis to proceed with concessions. The coalition would include "security hawks" and Labor doves who would back relinquishing 75 percent of West Bank territories. Somewhere in that formula lies the basis for a solution, he said.

Netanyahu, he continued, faces unenviable pressures. To get to the 75 percent solution, "he has to blow up his party...and that is no easy thing." Furthermore, he doesn't want peace with the Palestinians to lead to Israeli civil war. "He saw what happened to Rabin." Adding to the danger is that Netanyahu could fracture his party for an offer the other side might not accept. That's why the Palestinians should come forward with their own offer based on the Beilin-Mazen plan, he suggested.

Friedman attributed the breakdown of the peace process to several factors: Rabin's assassination; Arafat's modus vivendi; Netanyahu's fence-sitting; the Arab world's failure to modernize; and the Clinton administration's diplomatic lethargy.

A self-proclaimed "Rabinite," Friedman said the former prime minister "subscribed to a very fundamental truth: 'I don't know whether there is an Arab partner for peace with Israel. But I do know that I owe it to [Israel] to test, to go a long way to see if there is a partner.'" The alternative is to hunker down in a constant state of siege and wait for the day the Palestinians stop pining for a state of their own.

Arafat, though he may act like "a jerk" and "a moron," must face up to the fact that Oslo was coming unglued even before Rabin's assassination due to several bloody suicide bombings. His modus vivendi of trying to buy off enemies may work during war, but it doesn't during peace. Furthermore, he has not shown he understands the impact of suicide bombings on Israelis. "It's not enough to say, 'we condemn it, can we get our land back,'" Friedman said.

Netanyahu, meanwhile, appears to have had a plan to get elected but no plan of action once in power. Friedman suggested that during the last election, 50 percent of Israelis accepted Oslo as it was, while one-quarter wanted to improve it and a further 25 percent wanted to destroy the peace process entirely.

Netanyahu drew supporters from both sides of the fence, leaving observers wondering if his proposals were aimed at strengthening or killing Oslo, he said.

Meanwhile, the Arab world continues to hinder the process. "Everything is defined in the negative in the Arab world, never in the positive," Friedman said.

New Village Shul launched

TORONTO — Groundbreaking will take place on Dec. 14 for the new Village Shul, which organizers say will be the first synagogue built in Forest Hill in 50 years.

The shul, which has been housed in a storefront in the Bathurst Street/Eglinton Avenue area for seven years, was founded by five Forest Hill families in conjunction with Aish HaTorah.

The new 24,000-square-foot synagogue will be built at Eglinton and Old Park, site of an old Shell service station. Plans call for a social hall, Hebrew and preschool, and a "fireplace room," a cozy corner classroom that promises to look and feel like a Forest Hill den, so Jewish learning there will feel like a home away from home.

Opening of the $6-million facility is slated for the fall of 1998.

"The new Village Shul will be a special building, a centre of Jewish learning and celebration, where everyone, regardless of background or knowledge, can come and feel comfortable and welcomed," says Peter Friedmann, president of the synagogue's board.

For details, call 416-785-1107

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Greater Toronto Area

From the editor's desk

Journalism a part of Jewish history

Last week in *The CJN* on the Perspectives page, we published an article by Lewis Levendel that accompanied a unique exhibition portraying 100 years of the Jewish Press in Canada. That exhibition is now drawing to a close at the National Library of Canada in Ottawa. Cheryl Jaffee, the curator of the priceless Lowy collection of rare Judaica and Hebraica, and the organizer of the exhibition asked me to speak at the opening of the exhibition in early November.

What follows is an excerpt from that presentation.

* * *

As Carroll Ryan, (the editor of the *Jewish Times*, the first Jewish newspaper to be published in Canada) so astutely observed and wrote 100 years ago, everyone in society, not only the initial targets, become the victim of hatred and bigotry. Anti-Semitism, for example, one of the oldest forms of hatred and bigotry, is therefore not just a Jewish problem, it is everyone's problem.

From that very first issue of the very first Jewish newspaper 100 years ago in Montreal, one can draw a straight line of mission and responsibility to all the Jewish newspapers that exist in Canada today.

That is one of the reasons, among very many, I feel a tremendous sense of gratitude and humility at being the editor of *The CJN*. I am the most recent inheritor of that responsibility. The various editors of the various Jewish newspapers who have preceded me, people like Carroll Ryan, A.M. Klein, Ralph Hyman, Maurice Lucow, Patricia Rucker, to name just a few, in the main, bore that responsibility with integrity and deep commitment for the sake of the larger good of the community and not simply for the sake of the good of their respective newspaper.

My commitment to the paper, to its readers and to the community is to do the very best I can to live up to the standards of my predecessors and to hold high the sense of responsibility and mission that was articulated in that first editorial of the *Jewish Times*, but which in truth, saw its first expression thousands of years earlier, when a free and law-loving nation was born out of a rabble of dispirited, disheartened and disoriented slaves.

The sense of mission and responsibility that was expressed at Sinai and that has been re-expressed in every generation is the overriding context for the work of *The CJN*. It finds its way in one form or another onto the pages and into the editorial room of our newspaper.

Jews are not strangers to journalism.

In a certain sense, rabbis forgive me, "journalism" in its most literal meaning, is at the very heart of our culture and tradition. The Tanach is, after all, a journal – holy to be sure – but a journal nonetheless. It is a record of the history and the teachings and the instructions of the ancient Jewish people.

We believe that its truths transcend time. They are as applicable today as they were when they were first inscribed into the hearts of our ancestors. At its least profound level, the Tanach is a journal which has been revered and studied and studied even more without cease since it first appeared.

But even after the chronology in the Tanach ends, it is true to say that this unique, divinely inspired school of "journalism" still continues to play a central, determinative role in the subsequent unfolding of Jewish history.

After the destruction of the First Temple and the return from captivity in Babylon, the sofrim, whom we know as the scribes or men of the book, or even bookmen, made certain that the journal of Jewish history would be promulgated to the entire people. They were the first to institute the instruments of communicating to the people the story, the "news," if you will, of their ancestors.

The sofrim were the forerunners of the great rabbis. The policies and traditions of the sofrim evolved into the policies and the traditions of our ancient sages, the great scholars whose far-sighted view of the future and whose immeasurable love for the Jewish people, ensured Judaism's survival unto this very day.

From Moses, to the judges, to the prophets, to the scribes, to the great rabbis: the entries into the record and into the "journal" of Jewish history ensured the collective memory and the feelings of shared destiny of the Jewish people.

The first line in the entry under Journalism in the Encyclopedia Judaica is the following: "Jews have played a major role in journalism since the early years of the profession. Publishers, editors, columnists and reporters contributed to the development of political analysis, mass circulation techniques, methods of worldwide news gathering, chain journalism and techniques that deepened the influence and impact of the written word."

Is it any wonder? Does it really surprise anyone that the people of the book, or with some deference to the poetic licence affordable this evening, the people of the "journal," the Jewish people, would be attracted to journalism?...

There is a straight line that cuts across time, that joins the *Jewish Times* with our prophets, the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* with our sages and *The CJN* with our sofrim. In fact, that straight line joins us all.

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Here are some of the biggest mistakes people make when managing their investments.

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6. Too many people speculate with their life savings.

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Greater Toronto Area

Sovereign Palestine solution to conflict, says Amos Oz

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A sovereign Palestine next door to a sovereign Israel will be the solution to the Arab-Jewish conflict, famed Israeli author Amos Oz told 1,100 people who packed Holy Blossom Temple recently.

Both sides will need to make compromises on their territorial demands but as far as he is concerned, "peace is about to happen."

In an optimistic overview, Oz said Arabs and Jews will live as two families in a semi-detached house, "but not as one happy family."

Though there is a rift between secular and religious Jews in Israel, it has not led to violence, he said, noting that there has not even been one incident between the two factions following the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

"When journalists ask me when there will be a civil war in Israel, I tell them that the war is already on, and has been for a long time, but it is without bloodshed."

Even the issue of conversions in Israel, a hot topic in North America, is on the way to being settled, Oz claimed.

"It is not for the state or the Knesset to decide," he said. "There will be some kind of formula under which the Orthodox will recognize Reform and Conservative rabbis up to a point. For their part, the Reform and Conservative rabbis will have to compromise on the halachic standards for conversion."

He added: "I can assure you compromise is not a dirty word, I've been married for 38 years."

Later, he said: "The dispute is not over who is a Jew, it's over who is a rabbi?"

Introduced by senior Rabbi Dow Marmur as "a prophetic voice of contemporary Israel," Oz said the chief barrier to peace has been overcome with the realization by both the Arabs and Jews that the other side will not go away.

'Compromise is not a dirty word'

"I love Israel even though at times I cannot stand it," he said.

On the other hand, he does not agree with critics who ask "Israelis to lower their voices."

"I have the right to scream at the top of my voice," he said, since Israel is a genuine "street assembly."

Although Israel is facing serious problems, "it is not the end of the world. Violence and fanaticism are dangerous, but not diversity."

For Israelis, as peace nears, Oz said "it is a bitter moment, a painful moment, it is not a wedding."

He likened the process to dangerous surgery. "I don't like the doctors, neither one of them," he said, referring to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat.

Hopes for a common market between Palestine and Israel "should wait until the divorce is over, not when the divorce is raging."

If the Arabs had not opposed the partition of Palestine in 1947 and Israelis had not been guilty of "short-sightedness" and been more generous and pragmatic in 1967, current problems could have been avoided, he said.

His talk ended a series sponsored by Gerald Schwartz and Heather Reisman. Reisman, in thanking Oz, said she was grateful that for the first time she had heard a speech about Israel in which compromise replaced crisis.

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Greater Toronto Area

Rescue of Sarajevo Jews said 'touch and go'

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO —The Israeli who led 1,000 Sarajevo Jews to safety through no man's land, from Bosnia to the Croat border, said the rescue operation was touch-and-go all the way.

At the last minute, Croatian security demands led to a seven-hour delay before the buses could get rolling, Eli Eliezri told a packed house at Petah Tikvah Congregation recently.

A short video screened before his talk showed Eliezri in the midst of tense negotiations while gunfire could be heard in the streets of Sarajevo. Frightened Jews, Muslims and Christians waited in the rescue buses that eventually made the 600 kilometre journey to the Adriatic coast on Nov. 14 and 15, 1992.

The video by the Joint Distribution Committee, which sponsored the rescue, captured the drama as Eliezri and Ivan Ceresnjes, leader of the Sarajevo Jewish centre, tried desperately to solve the impasse. Finally the buses snaked off along the airport road, the only route, as everyone held their breath, hoping snipers would give them safe passage.

After hearing Eliezri tell of the delicate negotiations, the details of which are still secret but at which no money changed hands, the rescue was termed "a historic tribute to Jewish intelligence and creativity" by co-chair of the Sephardi Network, UJA Federation, Messod Boussidan.

He said it was particularly noteworthy that the Sarajevo Jewish community played a key role in rescuing the Muslims and Christians who made up 65 percent of those on the buses.

Boussidan said that Eliezri, an ex-paratrooper in the Israeli forces, was also involved in Operation Solomon which airlifted 1,500 Ethiopian Jews to Israel

Eliezri's appearance was the first project of the Sephardi Network which was given an official welcome by Joey Steiner, UJA Federation president.

Co-chair Jacques Sayegh, whose father once lived in Sarajevo, said Sephardi Jews are active in the UJA Federation drive for funds and in helping to organize events honoring Israel on its 50th anniversary.

The UJA Federation campaign has passed the $31 million mark on its way to the goal of $60 million, Sayegh said. Because of the postal srike coming at a critical, time in the campaign, UJA telethons will be held between Dec. 7 and 17.

"A united community is one that cares for each other," said vice-chair Carlos Laredo, Peth Tikvah president, uging suport of the Federation campaign.

Eliezri, a second generation sabra, who lives near Tel Aviv, is visiting Toronto for the first time. He charmed the large audience with his off-the-cuff, informal account of events in Sarajevo.

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Fun in learning called important tool in assimilation fight

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Letting youngsters have fun in a Jewish atmosphere will do wonders to counter assimilation, according to Rabbi Daniel Bahar. He just founded the Jewish Youth Learning Centre to prove that very point.

"Just by going fishing, by seeing that the rabbi brings a book along, does wonders," he said.

Kids learn Judaism "by osmosis" that way, he said. "If you push [observance] on people they won't come back."

He believes strongly that you have to "love people for themselves, not for how religious they are or become."

Rabbi Bahar and his wife Esther have been involved in kiruv, outreach, for at least 15 years. Their efforts include working with Russian immigrants here and in Israel, a Jewish Boys Shul Club (and an associated Jewish Girls Shul Club), and a Just One Shabbat program, where youngsters came to the Bahars' home to experience a traditional Shabbat.

As youth director at Shaarei Shomayim, he introduced such innovations as a Teen Shul Club, a Kung Fu program and simchah dancing.

One popular program the Bahars sponsored was a Saturday night coffee house in their home, where young adults could meet, have great food, enjoy music and generally have fun in a Jewish atmosphere.

This program is continuing on an irregular basis, sometimes at their new home in the Bathurst-Rockford area and sometimes at other locations.

The new centre opened last June, and so far, programs are geared for grades 5 to junior high and to university students and young adults. Rabbi Bahar hopes to begin programming for teenagers soon.

There is a computer, with various learning programs; the Miracle Piano System, where you can learn keyboard by computer; facilities for arts and crafts; a sitting area for lounging; and a small library, which has books on subjects from theology, prayer and history to general works on such subjects as fishing and techniques of learning.

The rabbi has organized go-cart expeditions, fishing trips, and an after-Shabbat coffee house with music and a mystic rabbi. He is planning a Chanukah retreat at Maple Lake. Plans are underway for hay rides, horseback riding, Shabbatonim, parties, laser games, camping and educational activities.

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Greater Toronto Area

Home care a federal priority, Rock tells UJA

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Home health care – long advocated within the Jewish community, especially for the elderly – is high on the federal government's agenda, says federal health minister Allan Rock.

Canada's health care system must be reformed to help more and more people who are forced to care for a family member at home, often with no insurance, Rock told a UJA Federation gathering last week at Beth Tzedec Congregation.

Provincial medicare programs have not kept up with the huge growth in home care, the minister pointed out.

And the Canada Health Act, passed in 1984, did not foresee the boom in home health care, he added.

"If properly delivered, [home care] could work toward achieving better quality of life while saving a significant amount of money," Rock told about 150 members of UJA's Physicians' Division.

Rock said he will convene a national conference in March to examine ways to "standardize home care issues." Physicians, he said, "must be listened to" on the matter.

Over the years, a lot of focus on care and recovery has shifted from hospitals to the home. Today, Rock said, one in five women aged 35 to 55 delivers home care to someone every day. Of those women, half work outside the home.

"Yet insurance has not kept up," he noted.

One reason for that has been federal budget cuts. Over the past four years, Ottawa has slashed health transfer payments to the provinces from $18.5 billion a year to $11.1 billion.

Now, the yearly transfer is up to $12.5 billion, "and that will be the cash floor from now on," he said.

Another $150 million has been set aside for a "health transition fund" that will examine primary care reforms, especially home care and pharmacare. Rock said Ottawa will begin spending that money in the new year.

"Stability" in Canada's health care system has been "restored."

At the same time, the anxiety felt by Canadians about health care "is at an all-time high."

Health care is a government "monopoly" in Canada and if Canadians lose faith in the system, "they will withdraw their support for the monopoly."

But he said the health care system "is worth fixing and worth fighting to fix."

Rock said he rejects a private, parallel system, and one way to avoid that is to make the public system so good, there's no demand for a private one.

JIAS job often humbling

Spotlight

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

Melanie Kazman

TORONTO — Melanie Kazman, administrative assistant for Jewish Immigrant Aid Services' (JIAS) Community Integration Program, finds her job humbling.

"I spend a lot of time around people whose lives have been uprooted and I try to imagine what it would be like. It's difficult indeed to start one's life over."

Kazman's job includes helping run such programs as Family to Family, which matches Canadian and Russian families. Part of that program includes encouraging Canadian families who are making seders and Rosh Hashanah or Shabbat dinners to invite Russian families who would like the Jewish experience.

"As well, we have the telephone language companion program which joins one Russian immigrant with a Canadian who is willing to talk on the phone. Ideally, the pair form a relationship but the mandate of the program is to help the Russian learn English."

The Community Integration Program, says Kazman, works with Jewish Women's Federation to plan special events such as musical evenings. "We also offer summer camp, Judaism classes, English as a second language and summer programs for youth. There is always something going on for those interested in taking part."

Kazman, who started working at JIAS as a volunteer, teaching English to children, says that now that she is on staff and has been with the agency for awhile, she can see a great improvement in her students' English. "I can see that kids and their parents are a lot more comfortable in their new lives. At first, even coming to our office can be a daunting experience. I see things getting a lot easier for them as they settle in."

Also a student at Centennial College, where she is studying corporate communications and public relations, with a focus on working for a non-profit organization, Kazman says it is important to her to work in the Jewish community.

"I am a graduate of Associated Hebrew Schools and CHAT, and I have been on the March of the Living. I feel that it is important for us as Jews to maintain the Jewish family.

"The two main goals of the Community Integration Program are to integrate immigrants into Canadian society and into the Jewish community, and from what I've seen, we are making a difference. I find it fulfilling to have direct contact with people working hard to start new lives."

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We recoil

Robert Latimer was sentenced last week to serve one year in jail and one year less a day of house arrest on his farm for having killed his 12-year-old daughter. This sentence was significantly reduced from the mandatory penalty required by law.

In imposing punishment, Justice G. E. Noble of the court of Queen's Bench of Saskatchewan said, "In my view of the evidence presented in this case, which is for the most part clear and uncontradicted, we have that rare act of homicide that was committed for caring and altruistic reasons. That is why for want of a better term this is called *compassionate homicide*." (Our emphasis)

Judge Noble was wrong.

To be sure, the facts of the case are difficult, even heart-rending.

Latimer's daughter, Tracy, was born with cerebral palsy. She could neither walk nor speak. She needed constant, ongoing care and treatment, which by all accounts, her family had rendered with love, grace and compassion.She had already endured three operations to "alleviate her condition" and was facing the prospect of a fourth surgery to relieve the pain of a regularly displacing hip.

It was at this point that, as Judge Noble wrote, "Robert Latimer took the decision to take the matter of Tracy's pain into his own hands. He considered a number of ways of putting her out of her misery, but finally settled on putting her to sleep with carbon monoxide gas as the most gentle way of accomplishing his goal. We know that on Sunday, Oct. 24, he carried out his plan."

Latimer's plan, of course, was to kill his daughter, or, in Judge Noble's rather polite though grotesquely inaccurate characterization, to "put her to sleep." But it was a "sleep" from which her father intended that she never awake. Nor did she.

In conferring sentence upon Latimer, Judge Noble was moved by Latimer's motives for murdering his daughter, which the judge described as a desire to put Tracy "out of her misery." In our view, the judge erred in doing so.

The anguish of the murderer prior to murdering does not mitigate, nor does it absolve, as Judge Noble's decision seems vaguely to suggest, the culpability of the murdering act.

And what of the life that was taken?

Did her father's assessment that her life was unbearable outweigh Tracy's inherent right and entitlement to that life? Judge Noble's decision again seems vaguely to suggest so.

The national organizations which represent some of Canada's disabled communities were justifiably outraged. "It was an absolute travesty of justice," according to a spokesperson on behalf of The Canadian Association for Community Living.

"We're telling every senior citizen, every quadriplegic, anyone injured in a car accident that their life is of diminished value," said Pat Danforth of the Council of Canadians with Disabilities.

What do we stand for as a society? Is not human life – unqualified, unreserved, unmodified, undifferentiated – the highest of all values?

We do not differentiate or evaluate human life according to the extent of its "misery" to self let alone to others. But that is unmistakably what Latimer's sentence does. It sends the message that Tracy's life was somehow lesser in value. She was severely disabled and the pain she faced through yet another difficult surgery was great. Indeed it was deemed by her father to be so great that *he* (Our emphasis) decided she should not go on living, whether or not she wanted to. And we will never know if she did or did not want to because no one, not even her father, asked her. Whether her expressed desire to end her own life would have lent more moral weight to her "compassionate homicide" is also problematic. But we offer no opinion on this possibility, for that is not what happened in this case.

"Compassionate homicide" is a neutral but ghoulish euphemism. We recoil at the phrase.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Whoever performs only his duty, is not doing his duty."
Bahya ibn Pakuda

Dry Bones
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AND YOU SAID THAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHY WE WERE DOING IT?
YUP.
STRIKE
WELL... WE'RE DOING IT AGAIN.
STRIKE

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Dec. 10, 1897, The Jewish Times, the first English Jewish periodical in Canada, was founded in Montreal by Lyon Cohen and S. W. Jacob. (*Canadian Jewish Congress Archives*)

Disappointed in astrology feature

It was dismaying to see the feature, "A Guide to Jewish Horoscopes" (*CJN*, Oct. 30). The author's thesis is that there exists a long-ignored, ancient "Judaic astrology" – distinct from the astrology of ancient pagans – and that the New Age movement somehow owes its origins to the esoteric practices of our Jewish ancestors. However, her parallels between the 12 signs of the Zodiac and the 12 tribes of Israel are spurious and flimsy.

The truth of the matter is that the "New Age movement" is no less than a resurrection of the old superstitions of the ancient pagans who had no other means to explain the world. It is no less than astonishing that, in the age in which we live, a time when humankind has reached its hitherto highest achievements in science and epistemology, remnants of ancient superstitions in their various manifestations, such as psychic reading, numerology and therapeutic touch, still persist.

As for astrology, there is no reason that the positions of the planets, as viewed from our earth on the background of stars and galaxies situated thousands of light-years away, should have any effect on the events of our lives or on our personalities. Why should they? There are only four fundamental forces in nature, none of which operates over such great distances.

Alex P. Korn
Toronto

Hollywoodism overlooks value of Jewish religion

Although I enjoyed the screening of *Hollywoodism, Jews, Movies and the American Dream*, I feel it was lacking in one particular respect. It is almost as though the producer Simcha Jacobovici also was afraid to lift his head too much above the level of society's acceptance of Jews, as he accused the Jews of Hollywood of doing.

Hollywoodism is the myths propagated by the Jewish moguls behind Hollywood, such as democracy (*Mr. Smith Goes to Hollywood*), the dignity of the common man (*The Grapes of Wrath*), a land of opportunity even for the little guy (Mickey Rooney stories) and the equality of the races (the war movies always showed token blacks and Jews in every platoon even when the armed forces were in fact segregated).

He ascribed the impetus of the moguls to their reaction to anti-Semitism and the pogroms. That was easy, because it is no longer politically correct to be anti-Semitic. He also gave a passing nod to Jewish family values.

Anti-Semitism is extrinsic to Judaism and family values merely derivative of it. It would have been much more courageous, and in my opinion more accurate, but less politically correct, to ascribe the impetus of the moguls or Hollywoodism to the Jewish religion itself.

Judaism requires of the Jewish people to be a light unto the nations. One of its principal tenets, social justice, is as old as the Torah itself and long pre-dates anti-Semitism. Judaism also gave birth to messianism, the hope for a better future.

The Hollywoodism described by the film is really the Jewish religious teachings of social justice and hope. It is now, thanks to Hollywoodism, the American dream.

Ted Belman
Toronto

Human soap handed out at Auschwitz

Re: Soap From Auschwitz (*CJN*, Nov. 12). I recall very vividly the time when the soap made from human remains was handed out in the barracks in Auschwitz. It had a terrible stench, very yellow color and small size.

When I realized that the soap was made from human remains, I disposed of it immediately; some inmates did not, as there was no way to have another bar of soap.

It is my understanding from conversations with other inmates that the soap was processed in the nearby I.G. Farbenindustrie complex, which was a stone's throw from our camp. Information was leaked out about the origin of the soap from inmates working in the gas chambers.

Fred Kalisky
Montreal

Oldest synagogue in the United States

Sid Cohen of Windsor mentions in a letter (*CJN*, Nov. 13) that sources differ as to whether the oldest synagogue in the United States is the Touro of Newport, R.I., or the Shearith Israel of New York City. The fact is, the Shearith Israel is the oldest congregation, having been founded in 1654, while Touro is second, founded in 1658. However, the actual edifice used by the Touro, constructed in 1763, is indeed the older building.

Shearith Israel is in its fifth building, which is newer than the Touro building. From 1658 when Touro was founded, until 1763, when the present structure was built, the Touro congregants prayed in private homes.

Bernard Rubin
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

A look back, after 200 years, at Heinrich Heine

By BARUCH COHEN

Opinions about Heinrich Heine's significance have varied greatly. He has been regarded by some as a Jewish nationalist and by others as a non-Jewish Jew.

The classical historian of the Jews, Heinrich Graetz, portrays Heine, one of the greatest lyric poets in the German language, as a Jew who remained faithful to his people.

Critics of Judaism have often cited passages from Heine's writings to prove that the influence of Jews is harmful to modern civilization. Many Jewish critics have written that Heine was an apostate who had nothing in common with Judaism and who presented only false concepts of Jewish character.

There were still others who claimed him for the Jewish Reform movement. And some converted Jews or atheists of Jewish origin invoked Heine as their model.

Dec. 13, 1797, is generally accepted as the date of Heine's birth. There is no birth certificate or other explicit documentation, but the evidence recoverable from Heine's youth all indicates a date in 1797 or early 1798.

Heine's Jewish name was Chaim (after his deceased paternal grandfather), or Herz in German, but even as a small child he went by the name Harry, which he changed to Heinrich at his baptism in 1825.

He was the eldest of four children. He had two brothers, Gustav and Maximilian, and a sister, Charlotte. Heine's father was one of six brothers, all businessmen.

Heine entered the University of Bonn in 1819. On Oct. 18, 1819, he took part in a torchlight parade to celebrate the anniversary of the Battle of Leipzig. This kind of gathering had been banned the month before by the Carlsbad Decrees. Consequently, the demonstration was investigated by the academic court of the university, which interrogated Heine on Nov. 26. The incident may well be taken as evidence of his early devotion to the cause of liberty, which was characteristic of the contemporary German student.

Heine had been sent to the university to study law, and he did register for courses in Roman and German legal history. His real interest was in history and literature. He was introduced to Romantic literary theory, which he absorbed while altering some elements, shifting their orientation from the past to a progressive and future-oriented view of the poetic imagination.

It is not certainly known when Heine began to write poetry. His first published poems of 1817 appeared, oddly, in an anti-Semitic journal, *Hamburg's Wächter* (*Hamburg's Watchman*) under a pseudonym. Heine was placed in literary history as belonging to the school of Romanticism and he liked to present himself as the last Romantic, at once Romanticism's harvester and gravedigger. Late in life he wrote: "With me the old lyrical school of the Germans came to an end, while at the same time I opened the new school, the modern German lyric."

However, young Heine was not content to remain within the lyric mode. Early on, he began to experiment with both prose and drama, an indication that his sense of vocation as a writer was growing. His first essay, written in the summer of 1820, is, appropriately enough, entitled *Romanticism*. He also wrote critiques of literary works and drama.

In the summer of 1822, Heine became interested in a group of Jewish intellectuals in Berlin that called itself the Verein für Cultur und Wissenschaft des Judentum (Society for Culture and Science of the Jews). There he met the society's luminaries, such as Edouard Gans, Leopold Zunz and Isaak Markus Jost, who applied the ideas of the Enlightenment, the Reform movement and modern philological scholarship to traditional Judaism.

The society's concern was to overcome the isolation of Jewry from European culture by encouraging Jews to pursue avenues other than commercial careers, and to seek a resolution, through religious modernization, of the dilemma of integration and maintaining Jewish identity. The roots of the Verein lay in the late 18th-century impact of Enlightenment culture on German-Jewish intellect.

Heine's experiment with the society rather resembles what a contemporary North American Jewish student would call "finding himself." He did not fit well among these "Reform" Jews. His attitude toward Reform was exceedingly hostile. He saw Reform as an accommodation to the materialistic values of the dominant society. Heine was never an advocate for the Jewish religion, yet he was always an enthusiastic fighter for Jewish rights and civil equality.

From his relations with the society emerged the fragmentary novel *The Rabbi of Bacherach* (1840), which he began in early summer 1824. He did not finish the *Rabbi of Bacherach*, just as he did not finish three other attempts to write a novel. This failure has been the object of much speculation, one theory being that his difficulty lay in his lack of Jewish commitment and knowledge of Jewish historical and cultural color.

However, the *Rabbi of Bacherach* reflects Heine's genuine sympathy for the suffering in the Jewish past. While there is some fine writing in the first chapter of the fragment, the novel was a failure, and it reflects Heine's failure to define an integrated Jewish identity for himself.

Heine's works and letters depict the full spectrum of social and religious types of his day, ranging from pious rabbis to atheistic revolutionaries, from fighters for the honor of Jehovah to devotees of Christ or of Buddha, from peddlers to parliamentarians, from beggars to bankers, from journalistic scribblers to poets. We find his pages crowded with doctors, lawyers, actors, sugar brokers, army contractors, entrepreneurs, wine-merchants and dealers of old clothes. These figures are viewed against the background of contemporary gentile society and also against that of Jewish figures from the past, ranging from the patriarchs of the Bible to Spinoza and Moses Mendelsohn.

Heine never lived in a ghetto. He spent his early years in a Jewish family atmosphere, where he came into contact with Jewish ceremonies and received the basic rudiments of a Jewish education. The main thrust of his education, however, was secular German. In school, he was occasionally reminded of his Jewishness by the rough jokes of other boys, but he came to feel that Jewishness made up only one small part of his complex identity.

He strove to rid himself of this in various ways: by ostentatiously showing himself unfit for the kind of mercantile or banking career in which so many Jews, including his own family, had been signally successful, and by adopting a flamboyantly German personality in his early poems. Eventually, he took instruction from a Lutheran pastor and allowed himself to be baptized as a Protestant.

For a time, Heine proclaimed his mission as fighting for the political and social emancipation of Germany and of all mankind. He was part of a movement which set out to mediate between the scientific-Hegelian spirit of intellectual Germany and the traditions of Judaism, a mediation that included the systematic study of Jewish history, folklore and literature.

A visit to Poland confirmed Heine in his respect for Orthodox Judaism, though he himself opted for assimilation and a western European style of living.

The Sabbath, the Passover ritual, Jewish cookery were all attractive to Heine. The attraction of the Hebrew Testament, usually read in Luther's translation, and his recall of its Hebrew text, studied, in earliest youth, served as a remembrance in which the very look of the Hebrew letters played an important part.

To Heine, freedom did not mean only liberation from an unjust yoke. He believed that man is born free and can lose his freedom only by selling himself into bondage. In line with this idea, in all his writing Heine vents his anger, not only against tyrants, but also against those who put up with them. For Heine, the Jewish people, by achieving emancipation, had achieved a genuine freedom.

Historians who want to trace the development of Jew-hatred from primitive xenophobia and religious intolerance to modern racial anti-Semitism can find many supportive pages in Heine's works. Some of these, indeed, seem to anticipate the Holocaust of the present century.

With prophetic vision, Heine wrote in *Religion and Philosophy* in 1834 that a horror would burst out of the German romantic spirit: "Be Aware! The liberated Germany will present a more dangerous peril than the New Testament, the Croats and the hordes of the Cossacks," and "We Germans hate thoroughly, lastingly. Too honest, perhaps too unskillful, to revenge ourselves by speedy perfidy, we hate till our last breath."

In his last year, Heine once again speaks of himself as a Jew. "Only a poor Jew sick unto death," we find in his *Confessions*. "My ancestors belonged to the Jewish religion," he tells his readers, adding that he never thought this a matter of shame, but while continuing to castigate individual modern Jews who have made a "caricature" of Judaism, he firmly believed that the caricature would vanish one day, since the ethical core of Judaism was so strong.

In one way, of course, he does move closer to Judaism: he does posit, in his final years in Paris the existence of a God who has many of the features of the biblical Jehovah. From his early days in Berlin to his last years in Paris, he believed that Jewish learning held an honorable place among the cultural movements of the nations. He studied its history and many of its literary titans, and always regarded them as significant. He considered them to be part of a high civilization capable of participating in European thought and literature.

At different times and in different degrees Heine became acquainted with the major artists of his time: Rossini, Berlioz, Liszt, Chopin, Mendelsohn, Bellini and Wagner; Goethe, Dumas, Victor Hugo, Musset, Hans Christian Andersen, Baron Rothschild, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. Shuman and Shubert wrote music based on Heine's poetry. Heine's medieval poem, *Tannhäuser*, provided the inspiration for an opera by Richard Wagner.

The poet Chaim Nachman Bialik said, "It is worth remembering Heinrich Heine the Jew," who was a courageous soldier in the war of liberation of the Jew. Heine's name should be included on the list of modern Jewish geniuses along with Spinoza, Marx, Freud and Einstein.

Max Nordau, in a famous speech at the first Zionist Congress in 1897, remembers the great prophets and teachers of Judaism, namely Hillel the Elder, Philo, Ibn Gabirol, Yehudah Halevi, Maimonides, Spinoza… and Heinrich Heine.

Theodor Herzl, in his Utopian novel *Old-New Land*, describes a Friday evening service of Kabbalat Shabbat, and cites Heine's translation of Lechah Dodi, Likrat Kallah: "How beautifully Heine had put it: '*Kom, Gelibter*…(come my beloved…).' Yes, Heine was a true poet who sensed the romance of national destiny."

"I make no secret of my Judaism, to which I have never returned because I never left it," Heine declared in 1850.

Could Herzl and Nordau have believed that the Jewish state of which they dreamed would disregard Heine? In Israel, Heine's name is hardly mentioned. There is no street in Jerusalem named after him. Yet in a letter to his friend, Moses Moser, the poet writes: "'May my right hand wither, if I forget thee Jerushalayim.' These are the words of the Psalmist, more or less, and they are still mine."

Only very recently, the mayor of Jaffa-Tel Aviv, Shlomo Laaht, dared to name a small lane at the outskirts of Jaffa, not with Heine's name, but simply as "The Rabbi of Bacherach." Haifa's mayor was more daring; not long ago, he named a central street with Heine's name. And in December 1996, the Israeli newspaper *Ha'aretz* dedicated an entire literary supplement to Heine, by publishing 14 Israeli poets' translations of one of his poems, *A Spruce is Standing Lonely*:

A spruce is standing lonely
in the north on a barren height.
He drowses; ice and snowflakes
wrap him in a blanket of white.

He dreams about a palm tree
in a distant, eastern land,
that languishes lonely and silent
upon the scorching sand.

(Translated by Max Knight, *H. Heine. Selected Works*, Vintage Books, New York: 1973).

I understand this short poem as a "Zion poem." Heine is dreaming about a land somewhere in the east, and about the Western Wall of the Second Temple. This, I believe could be the reason why 14 Israeli poets translated the short poem.

And so, finally, the great poet Chaim Nachman Bialik's call to the Jewish people – and (my addition) to Israelis – was realized: "Remember Heine."

Baruch Cohen is a senior research associate at the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research in Montreal.

Opinions

Rachmjel's story

By Jean M. Gerber in Vancouver

Rachmjel was 14 when the commotion in the camp started one morning. Soldiers were coming. It was the day of liberation. Weakened by hunger and brutality, he looked up and saw, for the first time in his life, a black man. Years later, reunited with that man, he recalled the wonder he felt at the sight of his first American soldier and his first black man.

Rachmjel was one of the over 1,100 Jewish orphans brought to Canada by the Canadian Jewish Congress from 1947 to 1949. This year marks the 50th anniversary of their arrival at the port of Halifax. On Nov. 16, Vancouver's Holocaust Centre opened the exhibit Open Hearts, Closed Doors, to tell the stories of some of those 1,123 children. The stories of some of the 47 children who came to Vancouver are told in their own words and pictures. As the exhibit travels to other cities across Canada, other stories will be added.

The opening was crowded – the orphans, now themselves grandparents, were surrounded by their families and a host of friends and community representatives. Sadly, most of their rescuers are no longer alive. Saul Hayes, who was the national Canadian Jewish Congress director, fought before, during and after the war to bring these children and thousands of other Jewish victims of the Nazis to Canada.

Vancouver's children, speaking at the opening of the exhibit, thanked the late Jean Rose, Bessie Diamond, Morris Saltzman, and others who had been tireless in finding them homes, looking after their needs and keeping in touch with them as they grew older, married and began families of their own.

You enter the exhibit and to your left are the letters written by the malignant F.C. Blair, who was responsible for keeping Canada's doors so tightly closed. But it is the faces of children that capture your attention.

Children from age three to late teens stand with signs with their names on them, pictures that were circulated in Europe after the war to find surviving family members; a picture taken by Rachmjel of children on a train; and one boy writing, "Where are our parents?" on the side of a car.

Then come pictures of the ships that brought the orphans to Halifax and pictures of their lives in Canada; pictures of weddings; pictures of young girls laughing as they stride down a street in Vancouver; pictures of boys at play on a soccer field or smiling shyly at the camera with their young girlfriends or wives on their arms; brothers and sisters who had escaped the firestorm and were together again; an anxious child's face in among other children in a classroom – all images that look back at the visitor.

There are also scrapbooks prepared by the survivors, with pictures they treasure and their own words describing their wartime experiences, their post-war experiences and their lives in Canada.

The children liberated from Buchenwald, among them the young Rachmjel, were taken to France, where new hardships awaited. "They called us les infants terribles," he says. "They said that we were without redeeming value and likely to end up in jail as criminals." No one understood what had happened to these children, who indeed vented their anger and hurt by trashing their rooms and refusing to behave the way young gentlemen were expected to behave.

Yet they, like the other children being discovered all over Europe, did have value. Canada, so closed to them as victims, gradually opened its doors. The story is well known to many. If you don't know it, then I recommend *Open Your Hearts: the Story of the Jewish War Orphans in Canada, 1947-1949*, by Vancouverite Fraidie Martz. She has interviewed dozens of people who were members of the Orphans Group. In her book, you will find their stories in their own words, as they moved from darkness to light.

Jewish families opened their doors and hearts, but for many of the orphans it was tough going.

"We were treated like lepers," writes one.

Another: "They still call us greeners."

But many others tell of families that persevered, even when they could not understand the anguish and anger of their young charges. At first stigmatized by their experiences, the children gradually became a part of communities across Canada.

Those communities can book this easily mounted exhibit for their own showing, and they can add their own stories to it. Contact Roberta Kramer, executive director of the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, at #50 - 950 W. 41st Ave., Vancouver, V5Z 2N7, or call her at 604-264-0499, Fax 604-264 - 0497, or e-mail her at [holedctr@direct.ca].

Rachmjel, now Robbie to most of us, should have the last word. He writes, "I think this is the greatest country in the world. I have had nothing but wonderful experiences since coming to Canada. The only time I heard insulting remarks towards Jewish people was recently from Doug Collins supporters at the human rights inquiry.

"I would ask young people to keep an open mind when they see newcomers to this country. Do not stop by looking at the surface of people. Experience the adventure of getting to know other kinds of people. Each one of us possesses wonderful qualities, regardless of our color or religion."

Trading English for Yiddish

By Shel Krakofsky in London

Shortly after the death of Princess Diana, Clive James, the respected writer and British television celebrity, advisor to Prince Charles and confidant to the late princess, wrote the following sentence in the *New Yorker*: "Of all the poisonous dreck ever written about Diana in the newspapers, the most despicable was based on the assumption that she was stupid."

The *Globe and Mail* also likes to indulge in Yiddish. Consider this subheadline last year: "Hollywood released 15-20 blockbusters over the past 16 weeks. For the most part they were dreck…"

Now I have no objection to this usurpation of this perfectly routine, if somewhat shmootzig Yiddish term, but in neither case is there the slightest acknowledgement that the word was ever given for the taking. Yet there it is, the d-word, completely naked without even the clothing of italics.

Dreck has become English. Or, as many composition teachers and literary critics will tell you, the reverse is even more true!

English speakers have appropriated Yiddish with the same gusto as they have adopted bagels. This wonderfully frank, earthy, descriptively minimalist, cozy and friendly language entered the mainstream the same way the immigrants did, through the garment trade, the shmatte business.

It was the shmatte business that gave baseball a term that was popular with broadcasters and writers in the era before shmattes became – you should pardon the expression – textiles. A player or team that came out of a slump was said to be "off the schneid." For example, "With that hit, Babe Ruth is finally off the schneid."

In the garment business, a schneider was a cloth cutter. When the garment bosses played each other gin rummy, they referred to a hapless player as a mere "schneider." When one of the bosses finally succeeded, he was said to be "off the schneid." (May the Blue Jays and Expos soon enter this graceful state!)

I.B. Singer used to say that Yiddish had no word for weapons and it is possibly the only language that has never been spoken by a people in power. Direct, unpretentious and sometimes mischievous, Yiddish is now part of the English language, if only in single words and phrases.

Is there a film festival where the tuxedoed and gowned don't shmooze? Or a conservatory to which the most upwardly mobile don't shlep their children for music lessons. Or a discipline of any kind that doesn't have its mavens?

Just think how short the unwieldy 886-page psychiatric bible (or heresy, depending on your point of view), the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)* would be were it written in Yiddish. Currently in its fourth edition, the *DSM* includes more than 300 disorders classified as mental diseases. Critics say it also medicalizes too many behaviors that are merely personality variations and character flaws.

How about reducing the tome to the following entries: ABM – a bissel meshuge; M – meshuge; GM – gantz meshuge.

And there it is in three entries, the entire range of human behavior from quirky (ABM) to neurotic (M) to psychotic (GM).

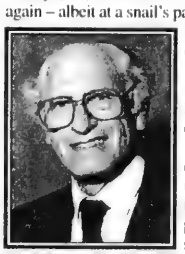
When Sigmund Freud wrote his trusted disciple Sandor Ferenczi about Freud's rival Carl Jung, he did not use clinical or elevated language. Freud simply wrote, "Jung is meshuge." No need to get bogged down with psychiatric lingo.

That Yiddish in its most basic forms is now generally understood is a happy and fortuitous development. If non-Yiddish speaking, English-educated people want to share some of the words, it's okey dokey by me. Though I think a trade is in order.

For the use of Yiddish, I want to give back some English words that have infested Jewish households. For starters, I will gladly return the word assimilation. I'm also willing to hand back two other vague, misunderstood and overused expressions – continuity and egalitarian.

Nu?

The voice of Arafat



By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

I am writing this column while the peace negotiations between the Palestinian Authority (PA) and Israel have resumed once again – albeit at a snail's pace. I cannot predict how these talks will end, or whether by the time you read this article they will have produced success or failure.

I have been careful not to add unnecessary fuel to the flames of passion that have surrounded this problem, but since I am writing this on the anniversary of the murder of Yitzhak Rabin, I feel that I must give the reportage something of a balance.

It is no secret that I have not been the greatest admirer of Israel's prime minister, whose meandering policies have had a share in more crises than Israel should have to endure.

On the other hand, I do not belong to those who mindlessly condemn everything he has done and have even gone so far as to assign much of Israel's precarious international position to him personally – thereby exonerating the PA from all complicity. It would be wrong to conceal the fact that Yasser Arafat and his cohorts have done very little to help the peace process in a constructive fashion – not only by their actions but also by the words that underlie them.

It is no accident that the Palestinian Covenant has not been amended, despite the obligation that Arafat took upon himself to do this. The covenant continues to aim at the destruction of Israel and on that basis, a peaceful partnership is hard to produce.

Palestinian anti-Judaism is rabid and it goes far beyond the political conflict between Arabs and Israel. The official newspaper the *Authority* has this to write: "There is no difference between Hitler and Ben-Gurion, and if there was a difference at all, it was one of quantity and not of substance. Anyone who investigates the crimes of the Zionists discovers explicitly the complementary traits between Zionism, which is a racist-terrorist movement, and the Nazi movement."

Another aspect of such sentiments is the emphasis that the Holocaust was "a profitable investment" for Jews.

"The Jews claim there were six million killed, but precise scientific research established that there were no more than 400,000. The Jews have profited materially, spiritually, politically and economically from the talk about the Nazi killings. This investment is favorable to them and they view it as a profitable activity; so they inflate the number of victims all the time. As you know, when it comes to economics and investments, the Jews have been very experienced ever since the days of the *Merchant of Venice*."

From time to time, Arafat himself indulges in talk of this kind. Of course it appears in Arabic only and is rarely translated, but when it is, he claims that he spoke only for internal consumption.

I can imagine what would happen if Netanyahu spoke of Arabs in these terms and what kind of ruckus would ensue. Fortunately he does not do this – to speak in these terms has not been, and I hope never will be, our style. Peace of any kind is not obtainable unless both parties abstain from demonizing each other. It is time to stop not only terrorist actions but terrorist words as well.

The Kirshner File

The passing parade

By Sheldon Kirshner

They died recently, leaving footprints in time...

Jerome Lemelson, a prolific inventor, held more patents than any other American since Thomas Edison. An industrial engineer, Lemelson invented high-tech mechanisms used in cordless phones, fax machines, industrial robots, videocassette recorders, bar scanners and automatic warehouses. He applied for his first of about 500 patents in 1954, when he was 31.

Yuli Khariton, a physicist, supervised the building of the Soviet Union's first atomic bomb in 1949. Born in St. Petersburg, he was a member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and director of the country's pre-eminent nuclear research facility.

Leon Edel, a specialist in American literature, wrote a five-volume ground-breaking biography of Henry James. A McGill University graduate, as well as a former professor of English at Sir George Williams University (Concordia), he also produced biographies on Willa Cather and Henry David Thoreau, and edited the papers of Edmund Wilson.

Yevgeny Khaldei, a photographer, took one of the most famous pictures of World War II. In 1945, when the Red Army stormed into Berlin, he snapped an indelible photograph of a soldier hoisting the Soviet flag over the Reichstag. During the Soviet era, Khaldei, a victim of anti-Semitism, was not given credit for this piercing photograph.

Lev Kopelev was a Soviet human rights activist, dissident and scholar. Charged with anti-state activities, he endured the degradation of a gulag for 10 years. Booted out of the Soviet Writers' Union, then stripped of his citizenship, he immigrated to Germany in 1980. He was a close friend of Andrei Sakharov.

Chone Shmeruk was one of the world's leading authorities on Yiddish. A Polish Jew, he taught at the Hebrew University, and was an editor of *The Penguin Book of Modern Yiddish Verse* and author of *Chapters in Yiddish Literature*.

Georg Solti conducted the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the London Philharmonic and directed the Royal Opera at Covent Garden. During his career, he won more Grammy Awards than anyone else. His interpretation of Brahms, Beethoven, Bartok, Mahler, Verdi and Wagner are considered classics.

Sir Joshua Hassan, scion of a Sephardi family, was the first mayor of the British colony of Gibraltar and then its chief minister.

Baron Edmond de Rothschild was reportedly the wealthiest member of the legendary banking family. A French citizen, he presided over the fortunes of Banque Prive, based in Geneva. Like his grandfather, Edmond, he was a generous benefactor of Israel and Jewish causes.

Sydney Newman, the son of Russian immigrants who settled in Toronto, was an influential producer at the National Film Board of Canada and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation before being appointed chief of drama at the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Robert Lewis, a founder of the Actors Studio in New York, was one of the most celebrated acting teachers in the United States. His pupils included Marlon Brando, Meryl Streep and Montgomery Clift. He also directed Broadway plays, notably *Brigadoon* and *The Teahouse of the August Moon.*

Murray Burnett, a high school English teacher, wrote *Everybody Comes to Rick's*, the play upon which the 1943 Oscar-winning Hollywood film, *Casablanca*, starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman, was based.

Saul Chaplin, a songwriter who composed *Please Be Kind*, won three Academy Awards for scoring the musicals *An American in Paris, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* and *West Side Story*.

Sir Rudolf Bing, general manager of New York's Metropolitan Opera from 1950 to 1972, established the Met as one of the world's most prominent stage companies. By hiring African-America divas Leontyne Price and Marion Anderson, he broke the color barrier once and for all.

Brandon Tartikoff, president of NBC Entertainment, developed some of the most popular television shows of the 1980s and 1990s — *Family Ties, Golden Girls, The Cosby Show, Miami Vice, Cheers* and *Hill Street Blues.*

Leo Jaffee, for decades a Columbia Pictures executive, produced classics like *Lawrence of Arabia, On the Waterfront, Porgy and Bess, A Man for all Seasons* and *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner.*

Max Youngstein, as head of United Artists' production department, greenlighted the beloved movies *Marty* and *Around the World in 80 Days.*

Oscar Lewenstein, a key figure in the British movie industry, produced *A Taste of Honey, Tom Jones, Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* and *The Entertainer.*

Shirley Clarke (Brimberg) won an Academy Award in 1962 for her documentary, *Robert Frost: A Lover's Quarrel With the World.* From 1975 to 1983, she was a professor of film at the University of California in Los Angeles.

Marvin Rothenberg, a failed Hollywood director, founded MPO Videotronics, the largest studio in the United States specializing in television ads. A liberal, he made a point of hiring actors whose careers had been destroyed during the McCarthy era.

Barry Gray (Bernard Yaroslaw) hosted the first talk radio show in North America, influencing a generation of imitators. He developed the concept in Miami in the 1940s and later refined it in New York.

Roy Lichtenstein was a pioneer of the Pop Art movement. Often inspired by comic books, he created powerful and subliminal paintings.

Stefan Lorant, the innovative editor of the Munich Illustrated Press from 1928 to 1933, turned photojournalism into a tour de force. *Life*, founded in 1936, was supposedly modeled on Lorant's magazine.

Judith Merril (Juliet Grossman) was a science fiction writer and editor of the first rank, the only woman associated with the Futurists, whose members included Isaac Asimov and Frederick Pohl.

Alfred Sheinwold, a bridge champion, was the author of *Five Weeks to Winning Bridge*, a classic of the genre, and for three decades a syndicated daily columnist for the *Los Angeles Times.*

Miguel Najdorf, a grandmaster of the chess board, was ranked as one of the world's top 10 players in the late 1940s. Born in Warsaw, he lived in Argentina from 1939 onward, winning the Argentine chess championship eight times.

Joan Daves, of Berlin and Manhattan, was a renowned literary agent. Her illustrious clients ran the gamut from Elias Canetti to Nelly Sachs, both of whom were Nobel Prize laureates.

Arthur Liman, a lawyer widely considered a master of cross-examination, was chief counsel to the U.S. Senate committee which investigated the Iran-contra affair in 1987.

Esther Gottesman, an American Jewish community activist, played an integral role in Israel's acquisition of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Irving Strobing, a U.S. army radio operator from Brooklyn, stirred a nation when, in 1942, he tapped out a poignant telegram telling of the imminent fall of Corregidor to Japan.

Mina Rees, a mathematician, was the first female president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Peter Blos, author of *On Adolescence* and *The Adolescent Passage*, was one of the first child psychoanalysts in the United States.

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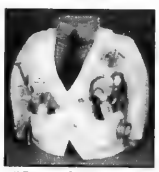
"Ceramic Doctor" Sculpture

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Hand painted ceramic vase
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BEAUTIFUL GIFT WRAPPING

Pragmatism not part of Israeli agenda

By SIMON ROSENBLUM

Guest Voices

Yitzhak Rabin, during the final few years of his life, became very anxious about the possible emergence of an Iran/Iraq coordinated front against Israel, emboldened with ballistic missiles and non-conventional weapons.

In response, Rabin saw the imperative of creating an environment of peace between Israel and its immediate neighbors to head off this Doomsday Alliance. This, more than anything, drew Rabin towards the Oslo peace accords.

Now Oslo is in dire jeopardy. Without doubt, the Hamas terror and the unwillingness of Chairman Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority (PA) to seriously and consistently confront Hamas has contributed mightily to the present impasse, and there cannot be any moral equivalency between Palestinian bombs and Israeli bulldozers.

The issue is how to get Arafat to do what is necessary and what the PA is capable of, without creating a popular Palestinian resentment that strengthens the hand of Hamas. In this regard, the most senior Israeli intelligence officials from both the IDF and the Mossad presented a joint report to Netanyahu and his cabinet saying that upgraded Israeli adherence to the provisions of the Oslo accord would most likely inspire greater security cooperation between Israel and the PA. One hand would wash the other. Benjamin Netanyahu and his cabinet refused to accept the report!

Instead, as the Israeli newspaper *Ma'ariv* put it in a Nov. 3 editorial, we get the "three no's" of the Netanyahu government: "No" to a Palestinian state, "No" to a retreat on settlements and "No" to any compromise on Jerusalem. The result is simply *no* chance for the peace process.

Foreign Minister David Levy is sent to Washington to negotiate with at least one hand tied behind his back. If the Netanyahu government is unwilling to, at a bare minimum, keep the peace process alive by taking what U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has called "small steps" (ie: in response to credible security cooperation with the PA, Israel would take a "time-out" from settlement expansion and proceed with meaningful IDF redeployment in the West Bank), then renewed violence is almost a certainty.

Different agenda

Netanyahu, however, has a very different agenda. He wants to skip such interim measures and proceed directly with final status talks. The only problem being that his idea on final status are understood by moderate Israelis to be insulting and dangerous. Netanyahu fiercely clings to the position that at best, the Palestinians will recover 50 percent of the West Bank, and that whatever this Palestinian entity would be called, it would be broken up by Israeli settlements running throughout.

About two-thirds of Israelis, on the other hand, understand that approximately 90 percent of the West Bank will have to be returned to the Palestinians, and that Palestinians living in Arab east Jerusalem will need to have some form of identity with the new Palestinian state. It has however, become totally transparent that Netanyahu's call for accelerated final status talks are a recipe for disaster. With his negotiating positions, final status talks would be lucky to last a day and all hell would break loose.

Keep in mind that all the intelligence organizations — whether it be the CIA, or Israeli ones — report that relations between Israel and the Palestinians are likely to degenerate into serious violence if intermediate steps are not taken to calm things down. What would be so terrible, even for Netanyahu and his allies, to freeze settlement expansion? After all, there is a 12 percent vacancy rate in Israeli West Bank settlements, which is more than enough to accommodate natural population growth for several years. Even Har Choma could proceed if it was turned into a model joint Arab/Israeli housing project.

But no, such pragmatism is not seemingly on the Israeli government agenda. Netanyahu and Arafat will continue to bring out the worst in each other, and the peace process will become even more crisis ridden and faltering. An historic opportunity is being lost, and the coming period is likely to be very explosive. A time bomb is ticking, and renewed violence may even eventually lead to war. The best Netanyahu offers is to accuse his opposition for forgetting what it means to be a Jew! One doesn't know whether to laugh or cry.

Simon Rosenblum is the national co-president of Canadian Friends of Peace Now.

The right questions

Rabbinic Reflections

By RABBI REUVEN TRADBURKS

Very rarely do we ask the question: Why are all these good things happening to me?

It is popular to ask, "What did I do to deserve this tragedy?" We assume that since we are good people, and G-d is a good G-d, then we should not be suffering with this illness, this loss or this tragedy. These are all good questions, even if the answers are elusive.

However, the other question is rarely asked. "Why are all these good things happening to little me? What did I do to deserve such success, such wonderful and healthy children, and to live in such an open and free society that I can live in peace?"

We never ask these questions because we are so arrogant that we assume that because we are righteous, we deserve everything we get. We deserve success, prosperity, health and peace.

From the prayers of Abraham and Jacob in this week's parshah, the Torah gives us a different perspective. Abraham pleads on behalf of the people of Sodom in his famous "if there are 50 righteous people" argument. However, he introduces his representation to G-d with a powerful statement of humility – "I am dust and ash." Abraham, the father of the Jewish people, describes himself as dust and ash!

Jacob, in this week's parshah is nervous about his encounter with Esau, who wants to kill him. Jacob pleads with HaShem for protection. His introduction is: "I am undeserving of all the kindness you have shown me." (Genesis 32:11) Jacob, who will become the father of the 12 tribes of Israel, calls himself undeserving of all the kindness he has received. He pleads for protection, even if he is undeserving of this protection.

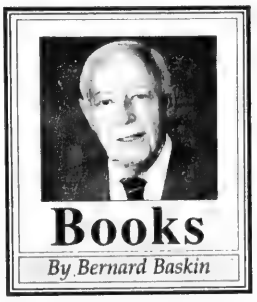
Moses, later in the Torah, is described as the humblest of all people. The leader of the Jewish people, the one who prevailed over Pharaoh, saved the people from Egypt, led them through the desert – he is the humblest of all people.

We see from the Torah that the posture we need to assume in prayer and in life is not one of smugness. We cannot think that all our success has come because we deserve it. Rather, humility is the recurring theme of the Jewish greats.

We need to more often ask the question, "What did I do to deserve all these wonderful things?"

Rabbi Tradburks is the spiritual leader of Kehillat Shaarei Torah in Toronto.

Jewish Life



Books

By Bernard Baskin

Holocaust stories testimony to hope

***The Light After The Dark* by Alvin Abram (Abbyfield Publisher, $27.95).**

The six stories from the Holocaust in this volume are unusual and engrossing. Like many others of a similar nature they contain much that is appalling and evil, a degradation of the spirit. But they are also a testimony to human fortitude, hope, courage and inspiration. Out of darkness came forth light and out of despair flowed renewal and redemption.

An Eye for an Eye concerns Zalman Katz, who never forgot the betrayal of his brothers by two White Russian farmers and a local police chief. After gruelling years as a partisan fighter and Russian soldier, he discovers and kills the callous betrayers. In a bizarre, surprise ending to the memoir, the brutal police chief, after receiving an unexpected telegram, puts a bullet through his head.

Before Michael Kutz's mother is murdered by the Nazis, she implores him to fulfil two promises: never to forget that he is a Jew, and if he survives the war, to visit Palestine.

In *The Promise*, we learn that many years later Kutz becomes a tireless worker in Montreal for Jewish causes. Finally, in 1990, he visits Israel, makes his way to the Western Wall and at 59, celebrates the bar mitzvah that the war had denied him: "When the reading was over, everyone formed a circle and danced. Men from all over the grounds ran to join the celebration. Chassidim, tourists and soldiers held hands, raised their combined voices in spontaneous joy, singing Hebrew songs around a crying Michael Kutz."

Dubi Arie, now of North York, emigrated to Israel and fought in the Six Day and Yom Kippur wars. In *I Have A Mission*, Dubi, spiritually transformed at the triumphant sound of the shofar at the conquered Western Wall, vowed that he would create a monumental work of art that would instil in every Jew the sense of awe and pride that he felt at that moment.

His brilliantly painted, seven-paneled, work in oils is reproduced in full color in the book. It illuminates 4,000 years of Jewish history, from Abraham to the creation of Israel. It measures close to 40 feet by 7 feet and is replete with imagery and symbolism. Dubi now lives and works in North York as a successful artist, his mission fulfilled.

The remaining stories by Moshe Perlmutter, Marjan Rosenberg, Faigie Libman and Batia Malamud – now all Canadians – are, like the others, convincing narratives of survival and victories of the human spirit over iniquity.

Alvin Abram has fashioned a book to be cherished. It both nourishes and enlarges the spirit.

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By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Tzedakah: a habit best developed when young

Today, we continue our look at tzedakah and the World Wide Web.

Tzedakah, of course, is a habit best developed when young. I was struck by the many sites on the Internet geared toward developing a sense of community and commitment among young people.

In Tzedakah and Community: Living Jewish Day to Day, there are many suggestions for nurturing that sense of responsibility both inside and outside the home **[http://www.bnaibrith.org/cjihomepag/fifweb/jewish.html]**. Some tips: Set the table for Sabbath dinner...Put money in the pushke...Visit the elderly at Chanukah. The site quotes Rabbi Eliyahu Dressler: "Parents are obligated to help their children convert their self-centered orientation into an altruistic one – that is, to learn to love their fellow as themselves...The first step in this learning process is acquired naturally in the family, when parents accustom their children to do things for them and for each other."

You can find more children's tzedakah projects at **[http://jcn18.com/newstand/jptoday/hhbar03.htm]** and **[http://www.bnaibrith.org/cjihomepag/fifweb/famtime.html]**.

Many schools encourage their pupils to bring in tzedakah money and deposit it in a pushke. Congregation Shir Hadash in Los Gatos, California goes one step further **[http://www.uahc.org/congs/ca/ca006/notes9706/educ01.html]**. The students established their own "tzedakah council" and studied several worthwhile projects around the world. They decided to support "Jewish solidarity, the Cuban Jewish Relief Fund and AIDS research" and at a later point decide on the next tzedakah projects. The kids' Greenburgh Hebrew Centre Religious School in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. runs their own Tzedakah Fair **[http://uscj.org/metny/dobbsghc/rlschool/tf.html]**.

I also recommend Virtual Jerusalem's Tzedakah: Why Should we Give? **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/rosh/whygive.htm]** "Did you know that the root of the Hebrew word 'give' is 'natan' – [the letters] nun, taf, nun? Notice that you can read it backwards and forwards. What does that tell us? That through giving,you get back." There are also links to a couple of stories about tzedakah, a rendition of the Shlock Rock song *Give a Tenth* and instructions about how to build you own tzedakah box.

Another lovely project is described in B'nai Mitzvah Tzedakah: "Twin" with Disabled Israelis **[http://www.jewish.com/bk950825/suptwin.htm]**. Bar and bat mitzvah-aged children outside Israel are paired with Israeli children, many of whom were born blind and have multiple disabilities.

And then there is the story of Oakland's Robert Schiff **[http://www.jewish.com/bk950825/suplieu.htm]** who asked his bar mitzvah guests to donate their bar mitzvah gifts to tzedakah in lieu of gifts.

"I'm not saying it's the thing for everyone but it was the right thing for me."

It also seemed like the right thing for a couple of adults celebrating another simchah. Sandra and Andrew Cohen were married in January 1996 in Gainesville, Fla. As part of their wedding gift, they encouraged their friends to donate to tzedakah in their name. They also set aside a portion of their gifts for the charities listed at **[http://gnv.fdt.net/~sandrew/tzedakah.html]**.

I'd like to finish my look at tzedakah and the World Wide Web by quoting the most famous Jewish thought on the subject – Moses Maimonides' Eight Levels of Giving **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/rosh/eight.htm]**. The great 12th century rabbi/philosopher described a range of tzedakah from (8) – giving grudgingly, to (5) – giving before one is asked to give, to the highest, (1) – a gift, a loan, a business partnership or a job that renders alms unnecessary.

So to anyone who is pulling out a chequebook or has resolved to do more volunteer work or is about to hire someone in need, yasher koach to you!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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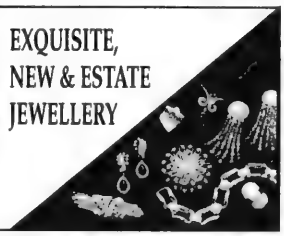

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New BBYO home proving popular with members

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

THORNHILL — Word is getting out that B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO) has moved from its small office in the Bathurst Jewish Centre (BJC) to a new home in York Region.

The spacious second-floor location it shares with UJA Federation's satellite office at 1118 Centre St. is becoming a popular venue for BBYO members to hold programs and chapter meetings, and just to hang out, according to Stephanie Hofland, director of BBYO's 15-chapter Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Council, which includes Hamilton and Kitchener.

BBYO programs typically include community service, social, educational, Judaic and athletic events. The annual Beauheart ball was scheduled for this past weekend at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, and a winter convention is set for early February. New programs are in the works to take advantage of the new facilities.

The new 2,000-square-foot location, opened this summer, includes offices, small meeting rooms, a boardroom and a program room with a computer. Downstairs on the main floor is a lounge that can comfortably hold 75 people. Couches and a new television have been donated to BBYO for the room.

From left: Sherri Rotstein, Stephanie Hofland and Avery Benmergui.

"We share everything with UJA Federation, but BBYO tends to use everything much more," said Hofland.

"It's a good partnership," said Ilan Meister, UJA Federation's York Region coordinator. "Just having their kids walk in and out of the office is good for me. We've had a couple of their kids get involved in our programs, and maybe it will happen vice versa as well."

His office serves an estimated 44,000 Jews, including about 75 percent of BBYO's Toronto-area members. GTA membership has grown by 13 percent over last year, from 312 members to 360.

"The office is so much nicer and bigger. People come for their chapter meetings or programs, and stay and chat," said Sherri Rotstein, 17, *n'siah* (president) of B'nai Brith Girls, GTA Council and a Grade 12 student at William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute.

"It's more accessible for a lot of people. There is a growing population of BBYO members at my school [Vaughan Secondary School]," said Avery Benmergui, 18, GTA council *gadol*. He is Rotstein's counterpart for Aleph Zadik Aleph, BBYO's boys' division.

Benmergui joined the organization almost five years ago to meet new people. He enjoyed the fraternal aspect and "took a real interest" in BBYO once he started learning more about it.

For Hofland, the leadership training aspect appears to be important for many members. "They start to learn how to be a leader. They take on challenges, and it excites them to be able to function in an independent, adult-like way. They start to learn it's not so scary to make a phone call, plan a program or get a guest speaker in."

Access to the new premises provides members with "a cozy feeling of being a part of something," said Hofland. The rooms are being "booked solid" for meetings, she added.

Sharing the space with UJA Federation is strengthening BBYO's link with the umbrella organization, Hofland believes.

"We've always been supported by UJA Federation," she said. "We do get a grant from them, but I think our affiliation is getting stronger with Ilan in the office. If he needs help, I'm down the hall. I'm kept informed of what's going on, and the teens are getting the cream of the crop of opportunities.

"We definitely have improved our space enormously."

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Greater Toronto Area

Jewish showbiz honchos swap 'war' stories

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Three top executives in the entertainment industry told war stories from the trenches of showbiz at a recent panel discussion on the business of entertainment.

The program, which featured Garth Drabinsky, chair and CEO of Livent; Robert Lantos, chair and CEO of Alliance Communications; and Gerry Schwartz, president, chair and CEO of Onex Corporation, drew a full house at the Leah Posluns Theatre.

Introduced as a "one man industry," Drabinsky, an entertainment lawyer and former movie producer and exhibitor, switched to live entertainment following his much-publicized split with the Cineplex Odeon Corporation in 1989.

Today the producer and exhibitor of such musical blockbusters as *Phantom of the Opera*, *Show Boat*, *Ragtime* and *Sunset Boulevard* runs six theatres in North America.

Drabinsky told the audience he finds working in live entertainment "is giving me the thrill of my life."

It's also been financially rewarding. He said his company garnered 20 percent of live theatre box office sales in the United States last year.

He noted that shows based on adaptations of books tend to be the most successful. "It's fundamental to have an underlying work."

And while he invests in the development of Canadian dramatic material, he made no apologies for mounting major productions based on American rather than Canadian works. The former have more universal appeal, he said.

"The Canadian public is interested in American theatre subject matter."

Unlike Drabinsky, Lantos, has been a promoter of Canadian cinema and Canadian talent since he began producing films in the mid-'70s.

When offered, he declined the opportunity to work in Hollywood following the successful box office run of his 1976 film *In Praise of Older Women*, he said. "It felt like a cliché to go [to Hollywood] at the first opportunity.

"I cherished the freedom I had and did not want to be a prisoner to a particular system. I thought I could succeed in a more challenging way at home, creating a talent pool. It took a lot of years and setbacks to build the foundation of the industry here."

Canadians have an "inferiority complex," he said, and it is "perpetuated" by the media. "That security complex continues to haunt this country. You have to prove that you're worthy."

In the 1985, Lantos co-founded Alliance Communications, a multifaceted company involved in film and television production, distribution and releasing. Alliance, now a public company, is Canada's largest independent production company.

However, in the early years Lantos had difficulty borrowing money from the banks, which did not understand the "concept of intellectual property," he said.

One of the first people to take an equity position in Alliance was Drabinsky, who invested in the company when he ran Cineplex, Lantos said. "It was a key moment in the history of Alliance. This is an opportunity to say thank you."

He also paid tribute to Schwartz, who is a member of the Alliance board of directors. Head of Onyx, a company with diverse interests which include catering and sugar as well as film production, Schwartz is a late bloomer when it comes to the film industry.

Three years ago, he co-founded Phoenix Pictures, a small Hollywood studio that produces A-Class films, among them, *The Mirror Has Two Faces* with Barbra Streisand and *The People vs. Larry Flint*, starring Woody Harrelson.

He said he learned a lot about movies when he visited the set of *The Mirror has Two Faces*. It took all day to film a 12-second scene, because Streisand didn't like the way her hair looked. As he watched the process unfold, all he could see was money flowing down the drain, he said. "This isn't a business like any other."

But Schwartz argues that the principles of common sense should apply to the movie business. People hide behind "the cloak of creativity to avoid discipline," he said. "Movie-making is just another business."

And while it is easy to raise money for Hollywood pictures, Schwartz predicted that some major studios that are carrying huge debt loads may soon go bankrupt, because the cost of making and promoting movies is escalating so rapidly.

In two years, the average cost of movie production and the promotion and advertising costs have each risen by $11 million he said. "There is nothing to show for this $22 million."

It cost $250 million to make the new Titanic movie and an additional $50 million to promote it, he said. To recover its cost, "it will have to be the third most successful film of all times."

Moderated by Pyllis Yaffe, president and CEO of Showcase Television, the evening was organized by the UJA's Arts and Entertainment and Marketing divisions and its Young Business Network.

Geldzaeler marks 100th birthday

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — It was most fitting that Hortense Cohen Geldzaeler was serenaded with Broadway melodies at a recent celebration at Forest Hill Place in honor of her 100th birthday.

Impeccably dressed and coiffed – her red lipstick matched perfectly manicured nails – Geldzaeler sang along with the entertainers, enjoying the music and the attention lavished on her by some 200 well-wishers.

Geldzaeler, a Forest Hill Place resident since 1992, is no stranger to the spotlight. She spent her early years on stage as a vaudeville performer in New York City, where she was born.

She was a child prodigy whose stage career began in 1905 when she started travelling the vaudeville circuit as a member of Gus Edward's Talented Kids.

Continuing to perform as a young adult, she was also hired by Charles K. Harris Music Publisher in New York's Tin Pan Alley, the hub of the American music industry in the early decades of this century.

Geldzaeler, a professional pianist and singer, played and sang the music of such legendary composers as George Gershwin and Irving Berlin from 1915 to 1918 while in the employ of Charles K. Harris.

Hortense Geldzaeler

"She had a rare talent," said her middle daughter Emily Grant. "She could play a song that she had heard, in any key, transposing the music immediately. When Irving Berlin had a song, Hortense would play it…She knew all the people in the music world."

In 1917, while touring with the American armed forces entertainment unit, she performed for the troops embarking for Europe in Amherst, N.S. There she met Canadian lieutenant Ben Geldzaeler of Toronto, whom she wed in 1920.

Married for 50 years, the couple had three daughters – Grant, Alfreda Henry and the late Phylis Weisfeld. Today there are seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

According to Grant, her mother never regretted giving up her stage career to raise a family. "She said her first job was to be a good wife and mother. Her life was very full in Toronto."

She described her mother as a "unique" person who "played the piano, but she could cook too." She was a gracious hostess and on Sundays, the family would sing around the piano, entertaining the many guests who came to visit, Grant said.

At the birthday party, Rabbi Gunther Plaut spoke of his long acquaintance with Geldzaeler, who was active in the Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood. She served in many executive positions including sisterhood president and was made a warden of the temple.

Henry, the oldest daughter, recalled her mother helping in the temple kitchen at sisterhood meetings. At the start of a meeting, she would take off her apron, run into the main room to play the piano ("She was the only one who could play God Save the Queen) and then she'd quickly return to the kitchen, put the apron back on and continue preparing refreshments.

When she thinks of her mother, Henry said, "it will always be the music. Our house was always full of music."

Everyone in the family was musical and the girls often sang in harmony with their mother at Holy Blossom programs and at other venues, she said.

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Greater Toronto Area

Bnei Akiva school celebrates 25th anniversary

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Nearly 500 people jammed the banquet hall of Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue last week to mark the 25th anniversary of Yeshivat Or Chaim/Ulpanat Orot Girls School.

The dinner also honored Phil Schwartz, a founder and constant supporter of the school, the only Bnei Akiva religious Zionist school in the Diaspora.

Pictures in the lobby and in the souvenir journal encouraged reminiscences of the early days of the school, when the boys had classes at an old synagogue on Vaughan Road, and the girls had to take a special bus to a house deep in the countryside north of Bathurst and Highway 7.

Or Chaim is now on Almore near Wilmington and Ulpanat Orot is at Bathurst and Sheppard.

Saul Koschitzky, chairman of the board of directors, remembers being invited to Phil Schwartz's house on a Sunday afternoon to meet Nachman Sokol, Aron Frankel and "an American rabbi," to discuss "why Toronto needed a different kind of yeshivah that would teach Torah, Israel, secular studies and *limudei kodesh* (religious subjects).

Later in the evening, Henry Koschitzky, campaign co-chair said that during Or Chaim's struggling first year, Schwartz and Frankel came to him and asked for a companion school for girls.

"I said, we can hardly support [financially] the boys' school – what are you bringing up a girls' school for? So Phil and Aron promised to underwrite the deficit of a school for girls. And they did. And they still collected money for Or Chaim."

Joseph Edell, co-chair of the dinner together with David Koschitzky, praised the school for providing "an excellent education, a love of learning, and a sense of closeness to the land of Israel. Such schools strengthen a community," he said.

Rabbi Moshe Yeres, rosh yeshivah, summed up the effect of Or Chaim/Ulpana on its students by the story of a group of students on a recent Shabbaton in the country.

"They were roughhousing, playing Capture the Flag. But every time a boy lost his glasses in the snow, the playing stopped until the glasses were found.

"That sense of caring and sharing...and bonding is what the school wants to teach."

A "surprise speaker," as Edell put it, was Schwartz's grandson, Yonatan Glustein, age 11, who received enthusiastic applause when he described his grandfather as someone who was always willing and eager to learn something new, as a role model and as someone who taught the importance of living in the secular world as a committed Jew.

Speaking on behalf of Frankel, who has been associated with Schwartz both in business and in charitable work, Edell praised Schwartz for working on behalf of many educational institutions, such as Ner Israel, Bar-Ilan University, Eitz Chaim, and Kerem B'Yavnah.

Julia Koschitzky, who gave the main tribute to Schwartz, called him a "Jewish Renaissance man, who fully integrated his Jewish heritage with his secular life."

Greetings were also brought by Rabbi Yitzchok Kerzner, spiritual leader of Clanton Park synagogue, and by Schwartz's daughter Adrienne Green.

All the speakers also praised Schwartz's wife Faygie for supporting him in his philanthropic work.

Schwartz, responding to the greetings, said that Jews come from a tradition that admits that it doesn't have all the answers, "but we do know all the questions."

That, he said, is what "motivates us to build schools, to build a future that, if we do our part, G-d will do His."

Schwartz was presented with a plaque, and Faygie Schwartz received a framed picture of the couple surrounded by their 14 grandchildren.

The dinner also marked the establishment of the Phil and Faygie Schwartz Endowment Fund, which will be used to support Or Chaim and Ulpanat Orot.

Hamotzi was said by Dr. Norman Smith, general studies principal, and the benching was led by Rabbi Shlomo Brown, principal of Ulpanat Orot.

CLARIFICATION

Adath Israel Synagogue was one of the four synagogues who sponsored the recent I. Jeffrey Presement Memorial Lecture held at Holy Blossom Temple. This information was omitted in the story.

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Greater Toronto Area

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Happy Chanukah to all!

BUSINESS MANAGER

Zionist Summer Camp located in Eastern Ontario requires part time Business Manager. Some experience necessary.

Resumé may be sent to the attention of: Search Committee, 272 Codsell Avenue, North York, Ont. M3H 3X2 or Fax (416) 636-5248.

HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE

MANAGER: Office Administration

Holy Blossom Temple, Toronto's largest Reform congregation, is seeking a full-time Manager of its administrative offices. This position reports to the Executive Director and is a member of a four person administrative management team.

The Manager will supervise the secretarial/clerical staff, oversee the operation of the synagogue's administrative systems, interact with congregants and senior staff and provide support for the Executive Director.

Qualifications: several years supervisory experience; strong interpersonal and communications skills; knowledgeable regarding current office information technology; able to anticipate and solve problems, establish priorities and be comfortable with competing demands.

Please forward your résumé to the Executive Director, Holy Blossom Temple, 1950 Bathurst Street, Toronto, M5P 3K9, Fax: (416) 789-9697.

Due to the postal strike, the deadline for receiving applications has been extended to December 20th.

Dominion save-a-centre launches new store in Lawrence Plaza

The kosher scene in Toronto is exciting, partly because new kosher establishments are always opening up and appear to be staying.

This is the second in a series of three articles on what's new in kashrut in the Greater Toronto Area.

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It used to be Morgans Department Store. Then it was The Bay. Later it was Sport Mart. Now the building at the corner of Bathurst and Lawrence in the Lawrence Plaza has a new face — Dominion save-a-centre.

KASHRUT FRONT

But it's a save-a-centre with a difference. This one is designed to cater to the large number of kosher consumers in the area, with a large array of kosher products and services lining the outer walls of the store and filling both sides of an aisle. Not to mention assorted displays in other parts of the store.

Bill Sheine, vice-president of marketing for The Great Atlantic & Pacific Company of Canada, who own Dominion save-a-centre stores, accompanied *The CJN* on a tour of the facility, shortly before its opening on Dec. 7, and pointed out the kosher features.

There are four main kosher areas: specialties, baked goods, groceries, meat and fish.

There is a wide assortment of what Sheine called "kosher specialties," including pickles, spreads, and soups.

A display unit near the regular Baker's Oven shop carries baked goods from a number of sources, including Hermes, Richman's and My Zaidy's bakeries, as well as a full line of Entenmanns products.

Glatt kosher, prepackaged meats, under the supervision of K'Hal Adas Jeshurin (Breuers), will fill a 16-foot meat counter, along with fresh kosher poultry. Prepackaged fresh fish will also be available. A feature harkening back to the old days is the fish tanks that will hold live carp and trout.

"The tank will be beside its own preparation table, with its own chopping block and tools. You can choose your own fish and the staff will clean it for you," Sheine promised.

Another display case has frozen smoked fish and packaged fish products.

Other cases will hold kosher frozen products, ice cream and dessert foods, and kosher dairy products.

In the produce department (which Sheine noted with a grin he considers "the best selection of produce in town"), the customer will find prewrapped kosher candy, and seasonal displays, including wrapped gift baskets filled with kosher products.

There is an entire aisle devoted to kosher groceries. Also, many products sold under the store brands of Master Choice and Equality are under kosher supervision. Kosher store and national brands will be identified by blue stickers for the customers' convenience, Sheine said.

An innovative store feature is Meals in Minutes, which, besides a selection of easy to prepare foods (many of which will be kosher), offers an interactive meals machine, where you can get meal ideas and recipes.

Other features of Dominion save-a-centre are a floral shop that offers cut flowers, flower bouquets and potted plants. In the produce department, there is fresh squeezed orange juice, as well as 100 percent organic fruits and vegetables.

Sheine said, "We want this to be known as a community store," and he promised to work with community organizations whenever possible. The store accepts Zareinu dollars, for instance.

Community store

Store officials are anxious to heed the sensibilities of the kosher customer. When *The CJN* pointed out that a cart next to the kosher frozen fish case contained non-kosher sauces, the offending cart was immediately whisked away, and replaced by one with O-U supervised sardines.

The grand opening was hosted by Blue Jays broadcaster Jerry Howarth. Metro councillor Howard Moscoe cut the ribbon officially opening the new store.

The Lawrence Plaza Dominion save-a-centre will be open continuously from Monday at 8 a.m. until Saturday at 9 p.m., and Sundays from 9 until 6. The kosher counters and cases will be emptied and cleaned for Shabbat and holy days.

Mazel Tov

'Due to the postal strike' we take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to our family & friends for the very generous donations made on behalf of our dear mother

Bina Glowinsky

for her very special birthday

Sarah & Harry Glowinsky, Helen & Sam Yermus, Ruth & Isaac Glowinsky and families

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For more information, contact Shirley Moscovitch. Tel.: (514) 731-4400 or Fax: (514) 731-2490. Toll Free 1-800-731-2848

(Left to Right) Arthur Levitt, CMDA's National President; Consul General Daniel Gal; Dr. Michael Guggenheim (Doror); Shirley Moscovitch, National Executive Director; Judge Alfred N. Segal, Past President; Lawrence Bergman, M.N.A. for D'Arcy McGee; Paul Saxe, National Treasurer and Irwin Beutel, Ambulance Chairman.

(Left to right) Arthur Levitt; Dr. Michael Guggenheim and Irwin Beutel.

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Community Matters

CAMPAIGN CALLS ON COMMUNITY

With one week left to go in its 1998 campaign, UJA Federation is making every last minute count.

Scores of volunteers began the final push for campaign support at a special telethon Sunday, which brought in thousands of additional dollars, boosting the campaign total to nearly $32 million – $4 million short of this year's goal. The telephone blitz continued during the evening all this week, as UJA Federation tried to make up for lost time caused by the postal strike.

Despite extensive arrangements for alternate payment methods, the mail

Judy Engel

stoppage delayed the majority of donations during the strike, threatening a successful campaign finish.

Sunday's telethon kicked off UJA Federation's *Days of Decision*, December 7 –17, during which community members who have not yet given a gift to the campaign are being urged to do so. In order to make as many calls as possible, campaigners will be trying to reach supporters from their homes and offices.

Days of Decision

Your Time To Make A Difference.

December 7th-17th, 1997

"Through the telethons, we have been stressing, one-on-one, the urgency of making payments," explained Campaign Chair Leo Goldhar. "Thousands of people who need our help could be affected if we can't successfully complete our campaign.'

"We're asking our volunteers to pull out all the stops and do whatever they can to get the last batch of donations in," said Judy Engel, who is co-chairing Days of Decision with Colin Lewis.

UJA Federation's 1998 campaign will officially close on December 17 with a celebration at the Sephardic Kehila Centre, 7026 Bathurst St. (north of Steeles).

Celebrated Canadian singer Amy Sky, who helped to launch Campaign 98 in August, will perform at the closing with her husband, recording artist Marc Jordan. CBC TV personality Ralph Benmergui will be the evening's Master of Ceremonies.

All contributors and volunteers are invited to both the event and the dessert reception that follows. Admission is $15 and attendance is by RSVP only. Please call Iris Lazarus at (416) 635-2883 ext. 177.

ISRAEL'S NEW CAMPAIGN

A new volunteer - driven campaign, in Israel, initiated by the Jewish Agency with seed funding from UJA Federations' across North America, is off to a fast start.

The fundraising drive is shifting into high gear after a decision two years ago to implement the project. According to Joe Dushansky, Director, *Ruach Yisrael* (The Spirit of Israel), "it is an incredible challenge to take something and mold it from the ground up."

What makes this initiative so unique is that Israeli citizens will be joining UJA Federations in a partnership that contributes to worldwide Jewish solidarity. Israelis, says Dushansky, are proud to be part of this effort and want it known that they are participating in the giving process.

"They feel it's time to do their part helping Jews right in their own backyard," says Dushansky. "There is a tremendous feeling that we can do things ourselves – it is time to get the ball rolling."

The campaign is off to an excellent start with a single donation of one million dollars slated to build "Schools of Excellence" – for underprivileged children and new immigrants. During the first stage of the campaign, all the money raised will stay within Israel, for projects related to education and the elderly.

Dushansky clearly believes *Ruach Yisrael* is for everyone in the country and the campaign's board of directors echoes the same sentiment. "We have board members from every walk of life – entertainers, academics and firefighters. This campaign belongs to the people of Israel, regardless of how much or little they give. This is a relationship of equals – we are all raising money for the same causes because we are all part of the Jewish culture."

The prospects for giving among union members seem especially good. "With more than 250,000 union workers contributing 10 shekels a month, it will start to provide a solution to the social problems we face. So far, there has not been one single refusal for a gift," Dushansky proclaims.

Dushansky is optimistic that *Ruach Yisrael* will foster a sense of world-wide Jewish cohesiveness and become one of the largest fundraising projects outside North America. "At the end of the day," he stressed, "unity is strength."

Ruach Yisrael *will be directed toward building schools of excellence.*

IN

UJA Federation is the leading force behind our community's Jewish education system and CHAT's (Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto) New Stream Program, is just one example of how the system strengthens the connection of students to their heritage.

A NEW OPPORTUNITY

Mark Sinyor, 17, currently in his fourth year at New Stream, funded by UJA Federation, believes "my eyes have been opened to Judaism in a way I never thought possible."

Although Mark attended a day school, he decided not to pursue a Jewish secondary school education, opting instead for a neighbourhood high school. Enrolled for only a year, Mark felt something was missing, and with some persistence from his father, researched the New Stream program. "My father wanted me to have the understanding and knowledge of Judaism that he was not exposed to," says Mark. "Plus, I had heard that the teachers at CHAT really challenge their students – this was something I was up for."

The Sinyor Family

BUILDING BLOCKS

For over 25 years, the New Stream program has been educating students who have little or no Jewish educational background. "The program was conceived as an outreach for those who want to further their understanding of their Jewish identity," says CHAT Headmaster Rabbi Marvin Pachino.

New Stream runs for four years with a focus on Hebrew and Rabbinics as well as general studies, such as science and languages. "People think that religion is a title. For me, it's tangible. CHAT has opened the doors to different perspectives of Jewish life," claims Mark.

STAYING POWER

The program's success is largely due to the students, because for many, the commitment to study Judaism on a higher level came from within. "New Stream has one of the highest retention rates of any parochial school program," notes General Studies Principal Sheldon Friedman. "We have students who continue their learning in Israel and some have become rabbis."

"There is no question I made the right decision to attend New Stream," says Mark. "Now, I must apply the tools that I've been given to live and grow in Jewish society."

The New Stream program, an important component of Toronto's Jewish education system, is another example of UJA Federation funding in action.

Community Matters

LEARNING AND LOBBYING IN OTTAWA

The recent Ottawa Fly-In, chaired by Irving Abella and Lorri Kushnir, marked the first-ever UJA Federation delegation to meet External Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Reform Party leader Preston Manning and Paul Vickery, Chief Prosecutor for the Canadian War Crimes Unit.

(from left) Lorri Kushnir, M.P. Elinor Caplan and Irving Abella.

Vickery, who defended current government efforts against war criminals, said his department has taken action against 14 people since 1995. He announced that five cases would be brought to court in the next five months. According to Vickery, the unit is focused on proving Nazi war criminals failed to disclose their past upon immigrating to Canada, in order to revoke their citizenship and deport them. He also focused on the difficulty of obtaining clean, clear evidence to stand up in a criminal trial.

Kushnir, a lawyer, who expressed disappointment with what she heard, interpreted Vickery's remarks as "legalistic," in accordance with "the letter not the spirit of the law."

Highlights of the day included lunch with MPs and talks by pollster Dr. Conrad Winn, professional lobbyist Mark Resnick and Canada-Israel Committee Director Rob Ritter. Dr. George McDonald, president of the National Museum of Civilization reaffirmed his support for a Holocaust exhibit in the War Museum despite the opposition of veterans organizations.

During dinner, Israel's Ambassador to Canada David Sultan called his country's recent secret use of Canadian passports an "embarrassing incident." He also chastised *Jerusalem Post* publisher Norman Spector, a former Canadian Ambassador to Israel, for "misleading the Canadian public." Spector had suggested that Canadian intelligence officials may have cooperated with the Mossad in the affair.

Lloyd Axworthy

The mission impressed third year U of T student Noah Stoffman, who noted, "the day had an effect on the people we met and it had an effect on us."

"We were a potent, articulate, committed Jewish voice," said Irving Abella of the forty participants who spent a full 17 hours in the nation's capital.

Preston Manning

Volunteer Views

Volunteer Views *highlights dedicated volunteers and volunteer opportunities in our community.*

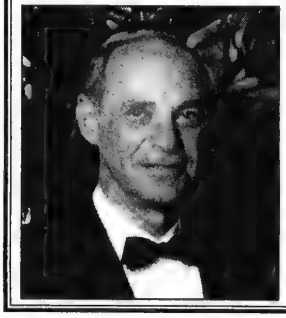
ALWAYS ON CALL

Before retiring, Herbert Sporn made a living by driving people around town in his own cab. Although his car meter is no longer running, the 70 year old grandfather is still navigating the city streets as a Senior Care volunteer driver.

Five years ago, Sporn began delivering Meals on Wheels to the elderly twice a week for Senior Care – a UJA Federation funded agency.

A FRIENDLY FACE

He also finds the time to drive seniors to doctors' appointments and other routine destinations – that is when he's not playing bridge, building model ships and attending meetings of his condominium's board of directors.



"I like to keep busy," says Sporn, "and what better way than to help people out."

But Sporn, whose father also volunteered as a Meals on Wheels driver, says sometimes it's about more than just a ride. "Human contact is often missing from the lives of many seniors and it means so much to them just to have company."

FEELING GOOD

Sporn says his volunteer work is also a way of giving something back to the community. "I feel good helping my fellow Jews and all it takes is a few hours of my time."

Senior Care recently acknowledged Sporn's dedication and commitment to community with an award for his involvement with the Volunteer Escort and Transportation Service Program.

Sporn says "maybe one day I'll be the one that needs a lift." Until then he'll be in the driver's seat.

If you would like to volunteer as a driver for Senior Care, please call Arnold Foss at (416) 635-2860.

SKATING SCHOLARSHIP

United Israel Appeal of Canada recently honoured immediate Past President Gerry Halbert by creating a scholarship fund to teach children living in Northern Israel to skate and play hockey at the Canada Centre in Metulla. Halbert is pictured above with two young Israeli skaters. Among those at the ceremony were Gerry's wife Tootsie, Murray and Marvelle Koffler, Harvey and Roz Wolfe, Julia and Henry Koschitzky, Shoel and Lil Silver and UIA Canada Executive Vice President Steve Ain.

Community Matters

Dennis Prager with Israel's Consul General Jehudi Kinar and his wife Ruti

George Gaffney, Executive Vice-President and General Manager, Metro Toronto, Royal Bank (left) and Leo Goldhar, 1998 Campaign Chair

UJA FEDERATION *Gala* CELEBRATION

Murray and Marvelle Koffler

Nelson and Ruth Reuben

Nearly 500 of UJA Federation's leading supporters recently gathered at the Four Seasons Hotel to celebrate the 1998 campaign. Radio personality Dennis Prager, one of America's most respected political and social commentators, was the guest speaker for the evening, sponsored by UJA Federation's Major Gifts and Atarah Divisions and the Royal Bank. The event was chaired by Barbara and Henry Bank and Lynn and Brent Belzberg. The following are some of the gala guests in attendance.

(Photos by Stephen Epstein)

David and Serena Koschitzky

Brent and Lynn Belzberg (left) with Barbara and Henry Bank

Gary and Rosa Bensky

Hinda and Allan Silber

Sam Sable

Jaime and Rani Benayon

Barry and Honey Sherman

Jackie Shulman and Ilana Morton with her baby, Tyra.

Sharon and Allen Karp

Toddy and Irving Granovsky

Community Matters, a supplement of the Canadian Jewish News, is sponsored and produced by UJA Federation. Website: www.feduja.org

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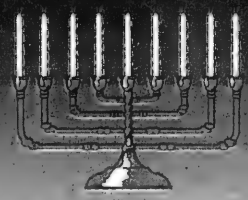
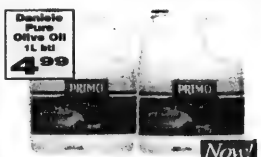


Grocery

Our grocery aisles are stocked with one of the largest selections of imported and local kosher products in the area, including an extensive variety of fresh dairy products, pickles, fish, soup and frozen food.



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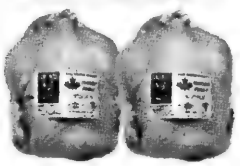
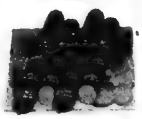


CHAI KOSHER
Fresh Whole Chickens Now! 1.99 lb 4.39 kg

GLATT KOSHER
Lean Ground Beef Now! 3.99 lb 8.80 kg



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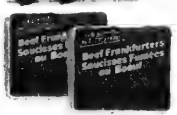
Aaron's Best All Beef Salami Now! 6.99 2 lb pkg



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Fresh Fish Market

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We have selected only the simple-to-prepare foods and placed them at the front of the aisle. So, you have more time to relax and to be creative in the kitchen. And if that isn't enough to inspire you, at the Bathurst St. Market, Meals in Minutes, you will find one brand you can't find anywhere else. "Meal Machine" foods. The Meal Machine provides [illegible] all the necessary ingredients you need for [illegible]

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...continues Sunday, December 14th to Wednesday, December 24th, 1997.

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*For Free Rewards, Collectors are required to accumulate sufficient AIR MILES travel miles. Collectors must pay applicable taxes, excess baggage, transportation and governmental fees and other non-ticket costs. Booking and other conditions apply. Sponsor offers and participation locations will vary and minimum purchases may be required. Some transactions may not be eligible. See "Your Guide to Free Rewards" for details. ©™ Trademarks under AIR MILES International Holdings N.V. Under license by Loyalty Management Group Inc.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Please note these holiday deadlines for What's New and About People:

Friday, Dec. 12, for Dec. 25 issue. As we are not publishing an issue on Jan. 1, this column will include items that would ordinarily have appeared Jan. 1.

Friday, Dec. 19, for Jan. 8.

Monday, Jan. 5, for Jan. 15.

I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Friday, Dec. 12

SHABBAT DINNER

Beth Tikvah USY potluck Kabbalat Shabbat dinner for youth in grades 9-12, 6 p.m. at the home of **Michael Tolensky**, 46 Gretman Cres., Thornhill. Please bring a vegetarian dish. Call Michael, 905-881-4721 or **Jeff Leiberman** 944-0797.

Saturday, Dec. 13

ASHKETANTS

Ashkenaz and Bloor JCC AshkeTANTS, a pre-Chanukah Yiddish dance party featuring Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, **Marilyn Lerner, Rick Shadrach Lazar, Stella Walker**. Yiddish dance instruction with **Sharon Wise** 7:30 p.m., then the party at 8:30 at Bloor JCC. $10 in advance, $12 at door. 924-6211.

CURRENT EVENTS

Beth Tikvah Synagogue's Israel and the Jewish World discussion series continues with **Moshe Ronen**, chair, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, 7 p.m.

ISRAELI ASSOCIATION

An informal get-together for Israeli singles age 35 plus, 9 p.m., Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. **Netta** 905-889-6143.

EAST YORK SYMPHONY

East York Symphony Orchestra concert, 8 p.m., Leah Posluns Theatre. Seniors/students $15, adults $18.

Sunday, Dec. 14

JEWISH FILM SOCIETY

Toronto Jewish Film Society screens *Stan Getz: A Musical Odyssey* (USA 1978), about the American jazz saxophonist, 7:30 p.m., Art Gallery of Ontario. **Bill Emery** 924-6211.

TRACING FAMILY ROOTS

Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood breakfast, guest speaker **Henry Wellish**, president, Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada. Topic: Tracing Your Family Roots. Service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30, lecture at 10.

OUT OF THE DARK

Ashkenaz, UJA Kids and Bloor JCC Out of the Dark...into the Light, Chanukah celebration, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Bloor JCC. Chanukiah making, dreidel spinning, music and singing, Chanukah performance by Ashkenaz artists. Performances noon and 1:30 p.m. $8 family, $7 adults, $2 children. 924-6211.

CHANUKAH PHONE CALLS

Phone calls anywhere in the world are a Chanukah gift to Baycrest residents from B'nai Brith's Wilson Heights Lodge. Close to 100 calls will be made to as far away as Israel, France, Australia, Hungary and Russia. As many as 25 lodge members are on hand to help place the calls. A photograph is taken of each resident on the phone as a memento of their call.

A JEWISH JOURNEY

Entertainment and Cultural Connection and Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood present **Jerry Ziedenberg** on 100 Years of Zionism: Part 5, David Ben-Gurion, A Jewish Journey Through the 20th Century, 8 p.m. Coordinators **Jerry** and **Sandra Genesove**.

FAMILY CHANUKAH PARTY

Lunch, music, dreidels, favorite furry characters, 12:15-2:15 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Adults $5, children $3. Please bring donation of non-perishable kosher food item for Daily Food Bank. Reserve 633-3838.

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish storytelling on the Danforth hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. Come listen, come tell, all welcome. Riverdale Jewish Community

[Cont'd. on page 25]

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and Family
May the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion

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Minister of Justice & Attorney General of Canada
together with
The Hon. Art Eggleton
Minister of Defence
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Earl Bales Park
Bathurst Street, North York.
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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

Centre, 179A danforth Ave., 7:30 p.m. $3. 699-8914 or 440-1330.

Monday, Dec. 15

CLUB FOR THE BLIND

The Hebrew Club for the Blind is holding a Chanukah party at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue.

Through the year the club meets the first Monday of each month at Bathurst Jewish Centre. Club is looking for new members, volunteers, drivers. Membership, **George Kline** 633-3524. General inquiries, **Ben Bauer** 905-731-7447.

ABOUT NUTRITION

Bikur Cholim presents Nutrition, Herbs and Health 8p.m. Baycrest Terrace, 55 Ameer Ave. For women only. 783-7983.

SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Parents and Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m., Jewish Family & Child Service, 6th floor, Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst St. Phone in confidence, **Ruth** 763-9111.

Tuesday, Dec. 16

BEREAVED FAMILIES

Bereaved Jewish Families of Ontario Family Night, Chanukah, It's Different For Me Now, a presentation by parent and adolescent, 8 p.m., Adath Israel Synagogue. **Sheila Browne** 667-8372 or **Beth Feffer** 905-882-2331, ext. 23 (JF&CS)

NFJA CHANUKAH EVENT

New Fraternal Jewish Association Chanukah celebration features singer/actor **Theresa Tova** and **Ruth Borchiver** who speaks on The Significance of Chanukah. 8 p.m., 12 Heaton St. (Lodzer Centre). $5. Reservations recommended. 663-0497 or 226-1166.

LUNCH AND LEARN

At Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue, a Chanukah musical interlude, Songs of the Season, with **Cantor Louis Danto**, 10:15 a.m., lunch following, $5. Tickets at shul office. Babysitting. **Marlene White** 905-731-2515 evenings.

ADULT EDUCATION

Rabbi Moshe Stern lecture, Free Choice in a Deterministic World – Divine Providence vs. Human Effort, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Synagogue.

Thursday, Dec. 18

CHANUKAH GIFTS

Chanukah gifts, wrapping and chocolate sale, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel, Room ECG 06, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cake and coffee served.

SINGLE PARENTS

Jewish Single Parents' Group presents Relationships: Good Choices-Bad Choices and Knowing If It's Right, discussion led by psychotherapist **Andrea Moses**, 8:30 p.m., Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Synagogue. Open to single parents 30-50 years old. 633-5500.

And What Else Is New

FAMILY CHANUKAH PARTY

Ohr Somayach of Greater Toronto Family Chanukah Party, Sunday, Dec. 21, 10 a.m. to noon, Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. W. For children, Beyond Pinocchio: The Real Story of Chanukah with ventriloquist **Philip** and friend **Henry** plus dreidl making. Concurrently for adults, a lecture, Mommy: Why Don't We Have a Tree? – Jewish Perspectives on Christianity and New Years, by **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz.** $5. Reserve. **Karen** 905-886-5730, ext. 29.

DESTINATION ISRAEL

The Israel Aliyah Programs Centre (IAPC) and Volunteers for Israel (VFI) co-sponsor a student trip to Israel July 5 to Aug. 7 for students and young adults ages 18-24. Three weeks on a military base as a civilian volunteer and then two weeks of touring. For information: Israel Aliyah Centre in Toronto 633-4766 or **Susan Baron** at IAPC 800-323-1474, ext. 6062 or 212-339-6062 or **Edie Silberstein** at VFI, 212-643-4848.

STUDY HEBREW

Study Hebrew at your level. Be able to attend and follow services. Temple Sinai 10-session classes for beginners Thursdays 7:30-8:30 p.m. starting Jan. 15, and for intermediate, to combine reading practice and the meaning of prayers, Saturdays 8:45-9:45 a.m. starting Jan. 17. Members $50, non-members $80. Register. Temple office 487-4161.

CENTRE SPOTLIGHT

Centre Spotlight, a showcase for Yiddish and Jewish performance, presented by Morris Winchevsky School and Jewish Artists Scholarship Society (JASS), Saturday, Dec. 20, 8:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Talent line-up includes **Eddie Rice, Marcia Beck and Friends Lisa, Alon Nashman, Alice Brownlee, Marat Maxutov, Marcia Kriss, Richard Bassett.** 789-5502 or 638-2222.

SUMMER INTERNSHIP

The Institute for Public Affairs of the Orthodox Union's Washington Internship Program, which annually places Orthodox Jewish college students in Washington, D.C., is seeking to fill positions for this summer. Program involves college sophomores and juniors in the political process, working with senators, members of Congress and in various legislative and administrative offices. Submission deadline Jan. 15. **Deena Shiff**, 212-613-8128.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Chai Shalom New Year's Eve dinner and dance, Wednesday, Dec. 31, 8:30 p.m., Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. Music by **Mickey Lewin**, catered meal, party favors. Chai Shalom members $45, non-members $50. Tickets at synagogue Sunday, Dec. 14. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Molly Dykopf** 633-1560 or **Marlene White** 905-731-2515 evenings.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups, **Pat Lieberman,** 638-7800, ext. 215:

Single Again, for divorced people, begins Jan. 22.

Self Confident Woman, begins Jan. 12.

Step-Parenting: Coping with His, Hers and Mine, begins Jan. 26.

Bereavement Groups for people who have recently lost a spouse, daytime and evening groups. Groups divided by age.

HEBREW ULPAN

Hebrew made fun and easy with **Yael Lev**. Conversational Hebrew classes start again the week of Jan. 5, all levels, daytime or evening. Special Hebrew and Heritage classes for parents with children in Jewish schools. Classes held at Associated Hebrew School (Finch), Beth Tikvah and Kehillat Shaarei Torah Synagogues. Register, Yael 225-6151.

PETAH TIKVAH PARTY

Petah Tikvah Anshe Castilla Congregation Chanukah dinner dance party, Wednesday, Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m., 20 Danby Ave. $75 per person. Reserved seating 636-4719.

FOLKDANCING

Join the Happy Hoofers couples for an evening of folkdancing on the third Sunday of the month at Earl Bales Community Centre, 8 p.m. No experience necessary. **Debbie** 633-0115.

FOR SENIORS

Association of Jewish Seniors general meeting, Thursday, Dec. 11, 9:30 a.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. Entertainment Bialik School Choir. **Goldie** 635-2860.

Beth Tikvah Friendship Group Chanukah celebration Monday, Dec. 15, 8 p.m., soft pop, jazz, klezmer and gypsy themes by Professional Musicians International, plus bilingual reading by **Miriam Beckerman, Gilda Goldstein** 905-889-3180.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Dec. 11, Holiday party show, Thursday, Dec. 11, Richmond Hill Country Club, bus departs at noon; Dec. 14, Sunday dance, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 17, Casino Rama; Dec. 18 Retirement Seminar, video, light lunch, 1 p.m., free to members; Dec. 31, New Year's dinner and dance, 7 p.m.; activities – table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork, trips, bingo. Membership '98 $12. 395-7881.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Dec. 18 is the Israeli movie *A Plumber* by **Tevia Zpir. Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: in the planning – Chanukah musical program Dec. 24, 1-3 p.m. and discussion of upcoming events and trips, **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Young at Heart Seniors Florida trip to the Saxony Hotel on the ocean, full efficiency, bus, shopping, entertainment, double occupancy, $75 Canadian a night, three meals $66.50 (US) a day plus tax. Phone for package deal Jan. 29-Feb. 26. 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Osteoporosis Support Group meets Tuesday, Dec. 16, 1:15-2:30 p.m. with resource person **Joan Turner** to review past topics, share experiences and plan for the new year.

Chanukah luncheon and dance Wednesday, Dec. 17, noon-3:30 p.m.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, singalongs, dances, bingo. Dec. 16 is a movie. **Anna**.

Movie, *It Takes Two,* Sunday, Dec. 14, 2:15 p.m.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club: Thursday, Dec. 11, 2 p.m., Rebirth: Life After World War II in the Displaced Persons Camps, a talk by **Sandra Fishlinsky**, researcher and daughter of survivors.

Seniors Club gala Chanukah party, international music by **Lenka Lichtenberg**, delicious treats, Thursday, Dec. 18, 1:30 p.m. Members $3, others $6. To reserve, call **Judy.**

ABOUT PEOPLE

HISTORY PRIZE WINNERS

Sheldon and Judith Godfrey of Toronto are the first Canadians and only the second North Americans to win the coveted prize for the best Anglo Jewish History. The Jewish Historical Society of England has announced that the Godfreys have won the A.S. Diamond Memorial Prize for their book, *Search Out the Land: The Jews and the Growth of Equality in British Colonial America 1740-1867.*

BETH EMETH EXECUTIVE

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue's new executive: **Margo Grosbein**, president; **Sheldon Berg**, 1st vice-president; **Ari Hochman**, 2nd vice-president; **Pearl Grundland**, treasurer; **Harvey Schiller**, secretary; **Eric Goldberg**, immediate past president.

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From coast to coast

In Israel, land mines 'necessary': Sultan

The following is a speech delivered by David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada, at last week's signing in Ottawa of the treaty banning the use, production and stockpiling of anti-personnel land mines.

Although Israel did not sign the treaty, it says it supports the humanitarian sentiments expressed in the document.

On behalf of the government of Israel and the Israeli delegation, let me congratulate the government of Canada for launching the "Ottawa Process" that has helped place the problems of indiscriminate and irresponsible use of anti-personnel land mines high on the international agenda. Let me also congratulate all the governments that joined the government of Canada in signing the anti-personnel mine ban convention.

Israel joins all those countries in supporting international efforts to resolve the problem of indiscriminate and irresponsible use of anti-personnel land mines which result in casualties, mostly of innocent and defenceless civilians, UN peace-

David Sultan

keeping forces and humanitarian aid personnel.

Due to our unique situation in the Middle East involving an ongoing threat of hostilities as well as terrorist threats and actions along the borders, we are still obliged to maintain our ability to use anti-personnel land mines as necessary for self-defence in general and along the borders in particular.

Any such use is in accordance with the requirements of the Convention on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons. Hence, at this juncture, Israel is regrettably unable to sign the convention until effective alternative measures are available to ensure the protection of civilians threatened on a daily basis by terrorists and to ensure the protection of Israeli forces operating in areas of armed conflict.

Our constraints notwithstanding, and in line with our support for the goals embedded in the convention, we have joined those states opposing the proliferation of anti-personnel land mines in issuing, in 1994, a unilateral moratorium prohibiting the export of anti-personnel land mines. That moratorium was extended in 1996 for three more years. Extending the moratorium indefinitely is being considered. In this context, it is worthwhile to note that Israel does not produce anti-personnel land mines and its export control restrictions enforce compliance with the moratorium.

To demonstrate our commitment to the international efforts not only in words, we have contributed financially as well as sending volunteers to the mine awareness program in Angola. Furthermore, Israel and Jordan have recently successfully carried out a combined project of clearing mine fields along our border. Currently, the governments of Canada and Israel are considering the establishment of a joint rehabilitation centre for land mine victims.

In conclusion, let me express my government's hope that the convention that has been opened for signatures, as well as additional international instruments negotiated in different forms that could be complemented by bilateral and trilateral initiatives, all these, will contribute to alleviating the problem caused by the indiscriminate and irresponsible use of anti-personnel land mines. Israel will be part of that global effort.

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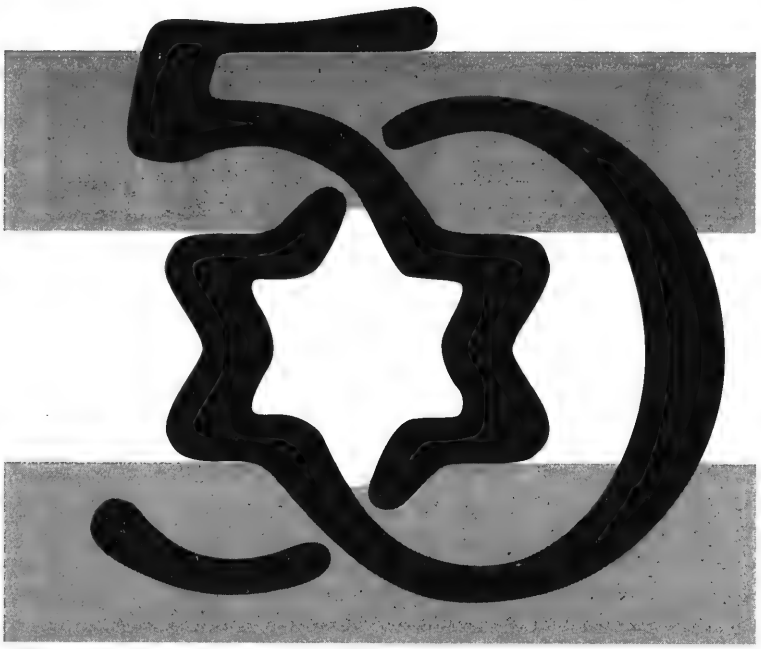


יובל החמישים לישראל

ISRAEL AT 50

YOUR DATE WITH HISTORY

This month and all through 1998,
we will be celebrating five amazing decades of hope, progress and success — and you're invited!
This is your guide to Toronto's celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary in 1998.
Learn about Israel's history and strengthen your association with our Jewish homeland.
Share in the memories and create new ones. Savour this historic opportunity.
Join with family, friends and neighbours to keep your date with history. Celebrate Israel at 50 with us!

This special supplement is sponsored by the Israel at 50 Committee — a consortium of nearly 150 community organizations under the auspices of the Consulate General of Israel and UJA Federation.

Unity and Pride on Independence Day

It's going to be a spectacular Yom Ha'atzmaut in 1998 on Israel's 50th birthday, April 30 — a day to melt the geographical distance between Toronto and Israel.

The largest Jewish community turnout ever is expected for a local celebration unlike any other. Up to 10,000 people will fill Toronto's National Trade Centre and Coliseum where entertainment for the entire family will be certain to stir hearts.

The Toronto celebration will feature a live link – via satellite – to Israel's gala anniversary event, so Toronto participants can share the historic moments with their Israeli counterparts.

Co-chairs Marvelle and Murray Koffler invite every member of the community to take part in what they call "a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

"An anniversary like this comes only once," says Marvelle. "Everyone will have a wonderful time — but it will be much more than a fabulous party." Murray describes it as "a day for families, friends, co-workers, neighbours and organizations to get together to celebrate the ties they share with each other and with the people of Israel. Looking back over five decades, we can reflect on how much our partnership with the people of Israel has accomplished."

יובל החמישים לישראל
ISRAEL AT 50
YOUR DATE WITH HISTORY

Bringing Israel Home

The impact of Israel at 50 will be felt a long time after the year has ended, predicts Julia Koschitzky, Chair of the Israel at 50 Community Celebration.

"Each person has his or her own beliefs and each organization has its own agenda, but when it comes to Israel, we're united," says Koschitzky. "Israel at 50 is a magnet. The amazing thing is the hundreds of volunteers of all ages who have already become a part of it, generating excitement and energy the likes of which I've never before seen," she adds.

Like many in the community, Koschitzky has worked alongside legions of dedicated people on worthwhile projects over the years. But she says Israel at 50 stands apart, not only because of the Toronto community's special ties to Israel, but also because of Israel's profound impact on Jewish identity in general — spiritually, historically and culturally.

Koschitzky expressed gratitude for the commitment of Israel at 50's key committee Chairs: **Gerry Sheff**, Corporate Sponsorship; **Donald Carr** and **Judy Feld Carr**, Chanukah Candle Lighting at Queen's Park; **Murray** and **Marvelle Koffler**, Yom Ha'atzmaut Gala; **Bonnie Goldstein** and **Jackie Shulman**, Toronto Remembers; **Karen Morton**, Israel Showcase at the CNE; **Judy Scheininger**, Consortium Liaison; **Terri Weintraub**, Volunteer Coordination.

Consortium Fuels Israel at 50

Although the solemn name doesn't even hint at the enthusiasm of its members, the Consortium is the driving force behind Israel at 50 celebrations.

The Consortium is the assembly of nearly 150 groups, agencies, synagogues and organizations, spanning the full spectrum of Jewish life in the Greater Toronto area. Together, they're organizing and promoting the year-long series of events celebrating Israel's 50th anniversary, next year. It's one of the strongest examples in the city's history of the community uniting for a common goal.

The Consortium also serves as a forum where resources can be combined and partnerships encouraged.

"The members' excitement is contagious — and it's spreading," says Consortium Chair Judy Scheininger. "It's gratifying to feel the support of the community for Israel at 50. The eagerness is heart-warming and it's going to show in the celebrations."

Many of the volunteers coming forward — either to initiate events or to help with those already on the calendar — have never before been involved in community activities in quite this way.

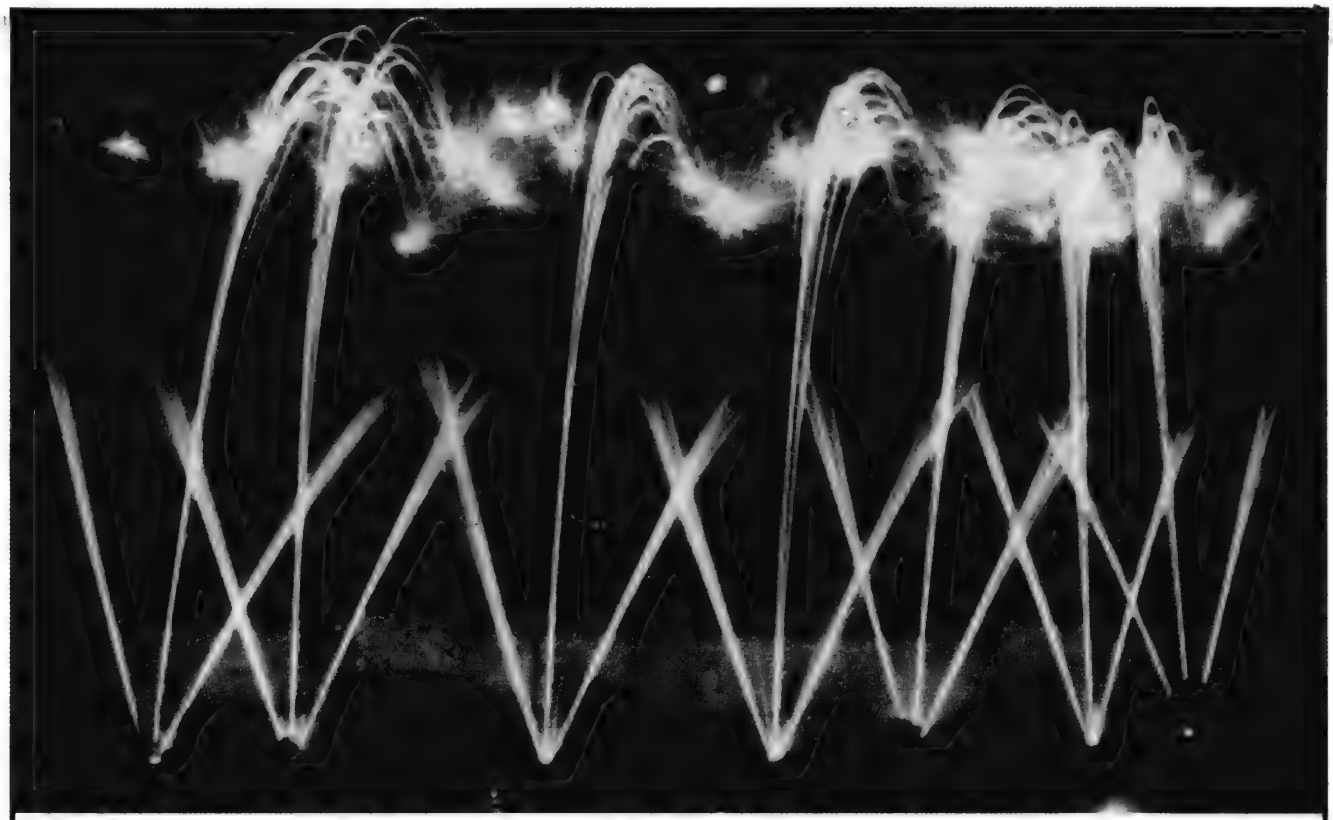
"Although it's a diverse group, the members have a common goal of making Israel at 50 an outstanding success throughout the community," says Scheininger. "There's a great deal of mutual respect among members, and our pride and support for Israel is the unifying force."

To help create and support events, members have access to a variety of resources, including promotional material, special videos, speakers and exhibits as they become available. For information about being a part of the Consortium, call (416) 635-2883 ext. 321.

Major Israel at 50 Community-Wide Events

- December 23, 1997 Israel at 50 Kickoff with Chanukah Candle Lighting at Queen's Park
- March 8, 1998 Fashion Show at Yorkdale Shopping Centre
- April 30, 1998 Independence Day Gala at the National Trade Centre, highlighted by a live link to Israel's spectacular birthday celebration
- May 24, 1998 Israel Festival at Ontario Place following the Community Walk for Israel from City Hall
- August 29 to September 7, 1998 Israel Showcase at the Canadian National Exhibition with exhibits reflecting Israel's contributions to history, the arts and business
- December 14, 1998 Closing Ceremony

Watch for a more detailed calendar of Consortium events coming soon to our Web site at www.feduja.org



Something to light home about.

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On December 23, the first night of Chanukah, the State of Israel and Jewish communities everywhere, will officially inaugurate 50th birthday festivities.
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7:30 P.M.
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Now that's something to light home about.

From coast to coast

Bank of Canada shows willingness to confront past

Scene in Ottawa

By STEPHEN BINDMAN

So it now appears that on at least one Nazi front, Canada is still Canada the good.

An Ottawa historian has concluded that the Bank of Canada was not a "willing player" in the laundering of Nazi gold looted from banks and Holocaust victims during World War II.

Duncan McDowall, a Carleton University professor, conducted a three-month, exhaustive study – in fact a mind-numbingly exhaustive study as only a dedicated historian could – for the bank, after World Jewish Congress investigators discovered an intelligence document in American archives.

McDowall concluded there is "only the slimmest of chances" that the Canadian central bank was even unwittingly drawn into the laundering of tainted gold by the Swiss and Portuguese central banks.

But the good professor didn't stop there.

He discovered, much to his surprise, that Canada's central bank also safeguarded in its vaults small amounts of gold owned by refugees – many of them well-to-do European Jews who had fled their homelands in the early stages of the war.

Every ounce was returned to its rightful owners after the war.

"Canadians can take justifiable pride in the efficient manner in which the rather prosaic service of earmarking of gold was turned to commendable Allied and, at times, humanitarian ends," he concludes.

McDowall's report should hopefully put to rest any fears of a major Canadian connection to the growing worldwide Nazi gold scandal.

And his revelation about the heretofore-secret safeguarding of Jewish gold in Canada's bank vaults is an interesting footnote to an otherwise shameful episode in Canadian history – a period, as Irving Abella has recounted, in which Canada was apparently prepared to welcome with open arms Nazi persecutors but firmly shut the doors to the persecuted.

But perhaps of equal significance is the way the Bank of Canada reacted to the first revelations about a possible Canadian role in Nazi gold laundering.

Its top officials did not run and hide as government officials are more often wont to do. Instead they immediately conducted an internal probe, then commissioned McDowall, a respected historian, and gave him unfettered access to thousands and thousands of documents in its archives.

They swiftly released the historian's report and made the hundreds of files he pored over available to researchers and the public.

Perhaps this is a sign that Canada is finally prepared to openly come to terms with its dismal record in dealing with the Nazi past.

"The Bank of Canada learned the lesson of Switzerland, that unless you respond immediately and aggressively to a public issue, that issue will fester and get worse and compound the problem," says Abella, who reviewed McDowall's report for the Canadian Jewish Congress.

"This gave Canada the opportunity to wash its laundry in public and it shows that the laundry was clean, our hands were clean, and governments behaved as they should have.

"I'm hopeful that other departments will, if confronted with the same issue, learn that it pays to be open because these things will eventually come out."

The bank's openness and willingness to confront its past, no matter how unpleasant, is even more significant when seen in light of several other recent positive Nazi-related developments:

• The Supreme Court of Canada ruled in September that three Nazi war crimes cases can proceed despite a secret meeting between a top judge and senior federal lawyer.

Powerful message to Federal Court

The top court said Nazi war crimes "rank among the most heinous in history and the civilized world's resolve to apply the appropriate sanctions should not be interfered with lightly."

This was a powerful message to the Federal Court to get on with it, a message that has apparently been received loud and clear.

One suspected Nazi collaborator has already left the country voluntarily, the trial of another has been completed and several more are slated to finally begin over the next few months.

• Justice Minister Anne McLellan has all but apologized for years of inaction by successive Canadian governments in dealing with suspected Nazis living in our territory.

In a recent speech in Edmonton, she announced the federal war crimes unit would soon publish an annual report on its work, much like the superior Office of Special Investigations (OSI) in Washington. Her predecessor Allan Rock had refused to make such a public accounting.

"In the last few years, we have seen a major improvement in the way those who committed reprehensible acts during wartime are dealt with in this country," McLellan said.

"Canada's improved performance does not excuse, or lessen the shame, of its previous inaction and failures."

• McLellan will also shortly announce the appointment of famed American Nazi hunter Neal Sher, the former director of the OSI, as a special advisor to Canadian war crimes investigators.

Too little too late? Probably.

But better late than never.

Stephen Bindman is national legal affairs correspondent for Southam Newspapers based in Ottawa.

The Board of Directors of the
M.S. Access Support Association
deeply mourns the passing of our dear friend
PERLA ARDITTI
Executive Director of the Association.

Perla was a tremendous contributor to her community, and gave so much of herself to create a supportive environment to help others with multiple sclerosis. She will be remembered for her vision and desire to achieve goals that often seemed unachievable to others.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE is being held on **Sunday, December 21, 1997, 4 p.m.**, at the Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St., in the Jerusalem Room.

Memorial donations will be gratefully accepted at the memorial service or may be made to: The M.S. Access Support Association, 7420 Bathurst Street, Suite 304, Thornhill, Ont. L4J 6X4. Phone number (905) 731-7561.

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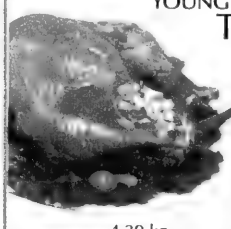

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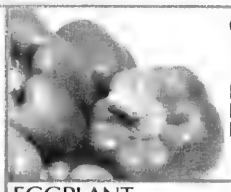

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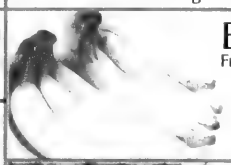

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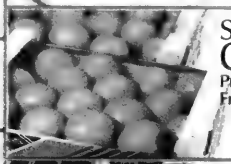

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Rambam slams gov't

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — U.S. Nazi-hunter Steven Rambam said the Canadian government is "scamming the Jewish community" by launching deportation cases "they want to lose."

Rambam was in Montreal last week to speak at a local synagogue, and in an interview, continued to criticize the federal government for its handling of suspected Nazi war criminals living in Canada.

But in doing so, Rambam also seemed to alienate a past ally, the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

CJC allied itself with Rambam last year after he revealed the presence of dozens of suspected Nazis living in Canada, whom he tricked into admitting to their Nazi past. Earlier this year, he announced he would retire from the war crimes agenda.

But Rambam's brash, no-holds-barred style and apparent continued readiness to slam Ottawa comes at a time when CJC is willing, at least for the time being, to give the federal government the benefit of the doubt that it is pursuing the war crimes agenda seriously after 50 years of indifference and a history of being a safe haven for Nazi war criminals.

Ottawa has launched a dozen deportation cases, with more coming. One of the cases is against Montrealer Vladimir Katriuk, accused of lying about his membership in the Waffen SS to enter Canada in 1951. On the day Rambam spoke, Katriuk's hearing began in Montreal in Federal Court.

CJC national director Jack Silverstone praised Rambam for his past efforts and said he was entitled to his personal views.

However, "based on meetings with [former justice minister Allan Rock, current minister Anne McLellan and Immigration Minister Lucienne Robillard], and based on the situation we see before the courts today, I know there is an unprecedented level of proceedings against suspected Nazi war criminals," Silverstone said.

In an interview and before a capacity crowd of 450 at the Beth Israel Beth Aaron Synagogue, Rambam continued to call on Ottawa to "flip" suspected Nazi war criminals into testifying as "cooperative witnesses" against their accomplices, a tactic commonly used in the United States by the Office of Special Investigations (OSI), the American counterpart to the Canadian War Crimes Unit, but not so far by Canadian authorities.

To support his point that the Canadian government has no real interest in winning its deportation cases, Rambam cited "glaring" examples, among them the failed criminal prosecutions of Imre Finta, Michael Pawlowski and Stephen Reistetter.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Deadline is Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date. NOTE: See the classified section of this issue for early deadlines for December & January.

For rates or to place an ad, please call TANYA at (416) 391-1836

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

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War crimes case begins

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Vladimir Katriuk, a 76-year-old beekeeper in Ormstown, Que., last week said he was not concerned that the Federal Court will strip him of his citizenship and Canada deport him for allegedly hiding his Nazi past to get into Canada in 1951.

"No, not at all," Katriuk, a citizen since 1958, answered when asked by reporters if he was worried about his future.

Katriuk appeared during two of three days of hearings last week in Federal Court. Court watchers said he appeared alert and attentive, but displayed no emotion, as his lawyer, Orest Rudzik, and federal Crown prosecutor David Lucas presented the thrust of their arguments before Judge Marc Nadon.

The dramatic heart of the case, which could include eyewitness testimony of Katriuk participating in atrocities, is not due to be dealt with until March. At that time, the hearing will move to Ukraine, where the Crown will call witnesses who are expected to testify that they knew Katriuk as a Nazi collaborator and member of a notorious Ukrainian battalion of the Waffen SS, the 400-member Schutzmannschaft Battalion 118.

Lucas said one witness will produce a statement that Katriuk was bestowed a medal as a member of the battalion's first platoon, an elite unit.

From 1942 to 1944, the battalion committed numerous atrocities against Jews and the civilian population in the Ukraine and in Byelorussia.

The atrocities, according to court documents, included the extermination of the Jewish ghetto in Slutsk, Byelorussia, and "operations" in other villages in which "over 100 civilians, many of them old people and children, were killed, and many houses and barns were burned down."

The Crown alleges that Katriuk participated in the atrocities, did not reveal his past when he applied to come to Canada and came under a false name, Nicolas Schpirka. All would have been grounds for rejecting his admission.

Katriuk, in a statement prepared by the defence, admitted to serving in Battalion 118, but denies being present while atrocities took place.

He also said he revealed his true identity when applying for citizenship, but was still allowed to become a full Canadian.

The hearing is the first Nazi war crimes case to take place in Montreal (another, against St. Leonard resident Mamertas Rolland Maciukas, is expected to begin in the late spring of next year).

If Katriuk is stripped of his citizenship and the federal immigration minister deports him, it will be one of the very few deportations so far of a Canadian and alleged Nazi war criminal since Jacob Luitjens of Vancouver was exiled to Holland in 1992. Katriuk's fate is not expected to be determined until at least the fall of 1998.

From coast to coast

New fundraising options explored in Winnipeg

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The Winnipeg Jewish Community Council (WJCC) has appointed Howard Morry to chair its newly created Financial Resource Development Millenium Committee. The committee was authorized at the WJCC meeting in early October.

Morry, a lawyer who currently serves as the WJCC's vice-president for financial resource development, came up with the idea for the committee. "I was concerned that our Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA) campaign has been declining for several years," he says. "With the shift of our focus to the Asper Jewish Community Campus, I wanted to be proactive in exploring new fundraising options for the community, rather than waiting for a financial crisis to happen."

CJA campaign declining

The new committee is now made up of about a dozen members, but Morry expects it to grow to 40 or 50 people who will represent a wide range in age and experience. Committee members will be studying community long-term needs, the current CJA campaign and, creative new ways of raising funds.

"Perhaps we can encourage supporters to establish endowment funds or contribute through life insurance policies," Morry suggests. "We may look to public and private foundations or special fundraising projects. Our beneficiary agencies such as the Gray Academy and Jewish Child & Family Service may be able to increase their own fundraising efforts."

He expects that his committee will have its report completed by next fall. In the meantime, he says that this year's CJA campaign is up substantially over last year.

שישאר מיננו

גידי קורן וחברים

"חול בעיניים":
זהו שם של ספר הבלש הרביעי מסידרת ספרי "ליזי" של שולמית לפיד. ליזי בדיחי היא כתבת מקומון (עיתון מקומי) בבאר שבע, שתוך עבודתה העיתונאית נופלת על מקרי פשע ומפענחת אותם. המיוחד בליזי ובכל הגישה של שולמית לפיד, היא הפוזה ה"אנטי-גיבורית". בחורה לא יפה וגמלונית, בעיר נידחת, משהוא קצת דומה למיסיס מרפל של אגאתה קריסטי. ללמדך שהגיון בריא וחושים בריאים יותר חשובים ממציאות של בלשים. גם ב"חול בעיניים" נקלעת ליזי בדיחי למקום הלא נכון בזמן הלא נכון וחושפת בצע כסף וקינאה, אהבה ובגידה. אני דווקא אוהב את הכתיבה של שולמית לפיד, כמו גם את ספרי הבלש של בתיה גור, לא בגלל הקטע הבלשי, אלא משום שבתוך עלילת המתח הן מתארות מאוד פלאסטי את ישראל של עכשיו. הינה קטע כזה:

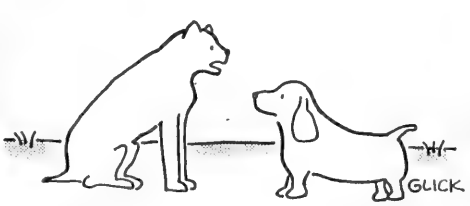
"סגירת המפעל העלתה אל פני השטח שנאה כלפי הפועלים הרוסים. במקום שיראו בהם בני ברית ואחים לצרה, נתפסו הרוסים לפולשים שגזלו את פת לחמם של הפועלים הותיקים . הסוכנות היהודית שילמה חלק משכרם של העולים החדשים ובעלי המפעל קפצו על המציאה... כשהסוכנות הפסיקה לשלם את שכרם הם פוטרו, ורוסים חדשים הוכנסו במקומם".

ספרי סידרת "ליזי" היו לרבי מכר גדולים ואף תורגמו לצרפתית, גרמנית, איטלקית ויפנית . "מקומון" (הראשון שבהם) זכה בגרמניה בפרס ספר המתח הזר הטוב ביותר לשנת 1996. ואעשה עוול לשולמית לפיד אם לא אזכיר את ספריה ה"רציניים", הלא בלשיים: גיא אוני (1982), כחרס הנשבר (1984), מה משמח עכבישים (1990). שיהיה לכם בכיף.

חידת השבוע:
איך גבר ישראלי מתאבד?
הוא קופץ מהאגו שלו לאי קיו שלו.

על מדליות ודגלים-יהורם פירוצקי:
ערב אחד, ליד שולחן עמוס פיצוחים ישבתי עם חברים, ביניהם קנדים ממוצא לועזי. בשיחה שהגיעה לטונים גבוהים, טענו הנוכרים שאנו הישראלים פטריוטים בעירבון לא מוגבל, שוביניסטים ובעיקר מיליטריסטים. רצה הגורל ויומיים אחרי אותו ויכוח השתתפתי בנשף צדקה שנתי של האופרה הקנדית, נשף שנחשב לאחד האירועים הנוצצים והחשובים עבור העשירון העליון. והכוונה למתבוללי Rosdale ,Foresthill ועוד שכונות מצוקה. וכאן להפתעתי הלא גדולה גיליתי שרוב הגברים, הצעירים והמזדקנים, הגיעו לאירוע עטורים בחליפות טוקסידו של גדולי המעצבים, כשעל החזה תלויות בגאווה מדליות, עיטורים, ועוד תכשיטים צבאיים ממלחמת העולם השניה, קוריאה, ושאר המלחמות והסכסוכים שקנדה הצליחה להידחף לתוכם. מאוחר יותר, כאשר מושלת אונטריו ביצעה כניסה לאולם המפואר, נכנסו יחד איתה בת"ס"ח שלא היה מביש את צוערי בית הספר לטיסה של חיל האוויר, אורחי שולחן הכבוד מלווים חיילים במדי ייצוג צבעוניים כשבידיהם רובים מכודנים, ובראשם סקוטי עם חמת חלילים. וכך לצלילי המנון שקעתי בהרהורים, ניסיתי לזכור אם גם אנחנו הישראלים מגיעים לאירועים נוצצים כשעל חזינו מתנדנדים עיטורים או אותות צבאיים, ומתי נשיא המדינה או ראש הממשלה מבציעים כניסה לערב צדקה בין טורים של חיילים חמושים? מיותר לציין שזה לא קורה. אז מדוע בכל זאת מזכים אותנו הקנדים בתואר מיליטריסטים, שוביניסטים , כאשר בעצם הם אלו שמניפים דגלים על תחנות דלק, פיצריות, סופרמרקטים ואפילו דוכני המבורגרים. וזה בלי להזכיר את כל הפעמים שעמדנו לשיר "או קנדה" לפני הופעת בלאט , אופרה ועוד כל מיני אירועים אפורים.

SHMOOZIN



E-Mail: arnglick@aol.com

"My master expects my tail to start wagging when he gives me a toy to play with -- but to tell you the truth, a chewed up tennis ball is not so ay-yi-yi!"

Something Different for Israel's 50th Anniversary

Join us on our 4th Hiking/Biking Adventure in Israel

October 20-27, 1998.

Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Mission with a Difference 1998

Israel at 50

Set yourself a personal challenge and celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary by joining us on this unique and rewarding fundraising adventure in Israel.

Imagine the beauty of hiking through the Galilee or the thrill of cycling through the desert to Masada. This extraordinary mission is for adventure seekers of all ages and abilities. Previous Mission participants will tell you that this is the trip of a lifetime – an opportunity to experience an exhilarating outdoor adventure that will provide you with a unique perspective and understanding of Israel.

We look after everything – travel, accommodations, all meals and equipment. Expert guides will lead you through Israel's most beautiful and interesting sites. Speakers will motivate you and you're guaranteed to return with new friends and lasting memories.

Land costs are just $1595 and airfare is extra. In addition, you will be asked to raise sponsorship pledges in support of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Space is limited, so mark your calendar for an event that is not to be missed!

MISSION INFORMATION MEETING
Tuesday, January 20, 1998,
7:30 p.m.
Barbara Frum Library
20 Covington Street, North York.

For a complete information package, contact the Mission Hotline at (416) 485-8000 or 1-888-432-7398.

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

WINDFIELDS RESTAURANT

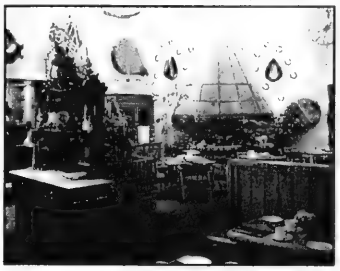
At Windfields Restaurant you'll experience a bright, friendly atmosphere, for both family and business dining. The Executive Chef, Cristopher Fotakis, prepares a large selection of dishes suited for the most discriminating palate. For starters, you can indulge in tasty Calamari, or Bruschetta, followed by a choice of Souvlaki, roast beef, ribs, fish and pastas. Windfields offers it all!

Even the kids will love the great kid's menu and delicious desserts. Windfields also offers an all-day Breakfast! Come by any morning from 7-11 a.m. for the most wonderful breakfast specials. Windfields is centrally located at York Mills & Leslie for your enjoyment.

801 York Mills Rd.
(S.E. corner of York Mills/Leslie)
Phone 416-445-1630

Open 7:00 a.m.–1:00 a.m.
7 days a week
Parking available

VILLAGE LOFT, EATON'S YORKDALE



The Village Loft Restaurant at Eaton's Yorkdale is a family dining oasis for both in-store shoppers and the general community. Especially popular is the All-You-Can-Eat Buffet, served daily: $9.95 M to F 11:30–2:30; $13.95 M to F 4:30–9; $10.95 Sat. 11:30 to 9 and Sun 11:30 to 4. The Thurs. & Fri. night buffet features All You Can Peel & Eat Shrimp. Children under 8 eat for half price, children under 4 eat FREE, and seniors enjoy 10% off every day!

Licensed under LLBO, the Village Loft also offers an exciting à la carte menu. Its large, sunny dining room is a cheery destination for all your special occasions, and a private room is available. There is ample free parking and direct subway access.

Eaton's Yorkdale, 2nd floor
Phone 416-256-5018

Hours: Open daily; see extended Christmas hours above
Reservations recommended

LA BUSSOLA RISTORANTE

La Bussola's new owners, Luigi and Eduardo Beccati, formerly chefs of Gamberoni, create a tempting, flavorful variety of moderately priced fresh seafood, meat, pasta and vegetable dishes. Sample the superb seafood casserole or try the tri-color penne with dried shitaki mushrooms and crab meat in a rosé sauce. The tender veal medallions topped with sauteed mushrooms or rack of lamb flambed in brandy make excellent choices. This cosy, enchanting ristorante with its homey, quaint decor offers an extensive wine list with over 60 Italian reds. Located near Highway 401 and Bathurst.

3434 Bathurst Street
Phone 416-789-4444

Lunch: Tues.–Fri. from 11 a.m.,
Dinner 7 days a week from 5 p.m.
Reservations recommended on weekends.

THE FRIENDLY GREEK

Treat yourself to a Greek holiday without getting on a plane. The authentic decor and the interesting and delicious food will leave you feeling like you've had a mini holiday. Start out with the calamari and maybe some humus. For your main course try the souvlaki available in lamb, chicken or beef accompanied by roasted potatoes, tzatziki sauce and a complimentary basket of garlic bread. End your perfect meal with Greek coffee. Book your parties, or call in for take out or delivery. We will make your evening an enjoyable experience.

7315 Yonge St. (north of Steeles)
Phone 416-310-4733
905-707-8579

Hours: Mon.-Sun. 11:00 am-11:00 pm
Fri.-Sat. 11:00 am-midnight
Wheelchair access

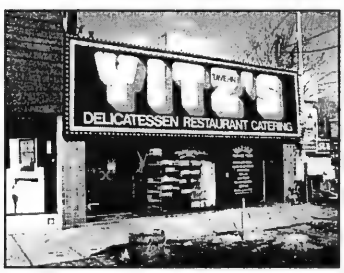
BUMPKIN'S

Bumpkin's, under the same owner since 1971, is situated in a Victorian house with an inviting atmosphere and warm fireplace. The huge menu includes duck a l'orange, quails and breast of chicken; for seafood, try the best-selling Shrimps Bumpkin's, fresh Atlantic salmon, stuffed rainbow trout, or fresh catch of the day. The choice of tender, juicy meat items includes roast beef, sirloin, filet mignon and sirloin butt steak; there are also fine vegetarian dishes, like pasta primavera. Daily specials include tiger shrimp, pasta aux fruits de mer, and surf 'n turf. Appetizers are from $2.95, entrees from $8.95; lunches include soup or salad. Best escargots & mussels in town!

21 Gloucester Street
Phone 416-922-8655

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 12:00-2:30 p.m., dinner Mon.-Sat. 5:00-11:00 p.m.
Reservations requested for 5 or more persons

YITZ'S DELICATESSEN



A Jewish Deli serving hearty foods prepared fresh daily with many favourites like homemade soups, corned beef, knishes, big salads and bagels. Voted #1 for Chicken Matzoh Ball Soup, Baby Beef, Lemon Meringue Pie and Chunky Chocolate Cookies. Boasts a 'lighten up' low fat menu. Baking on premises all day long. Unique Feature: A well stocked Humidor with the finest Cuban cigars at the city's best prices.

346 Eglinton Avenue West
Phone 416-487-4506

Hours: 10:00 am-9:00 pm
Take Out: 9:30 am-9:00 pm
7 days a week
Wheelchair access to main floor

JAMES COOK SEAFOOD HOUSE

James Cook offers you North American style fresh- and salt-water seafood. The seafood stir fry, lobster tails or fresh salmon filet are recommended. There are steaks too and barbecue ribs in a secret sauce, marinated and grilled on a char broiler. The seven excellent soups include hot fish soup and the clam chowder is tops. The fruit soup is enjoyable either as appetizer or after your main course, and the sweet almond soup is a delicious dessert. Lunches are from $3.99, dinners from $7.59. Relax with family and friends over a meal, or enjoy intimate dining with someone special.

100 Steeles Avenue West, #34
Phone 905-882-0889

Hours: 11:30 a.m.–10:00 p.m.
Closed Mondays
Reservations recommended
Wheelchair access.

FURAMA HOUSE

Looking for ambience, fine dining and a varied selection of Cantonese and Szechuan cuisine? Look no further than Bobby Peng's Furama House, which boasts all of the above plus the city's most spectacular Dim Sum, available from 10 to 4 seven days a week for your dining pleasure. Ongoing specials include Live Lobster (buy 1 get 1 free, $18.95 eat in or $20.95 take out), and Live Lobster & Whole King Crab, $22.50. Mon. to Fri. except holidays, enjoy 20% off the Dim Sum if paying cash, and 15% off the dinner menu, not including specials.

100 Steeles Avenue West
Phone 905-731-3288

Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.,
7 days a week. Dim Sum 10-4 daily.
Eat-in or take out.
Fully licensed. Wheelchair Access.
Reservations recommended.

From coast to coast

Family's struggle for identity a disturbing story

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — "Whatever you do, don't tell anyone you're a Jew. It could mean your life."

These words were spoken, not in wartime Europe, but in the 1960s in Ottawa by Dr. Bernie Sheridan, formerly Sigal, speaking to his wife and seven children.

When the Sheridan family's story of fear and paranoia was detailed in the *Ottawa Citizen* in May 1997, it so shocked and disturbed local readers that it became the catalyst for a joint project of community cooperation and understanding.

Frannie Sheridan, author and performer of a one-woman play about her life, began performing it in 1995 in Vancouver, where she now lives. An Ottawa reporter who had seen the show wrote about it – and about the family's struggle for an identity.

Following the appearance of the article, members of both Temple Israel and St. Basil's Catholic Church, which the Sheridans had attended, immediately and independently contacted Sheridan with a request that she bring her play to her home town. The resulting collaboration between the two congregations succeeded not only in bringing the play home, but is viewed by members of both as an important step in Christian-Jewish dialogue.

Sheridan and her six siblings were the children of Holocaust survivors who had come to Canada to start life anew but were never able to fully recover from the trauma of their past.

Encountering anti-Semitism here in Canada, Bernie Sheridan decided to change the family name and religion in an attempt to protect them all from the evil he saw lurking around every corner.

So well kept was the Sheridans' secret that most of their neighbors and fellow church members had no idea that an elaborate charade was being played out.

Although they had been estranged for some time, Sheridan's three sisters and one of her brothers returned to Ottawa to be in the audience and give her support during her two sold-out performances at the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

THE DINING GUIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

THE LOBSTER TRAP RESTAURANT

Still serving satisfied patrons after 35 years. The Lobster Trap is Toronto's original lobster house. Unique in Canada, The Lobster Trap offers live lobster in the tank from one pound up to four pounds, prepared the way you like it; and the lobster bisque sets the standard for all others. Besides our delicious lobster, scampies, Alaska king crab legs, shrimps and mussels, there is also a selection of other fine fish dishes. Casual dress goes with the cozy atmosphere; and there is a special kids' menu. Lunches start at $4.95, dinners at $16.95. The Lobster Trap accepts all major credit cards.

1962 Avenue Road
Phone 416-787-3211

Hours: Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Dinner 5:00-10:00 p.m., 7 days a week

RICHMOND GRILL AND CAFÉ

Richmond grill and café

Leslie Kubicek, former principle of Toronto restaurants Pronto and North 44, has opened the casual, easy-going Richmond Grill and Café in the heart of Richmond Hill. Chef Kumar (formerly of Pronto and Jump) heads up the culinary team who's goal is to offer creativity and variety; from pizzas to grilled meats, fish to pastas and daily specials – all cooked to perfection ... of course! Lunches $4.95 and up; dinner entrees starting at $11.50. Take out, catering, private functions and private room available. Ample free parking off Church Street.

10165 Yonge St. (N. of Major Mackenzie)
Phone 905-884-5155

Hours: Open Tuesday to Sunday Lunch: Tues. to Fri. 11:30 am to 2:30 pm Dinner: Tues. to Sun. from 5 pm

HOTHOUSE CAFÉ

The HotHouse Cafe, with 120 menu items and an extensive wine list, takes special pride in its Thin-Crust Pizza, Indonesian Tiger Shrimp, and Linguine Mediterranean. There is a fabulous Sunday brunch with live jazz, and a Wednesday night buffet; the atmosphere is bright, upbeat and elegantly casual. When you plan a corporate party or a simchah, consider that HotHouse has hosted thousands of events, for 10 to 200 guests. HotHouse is in the heart of Toronto, steps from the theatre district, major hotels, the SkyDome and subway; two hours free parking.

35 Church Street
Phone 416-366-7800

Hours: Mon.-Thu. 11:00 am-midnight Fri.-Sat. 11:00 am-1:00 am Sun. 10:30 am-midnight Reservations requested

MARKETTA RESTAURANT

Marketta is now featuring a contemporary Franco-Vietnamese cuisine that complements international flavours dating from French colonial times. Refreshingly innovative, we use a mix of blended Asian herbs to enhance our Mediterranean cooking style. Unique entree selections include, peppercorn charred flank steak, grilled free range chicken supreme, Vietnamese crepes, Vietnamese spring rolls, thin vermicelli noodle dish with fish vinaigrette, and market fish du jour. Sunday brunch features homemade pancakes, waffles with pure maple syrup and blueberry compote, omelettes...

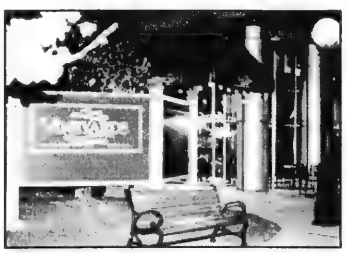
Menus can be customized to suit your preference for parties of up to 150 guests.

Full catering service provided.

138 Avenue Road
Phone 416-924-4447

Open Mon. 5–10, Tues.–Thurs. & Sun. 11–10, Fri. & Sat. 11–11. Reservations recommended. Partial wheelchair access.

VINEYARDS® BISTRO



Vineyards® features a great selection of bistro foods including: steaks, salads, soups and desserts to tempt even the most discerning palate.

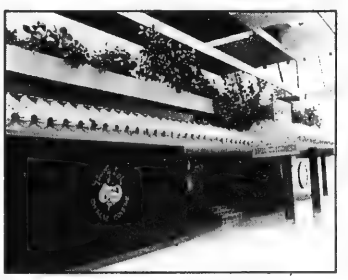
Explore our world of wines, single malt scotch, spirits, domestic and imported beers with the comfort of a great bistro menu by your elbow.

The Vineyards® concept allows you to sample and compare a significant selection of foods, wines and spirits, all at reasonable prices.

55 John Street (at King Street)
Opposite The Princess of Wales Theatre
Phone 416-397-7148

Hours: 11:30 a.m.–closing Monday–Saturday Wheelchair access Reservations recommended

YOUNG LOK



In 1969, Young Lok opened on Spadina Avenue as the first Chinese establishment. Over the years Young Lok has offered consistently good food, meeting diet-conscious diners' demands for delicious nutrition. All dishes are MSG free and cooked with vegetable oil. You can choose from the buffet with over 50 items or order from the famous à la carte menu. Dim Sum brunch is offered on weekends and holidays. Efficient delivery service is available for your convenience. Seniors enjoy a 15% discount on the buffet with presentation of a senior card. Young Lok is located next to the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, with plenty of free validated underground parking.

4950 Yonge St., Madison Centre
Phone 416-225-8818

Hours: Mon.-Thu. 11:30 am-10 pm, Fri.-Sat. 11:30 am-12 am, Sun 11:30 am-10 pm Reservations recommended / Wheelchair access

From coast to coast

"BUMI"
Andrew Mittelmann ז"ל
24th yahrzeit

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Send your Celebration and Memorial Greetings today!
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If you're a UJA Federation volunteer or contributor, you're invited to our fabulous campaign closing celebration. After all, without you, we wouldn't be able to help hundreds of thousands in need. So it's your party.

★ Enjoy the music of internationally acclaimed Canadian singing stars Amy Sky and Marc Jordan
★ Master of Ceremonies, CBC TV personality Ralph Benmergui
★ Watch our new Campaign Closing videos
★ Stay for the food, fun, entertainment and surprises
Wednesday, December 17 • 7:30 p.m.
Sephardic Kehila Centre
7026 Bathurst Street (north of Steeles)
Cocktail & Dessert Reception • Couvert: $15
Attendance by RSVP only!
Call Now! Limited Seating
Please call Iris Lazarus at (416) 635-2883 ext. 177
UJA FEDERATION
For One People. Forever.

Jewish War Orphans help launch Holocaust exhibit

BY DAVID J. LITVAK
Special to The CJN

VANCOUVER — Open Hearts-Closed Doors, the first travelling exhibit to be developed by the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, opened last month with a reception featuring speeches by local Jewish war orphans.

At the reception, held at the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver, Cantor Yaacov Orzech of Schara Tzedeck Synagogue led participants in a stirring rendition of *Where Can We Go*, a song that was sung by Jewish orphans while waiting in Displaced Persons Camps.

The exhibit is one of a number of activities taking place across the country to mark the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the 1,123 Jewish war orphans into 38 communities across Canada.

The orphans, who lost their parents in the Holocaust, made their way to Canada between 1947 and 1949, thanks to an Order in Council of the Canadian government, and the efforts of the Canadian Jewish Congress, its affiliated agencies and Jewish communities across the country.

Illustrates official attitudes towards Jews

The exhibit illustrates the official attitudes of Canadian policy-makers towards Jews during this period by highlighting the words of Prime Minister Mackenzie King who in 1938 said "I fear we would have riots if we agreed to a policy that admitted numbers of Jews."

The exhibit also traces the events that led up to the Holocaust, depicts the holding camps that the orphans stayed in while awaiting their fate, and features individual stories and documents of Jewish orphans.

Roberta Kremer, executive director of the Holocaust Education Centre, says that the exhibit, designed for students, "has a strong educational component," featuring hands-on material and kits specially designed for schools.

It is collapsible and contains no precious materials so it can be easily moved.

Kremer says that when the exhibit travels across the country, she hopes it will incorporate the stories of Jewish Canadian orphans in other cities.

"It was designed so that Jewish communities across the country could personalize the exhibit to reflect the experiences of orphans in their own cities," she said.

Bill Gluck, an orphan who originally settled in Montreal but now lives in Vancouver says, "My intention is not to exhibit myself, but I want people and especially children to understand the story of the Jewish war orphans."

Gluck will talk to students in universities and high schools "to counter Holocaust deniers."

Open Hearts-Closed Doors will be displayed at the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre from Monday to Friday until March 31.

For further information about the exhibit call (604)264-0499 or fax (604)264-0497.

Exhibit marks centenary of Canadian Jewish press

By DIANE KOVEN
Ottawa Correspondent

OTTAWA — The centenary of the Jewish press in Canada was recently marked by the National Library of Canada.

An exhibition entitled The Canadian Jewish Press, 1897-1997, which closed recently, highlighted Jewish newspapers from the National Library's extensive collection.

A commemorative lecture by *CJN* editor Mordechai Ben-Dat was given in conjunction with the exhibition.

The first Jewish newspaper in Canada, *The Jewish Times*, was founded in Montreal in 1897 in response to the anti-Semitism stirred up by the Dreyfus case in France. The newspapers, magazines, journals and books that followed have dealt with a wide range of topics.

The Jewish press has been used to educate, inform and entertain. Publications have appeared in English, French, Yiddish, Hebrew, Hungarian and Russian.

Not only the topics are of interest, but the authors as well. Poets, novelists and journalists have been given a forum in the Jewish press that many were not able to find elsewhere. Only in recent years have many of these writers become well known and popular in the general press as well.

This exhibition provided a glimpse of the Canadian Jewish community over the past century. Newspapers and clippings told the stories of the people, the events, the attitudes and the political climate over the years. Reports of local fundraising dinners, pleas for families to take in war orphans, samples of poetry and prose are available in the archives at the National Library of Canada.

The exhibition was curated by Cheryl Jaffee, curator of the Jacob M. Lowy Collection. Lewis Levendel, author of *A Century of the Canadian Jewish Press: 1880s-1980s*, served as consultant.

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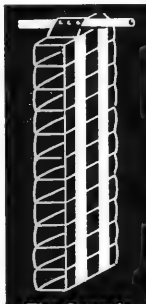
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On Campus

Ryerson U holding exams on Saturday

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Ryerson Polytechnic University professor Bob Greenberg has taken a strong public stand against Saturday exams, but Jewish students affected by the scheduling, with exams on Dec. 6 and 13, are keeping a lower profile.

"There are a lot of people who are borderline comfortable with Saturday exams, and end up writing them because they don't feel like cutting through the red tape," said Ilana Segal, co-president of Ryerson Hillel and a third-year social work student.

The hassle, for some of the school's estimated 1,200 Jewish students, may include obtaining a rabbi's letter to prove religious affiliation.

Ryerson's exam policy states that if an exam cannot be rescheduled to avoid conflict with a religious holiday, the students "shall be evaluated by other means, which may include another examination scheduled at a different time...The faculty may require verification of the circumstances on which the request is based."

Zac Kaye, director of Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto, has no problem with the idea of writing letters on behalf of students who have exam conflicts. "It's generally acceptable to have to provide proof," he said.

Social work students can now fill out a form instead of obtaining a letter from the rabbi, noted Segal, an observant Jew who has rescheduled her exams every semester since she began the program. She arranged her own proctor each time, she said last week in a phone interview.

Greenberg, a professor of architectural science and landscape architecture, is a self-described atheist with no particular religious affiliation. In a scathing letter to the campus publication the *Ryersonian*, he asked, "Why are the Jews, who have their weekly observance on Saturday as is known to everyone, except perhaps the registrar, singled out?...Kind of smacks of wearing yellow stars or maybe pink triangles so those interested in such matters can identify the 'other ones.'"

Greenberg also quoted the university's aim, as written in its Vision Task Group's final report, "to dedicate itself to...[an] environment which is accessible, diverse, equitable and free from discrimination and harassment."

To the best of his knowledge, none of his students are affected, although some of his Muslim students would be unable to write Friday afternoon exams, he said in a phone interview. "I don't want to know what my students' religious beliefs are...It has nothing to do with our teaching here.

"This smacks of tolerating, not celebrating. I have no use for that. Tolerating is what you do for a boil on your neck. I want acceptance," Greenberg told *The CJN*.

Problems during chagim

Scheduling conflicts arise at "every campus," said Kaye, who has worked on campuses here and in Vancouver, as well as in Australia. "We just dealt with it at Scarborough [College at the University of Toronto], very amicably. We met with the dean. Even at York [University, which has a large, cohesive Jewish student population], we had problems during the chagim with one particular class. That was resolved. In Guelph, we had the same problem. It's a problem perenially."

Stephanie Wener, program coordinator at Ryerson Hillel, has had a few students approach her about Saturday exams. "They're obviously quite upset about it. They're not Orthodox. They don't keep Shabbat, but that's not the point. They still feel uncomfortable writing an exam on Saturday."

The university's registrar, Keith Alnwick, hasn't received any complaints about Saturday exams in the five years he's held the position, he said. He did not respond directly to Greenberg, but answered questions about the issue in an interview for a subsequent *Ryersonian* article.

Alnwick is "not unaware" of the problem, he told *The CJN*, as both his wife and daughter are Jewish. He said it's "overstatement" to call it a controversy.

"We recognize and fully value the religious observance issue, and we will make arrangements. We're geared up for this," he said. Not scheduling exams on Friday afternoons and Saturdays in the first place is not an option, he said.

Segal believes it's "unrealistic" to expect the administration to acknowledge every culture, but she bemoaned the ignorance of some of her professors regarding Jewish holidays.

"I ended up feeling stupid for insisting I really did have a holiday. I felt, instead of [them] apologizing and saying, 'Sorry this is conflicting with your religious day,' [the attitude was,] 'You'd better prove you're not lying.'"

An additional source of discomfort for her and, she believes, for other students, is the issue of confidentiality. "Other people definitely don't want people to know they're Jewish. Sometimes I've taken a Saturday exam on a Friday, and other students ask, 'Can I call you and find out what was on it?' Sometimes I'd prefer that people not know I was taking an exam on a different day."

With files from Ron Csillag

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Fashion

From Montreal to Toronto via Bal Harbor

Salon/spa opens in Hazelton Lanes

By CAROL WISE
Special to The CJN

A new extraordinary salon-spa, Femme Coiffure, opens in Hazelton Lanes, Toronto, this week.

This playground of beauty offers hair design, makeup and full esthetic services, including spa days. The luxurious setting will cater to your every need. Even a brief visit to Femme Coiffure is uplifting and pampering.

This business originated in Montreal with the Reboh brothers: Marcelle, Raphael, Daniel and Gabriel. Their flagship store in Montreal is often visited by celebrities like Ivana Trump, Claudia Schiffer and Carla Collins.

The designers followed their dream of beauty from Israel where they were born and raised.

Today, with three salons, the brothers alternate between Toronto, Montreal and Bal Harbor in Florida. One brother will always be at the helm of each salon, making sure every client experiences the utmost in service and comfort.

The brothers are dedicated to perfecting and enhancing a woman's natural beauty.

"Hairstyle depends on the perfect cut," says Raphael. "The cut is everything and is the secret of great hair." He believes that after a cut, a woman should be able to style her own hair easily at home.

Color is also very important and the brothers agree that before coloring, the hair should be cut and dried, as the cut helps determine the color.

The most popular look for hair in 1998 will be soft, sexy and easy-to-care for, they say.

The full esthetic services are provided by an array of certified, highly trained staff, who ensure an individualized adventure into a euphoric state of relaxation.

Among the myriad of body treatments offered by Femme Coiffure is the Hydrotherapy Bath. This 128-jet bath uses pressurized air and water to leave you feeling so good, you might want to shout "Hallelujah!"

Makeup at Femme Coiffure will help bring out and improve your own unique elements of beauty. Products are personalized and you will receive the undivided attention of skilled artists who will create the best and most current look for you.

The buzz of energy in Hazelton Lanes is clearly due to the excitement and anticipation of the opening of Femme Coiffure. Treat yourself to the ultimate in relaxation and let the experts turn your dreams of beauty into reality.

New winter clothing for kids is comfortable and easy to wear

By ANITA SZABADI-GOTTESMAN
Special to The CJN

I awoke recently, threw open the blind and did a double take when I saw the season's first snowfall blanketing the neighborhood – a little earlier than usual.

Visions of digging my way out of the snow banks and getting into a cold car flashed through my mind. My kids, on the other hand, shrieked with joy, dressed and ate faster than on any other morning and ran outside to revel in the fresh snow.

I think part of the reason they are so willing to run outside is that winter clothing on the market today is so much more comfortable and easy to wear than it was in our day. Gone are the cumbersome, overstuffed snow suits that hampered every step we took. They have been replaced by snow gear in new fabrics that are lightweight, colorful and extremely durable, allowing for comfort and versatility.

Ronnie Lubov, senior vice-president of Robin International Inc., a fashion leader in Canadian outerwear for children, says that today's kids snowwear must answer consumer needs.

"When we design a garment, we always do it with these three criteria in mind," says Lubov. "It must be practical, fashionable and affordable."

Let's face it – if anything you purchase for your children these days is not stylish or 'cool,' they will not put it on. Today's kids are fashion savvy and try to dictate as much as possible (or as much as their parents let them get away with) what they will and will not wear.

Fabrics for fall and winter 1997 feature a wide variety of fashionable materials in oxford nylon, velour, suedeine, and a relative newcomer – anti-slide fabric. These materials are embossed and quilted with large and small diamond quilting.

Snowsuits for girls are often trimmed with a two-tone frosted tip fun fur on hoods and cuffs. Animal prints are big, featuring gold and silver leopard trim on textured fabrics. Snowpants are baggier this year and may be to-the-waist pullons or bibbed with suspenders. Lubov points out that durability is extremely important in snowsuit design. Double fabric, often in contrasting colors, is added at the knees for extra protection.

This year, snowboard gear is especially popular. The outfits are unisex and according to Lubov, the hottest colors are tan, black, brown, aubergine, cement (off-white) and hunter green.

"Kids are crazy about the snowboarding line," says Lubov. "These suits are both functional and hi-tech from a kid's perspective, 'really cool.'"

Many jackets are of the zippered pop-over-the-head type that kids seem to prefer.

The collection features textured surfaces and rubberized anti-slide dot and square patterns. Keen attention is paid to detail and suits are accessorized with metallic clips, holographic crests and fancy woven tape. Most outfits come with matching hats. Lubov stresses that all Robin International Inc. snowsuits are machine washable.

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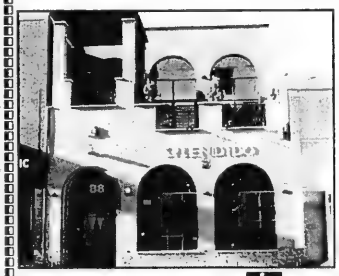

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Interrupted Life of Etty Hillesum story of 'an extraordinary person'

By DOROTHY LICHTBLAU
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — It's a mellow autumn day, but the energy inside Leslie Robbins' comfortable North Toronto home crackles. Only a few weeks away from the opening of her play, *The Interrupted Life of Etty Hillesum*, Robbins, an established professional storyteller, is busy with phone calls, rehearsals, meetings and promotion.

When the production opens on Dec. 11 at the Studio Theatre of the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts, the audience will view the culmination of over three years work.

"The only actor on stage, Robbins will tell Hillesum's story with the help of voices and figures conveyed through various media and will be supported by musician Dan Golden.

In 1994, looking for stories from the Holocaust era, Robbins discovered Etty Hillesum, a young Dutch-Jew who was killed during the Shoah. A friend had given Robbins a book of Hillesum's writing and she was deeply touched by what she read.

Robbins describes Hillesum as "an ordinary and extraordinary person. She was ordinary in her human desires and frailties; extraordinary in that she was a visionary and writer."

A native of Amsterdam and the daughter of well-to-do, assimilated Jews, Hillesum was bright, educated and introspective. Searching for meaning and vocation at a time when the Nazis were threatening, Hillesum is seen in her writing as a moody, highly intelligent and restless woman exploring her sexual and creative impulses.

A woman with status, wealth and many friends who were willing to hide her during the Nazi occupation, Hillesum instead chose to share the suffering of those entrapped by the Nazis.

Robbins quotes Hillesum as saying, "It is sheer arrogance to think of oneself as too good to share the fate of the masses."

In 1941, Hillesum voluntarily joined the hundreds who were transported to Westerbork, the transit camp for Dutch Jews who would be sent to Auschwitz.

In Westerbork, she committed herself to comforting and aiding the detainees. Astonishingly, despite the emotional strain of life in the camp, Hillesum recorded the circumstances in Westerbork through letters to friends in Amsterdam.

Reportedly the only eye-witness account of Westerbork, it is her legacy to subsequent generations. She died in Auschwitz on Nov. 30, 1943.

"I'd like people to say that they are glad they got to know Etty Hillesum, a woman who was a visionary and who lived according to her ideals," Robbins said.

Presented by Leslie Robbins' company, Jewish Storytelling Arts, the play is directed by Miriam Lawrence and is produced by Robbins' daughter Tamara. Helen Porter was the production's script consultant.

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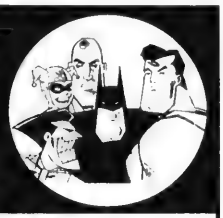

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Actor tackles eight random roles

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

Diane Flacks

TORONTO — In her latest incarnation, actor Diane Flacks is Antontella Bergman, a fiery Italian-Jewish cultural icon.

"I wanted her to be Italian-Jewish, but her nuances and mannerisms, reflecting my own upbringing, are Jewish," said Flacks.

Bergman, who is confined to a wheelchair as a result of a random act of violence, is one of the eight characters Flacks plays in her new one-woman production, *Random Acts*, at Buddies in Bad Times Theatre until Dec. 14. Call 975-8555 for tickets or 595-5605 for information.

Another character in the show is the biblical Sarah, age 90 and pregnant, who is so laid back she laughs at her condition.

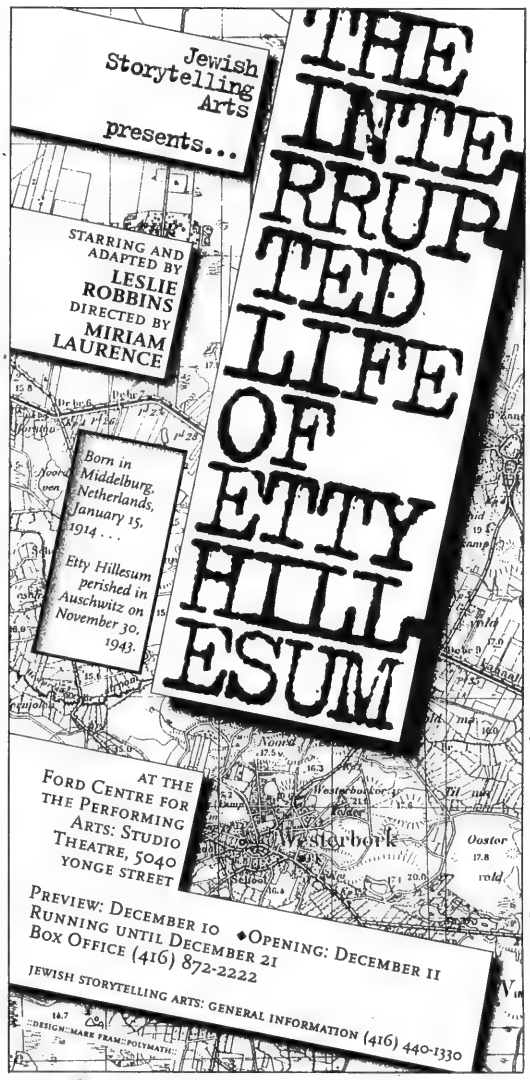
It's all part of Flacks' irreverent humor as she tackles the urban wilderness of North American millennial angst. As Bergman puts it: "It's the end of the millennium and everyone is rangy. Face it, say it. I am rangy and I want to blame someone for it."

Post-feminist squeegee kids, trash-talking TV aficionados and spiritually bereft disciples are part of the polyglot crew.

A graduate of Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto, Flacks says *Random Acts* is representative of "my full Jewish self," but is not primarily a play of Jewish content, as was *Theory of Relatives*, about Passover, which appeared at Tarragon Theatre.

Instead, the multiplicity of characters allows her to introduce people who have comments to make about current Canadian events in the mode of her off-the-wall humor. One is Lisa, Bergman's assistant, whose marriage has broken up, also as a result of a random act.

Flacks credits director Alisa Palmer, artistic director of Nightwood Theatre, for helping her with the script. It is produced by Leslie Lester.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Jacob Two-Two will leave kids howling

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Outlandish costumes and the disgusting grossness of characters like Leo Louse and I.M. Greedyguts had 6- and 7-year-olds howling with laughter at a recent performance of *Jacob Two-Two's First Spy Case* at Young Peoples Theatre.

Mordecai Richler's third play about the boy who says everything twice in order to be heard stars Bialik Hebrew Day School student Dylan Rosenthal, who alternates the title role with Matthew Burns. (Rosenthal will be featured in an article on an upcoming *CJN Kids* page.)

Once again, Jacob Two-Two, now 8 years old, gets the better of the adult villains in the play, with the help of older siblings Noah (Michael Blake) and Emma (Caitriona Murphy), aka the Fearless O'Toole and the Intrepid Shapiro, along with an eccentric new neighbor, X. Barnaby Dinglebat, Master Spy (John Dolan).

The aforementioned Greedyguts (Guy Bannerman), a boorish glutton, is headmaster at Jacob's school. To punish Jacob, Greedyguts forces him to eat double portions of school lunches prepared by even more boorish Leo Louse (Cliff Saunders), the school cook.

In the finale that is Rosenthal's favorite part of the play, Child Power triumphs and the villains are duly punished.

The musical production, directed by Maja Ardal, runs to Jan. 4.

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Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

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Bloor JCC, Dec. 13, 8:30 p.m. Yiddish dance instruction offered at 7:30 p.m. $10 in advance, $12 at the door. Cash bar and nasherai. 416-924-6211.

* * *

Also at Bloor JCC: Out of the Dark…into the Light is a festive and reflective Chanukah celebration, featuring music, shadow puppetry, participatory singing and potato latkes. Bloor JCC, Dec. 14. noon and 1:30 p.m. $7 adults, $8 family, $2 children. Reservations, 416-924-6211.

* * *

Choir Does Lunch: The Toronto Jewish Folk Choir performs at the Free Times Cafe over brunch, Dec. 14, 11:45 a.m. and 1 p.m. Directed by **Esther Ghan Firestone** and accompanied by pianist **Lina Zemelman**, the choir performs a varied program, including selections for Chanukah. 320 College St. Brunch $14.95. Reservations, 416-967-1078.

* * *

Book News: Montreal artist **Paul Hartal** has written and illustrated *The Kidnapping of the Painter Miro*, a novel of art, adventure, romance and mystery. "This," according to Elore Publications of Montreal, "is a multi-layered story in which love, memory, painting, fantasy and cybernetics are interwoven, like worlds within worlds."

Part of the plot involves the Spanish Civil War, and "gloomy shadows of the brewing storm that led to the Holocaust lurk in the background." Available from select bookstores or from Elore, P.O. Box 1012, St. Laurent, Que. H4L 4W3.

* * *

Song Wins Contest: Laura Silberberg, an 11-year-old from Thornhill, is looking forward to hearing her composition, *Hanairot Hullelloo*, performed by the Amadeus Choir at the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts on Dec. 14.

Silberberg was one of 169 entrants to the International Amadeus Carol and Chanukah Songwriting Competition. Entries were received from around the world and she is the youngest of the winners.

Silberberg, a Grade 6 student at the Claude Watson School for the Arts, also attends the Torah Ohr Hebrew School. She takes piano, electone and improvisation classes at the Yamaha Music School.

For tickets for the Celebration of Brass concert in which Silberberg's song will be sung, contact the Amadeus Choir, 416-446-0188.

* * *

CBC Screenings: The CBC Museum and the Graham Spry Theatre (250 Front St. W.) present free screenings in January of classic interviews from the shows *Adrienne Clarkson Presents* and *Take 30*. Subjects include **Anne Landers**, writer **Arthur Koestler** on his novel *Darkness at Noon* and the **Shah of Iran** (interviewed in 1975). For schedule of screenings, phone 416-205-5574 or 205-8605.

* * *

Arts Briefs: Children's storyteller **Bob Munsch** performs two concerts at Forest Hill Collegiate, 730 Eglinton Ave. W. Feb. 1, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. $10. 416-870-8000...

Klezmermania, a four-concert series of top klezmer bands gets under way Dec.11 at North York's Ford Centre when the Winnipeg-based group **Finjan** blows up a rhythmic storm of shtetl music that typically has patrons dancing in the aisles.

Three follow-up concerts on Jan.28. March 12 and April 29 feature **Brave New World**, **The Klezmatics** and **The Klezmer Conservatory Band** respectively.

Subscription prices for all four concerts are $66, $76 and $99. Showtime is 8 p.m. Call 416-324-9333…

Giant Holiday Circus comes to Maple Leaf Gardens Jan. 3 and 4 at noon and 4 p.m. both days. $10-$24. 416-870-8000…

UJPO Seniors Club presents An Afternoon of Yiddish Humor and Song, featuring **David Abramowitz**. Dec. 15, 12:30 p.m., Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Ave. Includes lunch. $4. 416-789-5502…

Children will love the musical *Jack and the Beanstalk*, at the Elgin Theatre Dec. 11 to Jan. 4. $40-$60 for adults, $30 for children. 416-593-4142 or 800-724-6420.

Laura Silberberg. Future star in the making?

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New twist on tradition

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

An exhibition of Judaica at A Show of Hands, a craft gallery featuring Canadian artists, has put a contemporary twist on tradition.

Curated by owner Sara Levine-Petroff, the exhibition evolved after she put out a call to all provincial craft councils inviting artists to submit their portfolios.

"We invited artists to create contemporary interpretations of Judaic objects in mixed-media format," says Levine-Petroff.

A seder plate created by Marsha McCarthy is titled *Liberation*. The front of the plate depicts, among other things, Moses holding the cup of Elijah toward the evening sky to represent the beginning of Passover. The cup holds 10 drops of wine. In the plate's centre are the four promises made by G-d to the Israelites.

The border is divided into six sections in the shape of the Star of David, upon which sit the ceremonial foods. The back of the plate, seen because it is mounted on a mirrored pedestal, is divided into 12 sections, each depicting one of the 12 tribes.

Yossi Steinberg, born in Israel and a former student at the Bezalel Institute of Art and Design, used silver-plated wire and artists' acrylic resin to handpaint brightly colored, one-of-a-kind mezuzot.

A menorah created by Kevin MacLean is made of recycled material. "My work reflects the union of modern components with traditional designs, and is influenced by the late 19th century sense of style and attention to detail. Because the variety of objects is constantly in flux, my work is very much an organic process and each finished design is unique," he says.

Judd Shemesh, born in Iraq and raised in Israel, has lived in Canada for over 20 years. He says he chose glass as his medium because of "its timelessness."

The exhibition is at A Show of Hands, 1947 Avenue Rd., until Dec. 13.

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

VANCOUVER'S MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY

Last month's APEC conference brought some 30 world leaders to Vancouver – and to its wonderful Museum of Anthropology on the campus of the University of British Columbia.

Situated on a dramatic wind-swept cliff overlooking the Georgia Strait and the snow-capped peaks of the Coast Mountains, the Museum of Anthropology pays homage to the art of the Northwest Coast First Nations in several important and pioneering ways.

The museum, which opened in 1976, was designed by internationally renowned Canadian architect Arthur Erickson and is considered one of his signature buildings.

The design uses a series of huge receding cement frames, evoking the cedar post-and-beam method of construction of traditional Haida longhouses. Thirteen-metre high glass walls introduce as much natural light as possible while preserving the breathtaking view.

Set against the sweeping landscape of water and mountains and sky, the magnificent totem poles and statues of mythological beings on display seem to come alive in the monumental Great Hall.

"The museum should reassure our [native peoples] of the greatness of their culture, and perhaps give them back some of their dignity and confidence," the Vancouver-born Erickson has explained.

The museum pioneered a new way for institutions to look at native art, says its director, Dr. Ruth Phillips. "Typically, you would find these objects displayed in natural history museums that also presented botany, geology and zoology. Very often they were presented as anthropological artifacts because they held information about cultures or nature – but not because they were beautiful to look at."

'African and Oceanic carvings were great art'

The museum, which holds some 25,000 objects in its ethnographic collections and about 80,000 artifacts in its archeological collections, has borrowed a mode of perceiving non-Western art that "goes back to the early modernist painters at the beginning of the 20th century," Phillips said.

"Artists like Picasso, Braque and others promoted the idea that African and Oceanic carvings were great art, not just scientific specimens. It took longer for North American native art to be appreciated that way."

While the museum is best known for its collection of Northwest Coast native art, including ceremonial masks, it has an eclectic acquisitions policy. The largest number of objects in its collections are actually from Asia. It also features African art, art from India, and the Walter Koerner collection of European ceramics.

Besides the permanent collection, several temporary exhibitions are currently on view. One exhibit, Written in the Earth, provides insight into the CoastSalish people (until Dec. 31). Another, From Under the Delta, features rare preserved wood items retrieved from the lower Fraser, up to 4,600 years old (until April 1, 1998). Early Chinese Art from the Victor Shaw Collection is now running until the spring.

The museum, which receives about 170,000 visitors per year, has been described as "the only world-class museum in Vancouver." 6393 N.W. Marine Dr., Vancouver. Adult admission $6. Admission free on Tuesday evenings, 5 to 9 p.m. Interpretive guided tours available. 604-822-3825.

* * *

Golf At Sea: Sunquest offers its second annual multi-Caribbean golf tournament this winter. Passengers may choose from two exciting itineraries and play golf on three islands, visiting six islands in all. Sail from Puerto Plata and golf in St. Kitt's Antigua and St. Martin. Or depart from Aruba and golf in Barbados, St. Lucia and Margarita Island. $1,299 plus $549, includes celebrity golf-pro hosts and much more. Operates mid-February to April 1998. Ask your travel agent for brochure.

THE GHOSTS THAT HAUNT US

A portrait of Holocaust survivor Lilly Friedman of Toronto is among the photographs in the exhibit *The Ghosts That Haunt Us* by Toronto photographer Jason Aaron Schwartz. Twenty-four of the poster-sized, black-and-white portraits, depicting survivors who now live in Toronto, Paris and Amsterdam, will be on view at the Bathurst Jewish Centre's Loggia Gallery until Dec. 21, with another 58 displayed at the University of Toronto's Hart House until Dec. 11.

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Former lieutenant governor relives own experience

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Jean-Louis Roux is known in Quebec for his distinguished acting career, but his name became known in other parts of Canada only after his much-publicized resignation as Quebec's lieutenant-governor.

Roux has chosen to relive that experience in the theatrical arena by playing the leading role in *Past Imperfect*, a radio drama inspired by the situation.

Written by Toronto playwright Emil Sher, *Past Imperfect* will air on CBC Radio One on Dec 14 at 10 p.m. and on Radio Two on Dec. 15 at 9 p.m.

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien appointed Roux, 74, lieutenant-governor in August 1996. Roux resigned from the post three months later, after a Quebec magazine revealed that in 1942, he had worn a swastika and participated in an anti-conscription protest that degenerated into an anti-Semitic riot.

Shortly after this disclosure, Roux met with the leaders of the Montreal Jewish community to apologize for his past actions.

Neither the Jewish community nor the prime minister called for his resignation, but there was pressure from sovereigntists who had openly opposed Roux's appointment – he's a staunch federalist – as lieutenant-governor.

In an interview at the Canadian Broadcasting Centre following the recent taping of *Past Imperfect*, Roux said that what he did in his youth "was unacceptable."

He explained that as a Québécois nationalist in his youth, he wore the swastika to protest forced conscription in Quebec. At the time, he said, he had no idea what was happening to the Jews in Europe.

And while he accepted full responsibility for his behavior 55 years ago, Roux stressed that he was never a Nazi sympathizer. "The press, [however] had come to the conclusion that I was a Nazi."

Once he announced his resignation, the media changed its tune and was very sympathetic to him, he noted.

He said the separatists were politically motivated when they pushed for his resignation because they objected to his strong federalist stance.

When asked why he would choose to be in a play that would stir up painful memories of the controversy, Roux said he is foremost an actor; his wife urged him to take the part because *Past Imperfect* is fiction. "Many details are different."

In a telephone interview, Sher said Roux's resignation "was a seed to explore morality and forgiveness, to explore the issues the Roux affair raised.

"In the immediate aftermath, I was drawn to the moral questions largely related to forgiveness. When we do something in the past, to what extend do we have to pay for the sins of our youth in light of our later accomplishments?"

He pointed out that while the play's protagonist, Michel Beauchemin, is loosely based on Roux in terms of age and nationality, the plot and details of *Past Imperfect* is completely fictional.

In the play, Beauchemin, an extreme Quebec nationalist in his youth, takes part in an anti-Jewish demonstration in 1939, which ends with the stoning death of a Jewish storekeeper.

Deeply affected by this death, Beauchemin becomes a humanitarian. At the start of the play he is about to be honored for his humanitarianism by the Montreal Jewish community when the community learns that Beauchemin participated in the 1939 riot.

Sher said he was thrilled when Roux agreed to take the leading role. "He was the logical choice for the part because he is so highly regarded. He's a wonderful actor. It's to his credit that he took the part and it is only because he is completely at peace [with his resignation] that he was able to take the role."

Jean-Louis Roux

New Jacobovici film launched at fundraiser

By BARBARA SILVERSTEIN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — If audience appreciation is any indicator of a film's success, then Simcha Jacobovici's latest documentary, *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies and the American Dream*, which premiered recently at the Princess of Wales Theatre, can be hailed as a triumph.

Spontaneous cheering erupted the moment the film ended. The applause continued as the credits rolled, and it intensified when Jacobovici, the film's director, writer and producer, took the stage.

Produced by Jacobovici and Elliott Halpern of Associated Producers, *Hollywoodism* follows the lives of the first generation of Jewish American movie moguls, among them, Adolph Zukor, founder of Paramount Pictures; Carl Laemmle, founder of Universal Pictures; the Warner brothers; Louis B. Mayer, founder of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM); William Fox of 20th Century Fox; and Harry Cohn, head of Columbia Pictures. They were all immigrants or the children of immigrants.

Rare archival footage

Using rare archival footage and home movies, clips from dozens of Hollywood film classics, first-hand accounts of the moguls' lives through interviews with their children and grandchildren as well as comments from film historians and critics, *Hollywoodism* chronicles the rise of the moguls in the early decades of this century when they ruled the movie industry, to their fall in the mid '50s.

It took Jacobovici five years before he could make the film after optioning the rights through Propaganda Pictures in 1992. In addition to securing the financing, he also had to get the rights to the old film clips and track down the archival footage, he said.

In a post-screening question and answer period author Neal Gabler, whose book, *An Empire of Their Own: How the Jews Invented Hollywood,* inspired the film, said he was "blown away" by the film.

"It's intellectually powerful. It's esthetically powerful and it's emotionally powerful."

He pointed out that the film is not a literal adaptation of his book. "It's Simcha and Stuart's vision. All the credit is due to them."

The film boldly contends that the American dream as defined by Hollywood was a Jewish invention, rooted in the moguls' desire to reinvent themselves as Americans to gain acceptance by the gentile mainstream society.

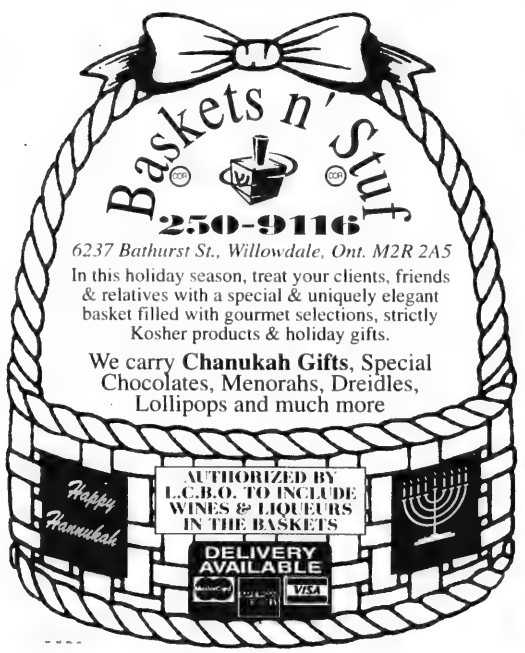
And while most audience members praised the artistry and entertainment value of Hollywoodism, some people commented privately that they disagreed with the film's basic premise.

Nevertheless, there was no disputing that, based on the strong evidence presented by Jacobovici, the moguls espoused strong assimilationist tendencies – they celebrated Christmas, married gentile wives and anglicized the names of the Jewish actors.

Jacobovici said he dealt with the moguls with compassion. "I felt sorry for them. I felt sorry for their assimilationist fantasies…I hope the film makes people proud of who they are and that they buy out of their assimilationist fantasies."

The premiere for the feature-length documentary was also a gala fundraiser for the Bloor Jewish Community Centre, the Riverdale Jewish Community Centre and the Toronto Jewish Film Festival. Some 2,000 people attended. A post-screening party for gala patrons was sponsored by the Arts and Entertainment Network (A&E) and Malofilm Distribution.

Ralph Benmurgui of CBC television hosted the evening, which included speeches by entertainment lawyer, Michael Levine, executive co-producer of the film; Bob Culbert CBC's executive director of news, current affairs and Newsworld; and Brooke Johnson, vice-president and general manager of A&E.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U.S. calls for 'credible' redeployment plan

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has less than two weeks to develop what the United States calls a "credible" plan for redeploying from the West Bank.

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said she plans to meet again with Netanyahu in Europe as early as Dec. 17. American officials said Albright expects at that meeting to hear details on the scope of the redeployment.

Albright, who is pressing for progress in the stalled Israeli-Palestinian peace process, met separately in Europe over the weekend with Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

After holding what she called "useful and constructive discussions" with Arafat, Albright returned to Paris for a second, previously unscheduled meeting with Netanyahu.

The Israeli leader convened senior ministers after returning to Israel on Sunday to discuss the principles of a redeployment in the West Bank.

Netanyahu's cabinet approved a conditional redeployment last week, pending Palestinian agreement to begin accelerated final-status talks and to fulfil their commitments under the Oslo accords.

But the cabinet decision did not specify the extent of the redeployment, and a ministerial committee was set up to work out details of the pullback.

U.S. officials warned that they would not work to convince the Palestinians to accept Israel's proposal if the scope of the redeployment is too little.

Under the Interim Agreement, Israel was to carry out three redeployments in the West Bank.

The first phase was rejected in March by the Palestinians because Israel would relinquish about two percent of the West Bank territory. That redeployment was never implemented.

Earlier this year, media reports said Netanyahu was considering a redeployment of about six to eight percent.

The Palestinians have said they expect to assume control over at least 30 percent of the territory in each of the three phases of redeployment.

Arafat, who on Sunday briefed Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on his talks with Albright, was quoted as saying that he was "encouraged" by the American position and that he believed the United States would demand a "substantial" pullback by Israel.

Mossad agent charged with falsifying reports

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — An agent for Israel's Mossad has been arrested and charged with supplying false information on Syria during the past two decades.

Investigators suspect that Yehuda Gil, 63, also kept as much as $57,000 in funds intended for other sources.

The incident is the latest in a series of recent scandals to shake the Israeli spy service, but it is unclear what impact Gil's information has had on Israeli policy.

Israeli media reported last week that Israel nearly went to war with Syria in the summer of 1996 because of disinformation.

Gil's lawyer, Yigal Shapira, denied that his client intentionally misled the government. But Shapira said in the past three or four years, Gil, who is retired, has been under pressure to provide fresh intelligence information and had recycled material he previously gathered from his source.

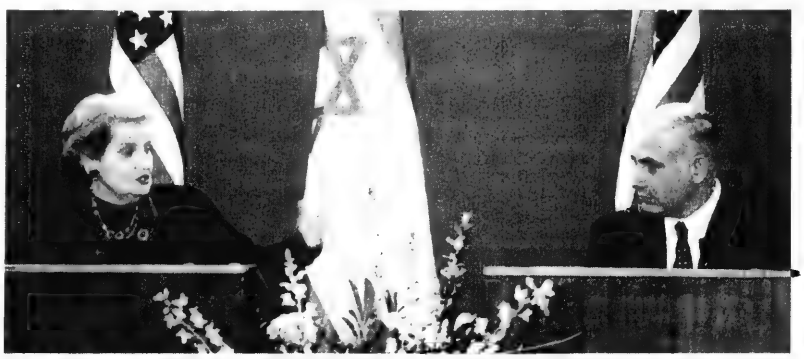
Shapira rejected allegations that his client had taken money that was intended for his source.

The Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* reported that a search of Gil's home found thousands of dollars of Mossad funds and that investigators were looking for another $150,000 that they suspect Gil had kept illegally.

A judge lifted a censorship ban over the weekend to allow the publication of Gil's identity.

The disclosure drew a pointed political reaction. Labor Knesset member Ori Orr, a member of the Knesset subcommittee on the secret services, said the subcommittee would discuss the incident's implications for the intelligence establishment.

The Mossad's image was already battered this year by September's failed assassination attempt on Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal in Jordan.



U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright gestures at a joint press conference in Paris with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. [RNS/Reuters photo]

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Histadrut wins as strike ends

By MICHAL YUDELMA AND DAVID HARRIS
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — A general strike that paralyzed the country for five days ended last Sunday night with a clear victory for the Histadrut labor federation, which achieved almost everything it set out to do.

Hundreds of thousands of striking workers began returning to work, after Histadrut chair Amir Peretz and Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman came to an agreement.

The Histadrut's most significant achievement was in forcing the government to consult with it on economic policy.

The way to the agreement was paved when National Labor Court president Steve Adler postponed hearing contempt of court suits and called both sides into his chambers to hammer out a compromise.

The Treasury agreed to rescind plans to tax study funds and promised not to violate pension agreements. The agreement also calls for immediately opening negotiations over wage agreements.

Two issues left for later talks were the transition from budgetary pensions to accumulated pensions, via the pension funds and deciding whether income eligible for pension deductions would be the average wage or twice this sum.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he was glad that the strike was over. At a reception at the Tel Aviv Museum celebrating the transfer of Bank Hapoalim shares to Ted Arison's group, Netanyahu said he hoped the agreements reached would spare the country unneeded expense, while permitting changes to be made in the pensions system.

Peretz said that "the battle was about whether the workers have a right to be partners, to lift up their heads, to insist on their rights and make demands, or are mere pawns in the game.

"I told Ne'eman we will not have a state of masters and slaves here. If we've achieved that, if we've won, then it's worth any price we've paid," Peretz said.

Peretz said he hoped the Histadrut would be recognized as a full partner on issues such as the state budget, health insurance, child allowances, privatization and structural changes.

"I hope he [Ne'eman] now realizes that his bullying, brutal tactics, which left an entire public feeling humiliated, ignored and despised, were wrong," Peretz said.

"This time, since the agreement was sponsored by the court, I hope it would not occur to Ne'eman to violate it," Peretz added.

He apologized for the hardships the strike caused the public, but said that "a society which wants a recognized and protected workers' class, must accept the temporary suffering."

Peretz said that the Treasury had agreed several months ago to accept the pension agreement signed by former finance minister Avraham Shohat just before the last elections. Ne'eman had argued that the agreement was illegal.

The end of the crisis followed a stormy day of protests in which thousands of angry workers took to the streets, blocking thoroughfares and intersections around the country. Many were angered by reports that Ne'eman was backing down on agreements reached on last Saturday night.

Agreement was reached only in the evening, with an exchange of faxes between Peretz and Ne'eman.

Ne'eman said the agreements could have been reached without a strike, which he said did damage that "was tremendous – to exports, to the tourist industry and the name of the State of Israel."

Neeman also criticized strike leaders and alleged that they did not represent the nation's poor.

"It must be clear Treasury policy is to defend those whose wages are low," he said.

Ne'eman denied allegations that he had sought to break the backbone of the Histadrut.

"The workers need a strong Histadrut, but it must be responsible," he said.

Bronfman reiterates call for billion-dollar settlement

By MARILYN HENRY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — World Jewish Congress (WJC) President Edgar Bronfman has reiterated his call for a billion-dollar-plus settlement with Switzerland, suggesting it is time to dispense with the "nonsense of great funds and commissions and the committee that's looking into bank accounts."

However, U.S. Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat cautioned that "one should not be dismissive of...historical research."

Bronfman made his call for a settlement in Houston as the international conference in London on Nazi gold was winding down.

By the close of last week's historic meeting of 41 nations, nine states — including Austria and Poland — had made commitments of more than a total of $15 million for a new fund to benefit Holocaust survivors.

That amount fell far short of the $60 million remaining in the coffers of the Tripartite Gold Commission, which was established after World War II to return gold to European states whose reserves had been looted by the Nazis.

Jewish groups had agitated for the so-called "residual gold" to be used for survivors, a position that had the backing of the United States.

"I'm in a bit of a hurry because of the age of the Holocaust survivors. I'd like to get money to them quickly rather than delay, delay, and delay, which of course is what the Swiss have been doing," Bronfman said in Houston.

"Let's just say there's a figure at which point we could just settle the whole damn thing, which includes of course the class action suits in New York," he said, according to a Reuters report.

Three lawsuits, pending in federal court in New York, are seeking at least $20 billion from Swiss banks. Some of the lawyers representing claimants have insisted that the WJC does not have the authority to negotiate a settlement on their behalf.

In Washington and earlier in London, Eizenstat praised the historical commissions, particularly the research of the Bergier Commission in Switzerland.

"I think, in some respects, the most important feature of what's been happening here will be not just the money, but in the long term, the cleansing effect that these national commissions will have," Eizenstat said.

Twelve countries have set up panels to examine their role in the war and their relationship to looted assets.

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The Week in Israel

Dec. 1

• According to the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry, about 10 percent, or 240,000 people, of Israel's work force are from outside Israel. The number has almost doubled since 1990.

Dec. 2

• Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Israel Lau said he supports the rights of Muslims to regain possession of mosques abandoned after the War of Independence and taken over by Israel.

Dec. 3

• A general strike called by the Histadrut involving 700,000 workers effectively paralyzed Israel by shutting down airports, seaports, banks, the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, government offices and state-owned industries. *Despite intensive negotiations Thursday and Friday, the strike had not been settled by week's end.*

Dec. 4

• The commission investigating the failed assassination attempt of Hamas leader Khaled Meshal issued a verbal warning to Mossad chief Danny Yatom that he is likely to be harmed by its report, according to media reports.

Dec. 5

• Soldiers have been put on alert against attempts to kidnap them by Hamas terrorists, after members of a Hamas cell captured last week revealed a new method of luring soldiers into cars.

Fifty Years Ago in Palestine

LONDON (Dec. 12) — The British government does not intend to take any part in the implementation of the UN decision on Palestine, either alone or in conjunction with other nations, Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin today declared in the Commons during the course of the second day of the current two-day debate on the Palestine solution.

PARIS (Dec. 16) — A Jewish state must be created immediately in Palestine "lest anything unforeseen occur" at the next session of the UN General Assembly, scheduled for September, Nahum Goldmann, a member of the Jewish Agency executive, told a gathering of French Zionists.

With files from JTA and JPFS

Unanswered questions

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

On Nov. 30, in line with the Olso accords, Israel theoretically agreed to cede more of the West Bank to the Palestinians prior to final status talks. Israel, however, withheld details of the pullback.

Mideast Analysis

What does it all mean? A step closer to a global peace agreement, or simply a ploy by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to buy time and appease his critics?

Whatever the case, the momentum for this moment of truth has been building for months. Last May, the buzz in Jerusalem was that the basis of a final accord with the Palestinians would be the Allon-plus plan, under which Israel would retain at least half the West Bank and virtually all the settlements.

Then, a few weeks ago, the rumor mills were furiously at work again, spewing out unsubstantiated stories that Israel would be prepared to turn over an additional six to eight percent of the West Bank to the Palestine Authority (PA) within five months, provided the Palestinians kept terrorism in check and acquiesced to permanent status negotiations immediately.

The flurry of speculation was triggered by the implicit premise of Oslo — land for the Palestinians in exchange for peace and security for Israel.

Having committed itself to ceding territory to the PA, the previous Israeli government carried out a series of withdrawals to fulfil these promises. Israel gave the PA full control of Area A, comprising three percent of the West Bank, and partial control of Area B, encompassing 24 percent of the West Bank. Israel also pledged to make three additional withdrawals by mid-1998.

Last March, in keeping with these pledges, Netanyahu offered the Palestinians a nine percent withdrawal: seven percent from Area B and two percent from Area C. Expecting a 30 percent withdrawal in the first round, and 90 percent by 1998, the PA rejected the offer as inadequate. The peace process was further buffeted by Israel's unilateral decisions to close Palestinian institutions in East Jerusalem, expand settlements and build a massive Jewish housing project in a disputed district of eastern Jerusalem known as Har Choma.

Denouncing these steps as contrary to the spirit of Oslo, the PA broke off bilateral talks with Israel. The resumption of a new campaign of terrorism by Hamas last March heightened tensions. With the third suicide bombing in September, Netanyahu declared that Israel would not hand over any more territory until the PA cracked down on militant Islamic groups opposed to peace and Israel's existence.

The stalemate was partially broken by U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. As a direct result of her trip to the region last September, Israel and the PA reopened talks in Washington to resolve secondary issues left over from the 1995 Oslo 2 accord, principally the establishment of a safe passage route from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank and the construction of a seaport and an airport in Gaza.

The Palestinians, however, demanded far more — further pullbacks from the West Bank *before* the advent of final status talks. Washington concurred, urging Israel to make a "significant" and "credible" withdrawal. The Third Way, one of Netanyahu's coalition partners, called for an initial withdrawal by January 1998. In the face of these pressures, Netanyahu convened his ministers. Late last month, by a 16 to 0 margin (with two abstentions), the cabinet decided in principle to relinquish more land, with the proviso that settlements in the territories be strengthened.

The nebulous announcement, rejected by the PA as deceptive, is fraught with imponderables. Why did ministers normally opposed to withdrawals, vote for the motion? How will Netanyahu mollify radical nationalists who oppose any concessions? What percentage of the West Bank will Israel claim? Can Israel's territorial demands be reconciled with those of the PA? Are Netanyahu's ultimate intentions compatible with peace? These questions have yet to be answered.

Intifada anniversary marked

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Marking the 10th anniversary since the outbreak of the intifadah, a Hamas spokesperson in Amman last weekend called on Palestinians to keep "the gun directed towards the Zionist enemy."

"Hamas appeals to all Palestinian forces inside the territories and in the Diaspora to unite their ranks in confronting the [Israeli] enemy," said a statement signed by spokesperson Ibrahim Ghosheh.

He also urged Palestinians to "stand firmly against all conspiracies targeting the land of Palestine, all of Palestine, and Jerusalem, all of Jerusalem," and for "eliminating collaborators" with Israel.

In Hebron Saturday, about 500 activists from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine burned an IDF soldier in effigy and also torched some Israeli and U.S. flags.

Speakers rejected Israel's proposed pullback in the West Bank and called for continued struggle against Israel.

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Bar-Ilan faculty backs Ne'eman

[Cont'd. from page 1]

Few Orthodox spokespersons in either Israel or North America have spoken out on the Ne'eman process. "This ad...is significant as an attempt to speak out and to strengthen Ne'eman...Ne'eman is seeking to fend off an irrevocable rift of historical proportions within the Jewish people. The faculty at BIU, which in many ways is the global centre of moderate, centrist Orthodoxy, feels that now is the time to stand up and be counted," Weinberg said.

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, president of the Conservative Rabbinical Assembly of Ontario, called the ad "a positive statement. We in the Masorti community in Canada and the United States have been working very hard to support the effort of the Ne'eman committee [in a way] that preserves Halachah and provides formal representation and dignity to the Masorti/Conservative and liberal/Reform Judaism."

Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz of Tifereth Beth David Jerusalem Synagogue in Montreal, said the ad "is something I could wholeheartedly support."

He said the modern Orthodox wing of Orthodoxy has been "in retreat" in Israel, "afraid of being attacked by the ultra-Orthodox."

The ad indicates a reversal of that trend and it suggests that while the centrist wing of Orthodoxy might disagree with other Jews, it still wishes "to preserve Jewish unity. That's always been the way modern Orthodoxy conducted itself."

Compromises that Ne'eman is considering, such as those on conversions, have been strongly opposed by the ultra-Orthodox, he said.

The ad will probably have little impact on the situation in North America, he added.

Rabbi Dow Murmur of Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto called the ad "an internal Orthodox problem. I think the BIU faculty, representative of modern Orthodoxy, unlike traditional Orthodoxy, supports what Ne'eman is doing"

Austin Beutel, president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, an umbrella organization for Reform groups, called the ad "positive" in recognizing that Israeli developments have an impact in the Diaspora. But he questioned the ad's last sentence, which suggested a compromise solution must fall within Halachah while providing representation to non-Orthodox groups. It appears to say "we'll allow you formal representation providing you play by our rules," he said. "If you're calling on people to preserve values and have goodwill, why impose conditions?"

Meanwhile, in a move that paralleled the BIU ad, Rabbi Norman Lamm, president of Yeshiva University, came out in support of the compromise being sought by the Ne'eman committee. He urged participants at a recent convention of the World Council of Orthodox Leadership to put compromise and cooperation with the non-Orthodox ahead of theological differences, *JTA* reported.

"Communal peace is also a principal of Judaism," he said.

Lamm reportedly told 650 listeners they should value and encourage the efforts of non-Orthodox leaders to integrate Jewish practices into the lives of their followers, including the creation of Reform and Conservative day schools.

"I'm very openly attacking the notion that we sometimes find in the Orthodox community that 'being a goy (gentile) is better'" than being a non-Orthodox Jew," he told *JTA*.

Other speakers criticized the community's intimidation from the right, *JTA* reported. Rabbi Marc Angel, president of the Rabbinic Alumni of Yeshiva University's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, said "there is great danger when authoritarianism comes into play and there are attempts to quash discussion...If the modern Orthodox community doesn't stand up, then who will? If we can't rise above petty sectarian differences, then who will?"

Canada to help track Nazi gold

[Cont'd. from page 1]

The McDowall report was well-received and regarded as a model of information-gathering, Charles Spencer of the Bank of Canada told *The CJN*.

Canada has already received "a number of bilateral inquiries" into how it researched its role in war-era gold transactions, and is ready to share its methods, said Spencer, who managed the bank's gold project.

Other nations at the London conference expressed interest "in the fact that Canada has good access to information. We're ready to supply information to everybody who needs it. Information is what everybody needs at this point."

Canada is now "in a good position" to help other countries probing Nazi loot with "a global reconciliation of gold movements" during the war.

Spencer said Canada established important contacts at the London conference, which should stand it in good stead for the next conference.

The 41 participants agreed to hold another meeting in Washington next year to probe Nazi financial crimes not related to gold, including the plundering of life insurance policies, real estate, securities and art. "Those could be just as difficult and contentious" as the gold issue, Spencer said.

Although Spencer called Canada's role in the global probe of Nazi loot "minor," its records on war-era gold movements "happen to be more complete than [those of] other countries. We're ready to help them reassemble the picture."

What Canada is not ready to do, apparently, is contribute to an international fund, launched by Britain and the United States, to compensate victims of the Nazi regime.

Initial pledges of $15 million (US) have come from nine countries. The donors so far include Austria, which pledged the largest amount, $9 million; Argentina, Brazil, Croatia, Greece, Luxembourg and Poland.

Ottawa "is now considering what the appropriate next step will be," said Rodney Moore, a spokesperson for the Foreign Affairs department.

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Women usual caregivers for elderly relatives

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — In families requiring a caregiver for an elderly relative, it is women who take on the role 75 percent of the time, says an associate professor of social work at the University of Toronto.

"Men do provide caregiving, but typically, it is when no women are around. It is unusual for men so we applaud them. Women are taken for granted," Dr. Judith Globerman said at a public health forum sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

Women employed outside the home, said Globerman, provide as many hours of caregiving as those who are not employed.

Globerman, a lecturer in the area of family care of the elderly, said that caregiving is a complex issue. "There is the objective burden of incontinence, wandering and belligerence. There is also a subjective burden, which relates to the way one experiences giving care – the stress and strain. The experience of the burden is different for different people.

"People may think a certain relative requires very little care, yet the daughter feels a strong subjective burden. How one experiences providing care is as great a predictor of how it will affect them as what they actually do."

The challenge facing families, she said, is to appreciate that there is no one right way to give care.

"We must pay attention to the caregivers' definition of their experience – what they say they need, not what we think they need. We can learn best by listening to others."

One person typically becomes the family caregiver, Globerman said, because "another family member is often described as separate from the others – spoiled, pampered or unable to handle the burden.

"These are old family patterns. In a crisis, adult children usually return to the role they had as a child."

Unencumbered relatives, she said, are those that are not involved in day-to-day care. "Even though not actively caregiving, however, the unencumbered relative does face a subjective burden – emotional strain and worry. They are suffering from the loss of a relative who entitled them to be different. They fear that losing that relative will force them to face change."

Family patterns, she said, play a huge role in deciding about "who does what, when."

Asked about community support for the elderly, Globerman said people need to learn how to access services.

"Baycrest has a program that teaches people how to access other programs. Caregivers need a professional to give them some direction.

"It is unfortunate that we do not have a system in place that is sympathetic to community care. It isn't pretty out there. We must have loud voices and lobby politicians. Closing beds is not helpful or realistic."

From left: Lloyd Fogler, chair, Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation; Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall; Mount Sinai Hospital president Ted Freedman (second row); Joseph Lebovic, University of Toronto dean of medicine Dr. Arnold Aberman (second row); Wolf Lebovic, Dr. Alan Bernstein, director of the Samuel Lunenbeld Research Institute, Metro Chairman Alan Tonks were on hand to cut the ribbon at the unveiling of the Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Centre.

Research centre opens

TORONTO — The Joseph and Wolf Lebovic Centre at Mount Sinai Hospital's Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute was officially opened recently at a dedication ceremony honoring Joseph and Wolf Lebovic's $2-million pledge to the centre.

The new research centre will allow Canadian scientists working at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute to develop new approaches to understanding the fundamental mechanisms of disease. This research will ultimately lead to improved diagnosis and treatment for such diseases as breast and prostate cancer, heart disease, birth defects, drug addiction and neurodegenerative diseases.

The 20,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility will also enhance the Canadian biotechnology industry by providing new opportunities for collaborative partnerships with institute scientists.

The $5.1-million project was funded under the Canada/Ontario Infrastructure program. The federal and provincial governments each contributed $1,677,667; the City of Toronto committed $1,054,807; and Metro Toronto covered the balance.

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-EXCH./SHARE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPRTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
358 BRIDAL
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
386 DANCING
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
483 SKIING
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
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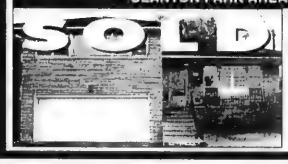

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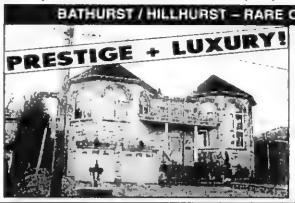

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260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

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Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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BURGIDA, Mendel - on Nov. 20, 1997, late of 4106 Mackenzie St.
LAX, Helen - on Nov. 21, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
SCHWENK, Sybil - on Nov. 21, 1997, late of 77 Clarendon Ave. #401.
SHOOT, Pearl - on Nov. 21, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
FELLEGI-PESCHL, Elizebeth - on Nov. 22, 1997, late of 429 Walmer Rd.
WISE, Giselle - on Nov. 22, 1997, late of 55 Skymark Dr., #1806.
WINTHROW, Albert - on Nov. 23, 1997, late of 24 Smithfield Dr.
WITTENBERG, Nellie - on Nov. 23, 1997, late of 627 Bedford Park Ave.
GREENSWEIG, Molly - on Nov. 24, 1997, late of 2700 Bathurst St., #512.
SHULLY, Norma - on Nov. 24, 1997, late of 3636 Bathurst St., #1204
STEINBERG, Bob - on Nov. 24, 1997, late of 112 Fisherville Ave.
MANHEIM, Pearl - on Nov. 25, 1997, late of 5935 Bathurst St.
BLOOM, Dorothy - on Nov. 26, 1997, late of 914 Bathurst St.
HOFLAZER, Gertrude - on Nov. 26, 1997, late of 115 Antibes Dr., #1005.
HOWARD, Jack - on Nov. 27, 1997, late of 10 Kenneth Ave., #412.
ZARNETT, Norton - on Nov. 27, 1997, late of 514 Vesta Dr.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

PRESSMAN, Lottie - on Nov. 22, 1997, late of 83 Arlington Ave.
EDERMAN, Boris - on Nov. 24, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
HEBREW BASIC BURIAL

KOCHBERG, Celia - on Nov. 26, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
OCKRANT, Morris - on Nov 26. 1997.
GOLDBERG, Abram - on Nov. 27, 1997, late of 304 Churchill Ave.
HEIMLICH, Margit - on Nov. 27, 1997, late of 2 Terrace Ave.
RABINOWITZ, Olga - on Nov 27, 1997, late of 640 Sheppard Ave. E.
GABEL, Eva - on Nov. 28, 1997, late of 1925 Steeles Ave. E
ROGERS, Florence - on Nov. 29, 1997, late of 110 Edward St.

Steeles Memorial Chapel

LIPSHITZ, Morris - on Nov. 1. 1997.
WEISZ, Joseph - on Nov. 1, 1997.
GOLANT, Molly - on Nov. 6, 1997.
GROSBERG, Max - on Nov 14, 1997.
HENDLER, Marcus - on Nov 20, 1997.
GROSBERG, Molly - on Nov 23, 1997.
CUDEK, Chaim - on Nov. 24, 1997.
LIPSON, Jennie - on Nov. 30, 1997.
SADOWAY, Rose - on Nov 30, 1997.

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The Canadian Jewish news

CLASSIFIED/SERVICE DIRECTORY

PLEASE NOTE:

EARLY DEADLINES FOR THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

DECEMBER 25th

Deadline

Tuesday, Dec. 16th, noon

JANUARY 8th

Deadline

Tuesday, Dec. 30th, noon

The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days:

Thursday, December 25th
Friday, December 26th
Thursday, January 1st
Friday, January 2nd

The office will close early on the following days:

Wednesday December 24, 1pm
Wednesday December 31, 3pm

CLASSIFIED INDEX

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for information on classified ad rates

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-EXCH./SHARE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
333 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

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Player agents log lots of miles finding athletes

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — As far as Richard Cooper and Andrew Stein are concerned, Jerry Maguire had it easy.

Sure, in the movie the sports agent lost all his clients but one, but that one was a pro football player who earned a very comfortable living. Moreover, Maguire hobnobbed with the big boys and travelled everywhere by plane.

For Cooper, life should be that easy.

Still a relative neophyte in the sports agency business, Cooper earns no air miles visiting clients and he's more likely to have a coffee with a volunteer coach than champagne with a franchise owner. He spends uncounted hours behind the wheel of his car, driving to drafty hockey rinks around southern Ontario, meeting with young prospects and scouting potential new recruits for his growing stable of young hockey players.

It's a reality far removed from the high profile world of NHL player agents like Don Baizley and Larry Kelly and their multi-million-dollar clients like Joe Sakic and Doug Gilmour.

Instead, Cooper Sports Management (CSM) boasts up-and-comers like Nick Smith, Pat Parthenais, Eric Gooldy, Nikos Tselios and Jim Baxter.

Andrew Stein (standing) and Richard Cooper are trying to make names for themselves in the hockey player agency business.

Not yet household names even among hockey aficionados, for Cooper they represent a momentous change in his firm's prospects.

In 1997, all were selected in the NHL entry draft, with Smith leading the way as a third round pick of the Florida Panthers. Altogether, CSM represented five of the 52 Ontario Hockey League (OHL) players who were drafted in '97. Coupled with earlier CSM clients Bill Bowler, Mike Zanutto and Ryan Christie, Cooper can see the day when the sports agency business actually begins to earn the firm some money.

Lawyers by occupation, Cooper and Stein, both 32, consider the sports agency business a sideline, although Cooper devotes 40 percent of his time to it. Together with their partners, Joe Resnick, 31, and Ian Cooper, Richard's brother, they've managed to sign 25 OHL players. Five of their clients are playing in various minor pro leagues.

They did it the hard way, logging thousands of miles and hundreds of hours of travel, sitting in community arenas around the province, watching midget hockey (for 16-year-olds) and even some bantam games (15-year-olds). Ian Cooper, 23, is taking a year off from his work as a business consultant to devote full time to the venture while brother Richard can be found on the road four or five times a week, heading to games in remote corners of Ontario or the United States.

Cooper once drove to North Bay and returning the same night.

Between them, the CSM partners view 20 games a week.

It's necessary if they want to get a firm toehold in the sports agency business, Cooper explained.

Established agents like Kelly and Baizley have players coming to them and most players have agents by the time they play in the OHL. Acknowledging that reality, CSM directed its attention to younger skaters who were overlooked by OHL and NHL scouts.

"When we first started out, it was very difficult. It was a catch 22. No one would go with you if you didn't already have players," Cooper said.

"Whenever we met players or coaches, the first question they'd ask was, who do you have in the NHL?"

Their first signing took place in 1993 when Bill Bowler came on board. One of the OHL's top scorers, Bowler was at 5 foot 8 too small for the NHL. "We befriended him and his father. He wanted someone who'd give his son a lot of time."

The first CSM player drafted by the NHL was Mike Loach, selected by the Islanders in 1994 from Windsor Spitfires. He's now in the East Coast Hockey League.

In '95, Zanutto was chosen in the seventh round by Buffalo. He's playing for their American Hockey League affiliate, Rochester.

In '96, Christie was picked by Dallas from the Owen Sound Platers.

It was a banner year in 1997, as a slew of CSM players were drafted. Perhaps the best of the lot was Tselios, Chris Chelios' cousin and Carolina Hurricane's first pick. He's now playing for Plymouth Whalers (in the Detroit area), a team owned by the Hurricanes' corporate parents, Compuware.

Finding Tselios was a testimony to the CSM doggedness in leaving no stone unturned. Ian Cooper first found Tselios as a midget playing in his hometown of Chicago. Afterwards, "we both went down and saw him play. We couldn't believe how good he was," Richard said.

OHL scouts rated him no better than an eighth round pick, but "we had a lot of confidence in him." We met his family" and helped direct the developing star to the OHL, which they felt suited his style of play. At 6 foot 5, 195 lbs., Tselios "liked the OHL brand of hockey," Cooper said.

They brought Tselios up to the Prospects Tournament that was held in Guelph just before the draft. When he played with other CSM clients, "the OHL scouts were floored by him. They couldn't believe they'd missed him."

Gooldy and Parthenais were similar stories. Gooldy was playing midget hockey in Syracuse, N.Y., when CSM spotted him. Parthenais was playing midget in Rochester, N.Y. and "OHL scouts didn't know he existed." Cooper went down to see him "on a lark" and eventually CSM signed both .

Revealing CSM's recipe for success, Cooper said when you're a small operation, you've got to go that extra mile. Established agents get to work in December when OHL central scouting releases its prospects list, but CSM starts in June, travelling to summer tournaments and exhibition games. "We speak to the players before their heads expand" by getting on the prospects list, Cooper explained.

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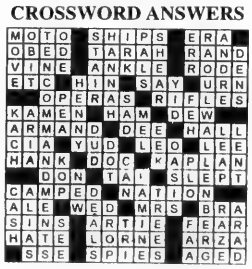
LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS



The Inside Back

Ve'ahavta: Reawakening Jewish commitment

As I was saying...

By RON CSILLAG

There's a lot of history buffeting Avrum Rosensweig. "After the Holocaust, we said, 'Never again,' didn't we?" he asks with a passion that can light a cigarette. "But there's no consciousness of that promise any more. Why are we so worked up about where the rest of the world was during the Holocaust? Where were we?"

Where indeed?

Where were Jews, he asks with a sweep of an arm, during the genocides in Cambodia, Bosnia and Rwanda? Where was the Jewish commitment to ensuring that innocent civilians would never again be butchered because they're the "wrong" ethnicity? Apart from clicking our tongues and declaring what a shame it was just 50 years after Auschwitz, how many of us actually got our hands dirty?

Not that many. For Rosensweig, it seemed that *tikkun olam* (repair of the world) had sadly become just another moral compass Jews possess.

Rosensweig is 37. He's the son of the late and highly respected Rabbi Phyvle Rosensweig of Kitchener. He's also the jocular co-host of the *Marty and Avrum Restaurant and Food Show* on Talk 640 radio on Sunday mornings. He wears his hair long, sports cowboy boots and speaks in a refreshingly candid way. There's a Zen-like quality to him.

Now he's on a mission to reawaken Jewish social consciousness, as it affects everyone, not just Jews.

Rosensweig is executive director of the newly-formed Ve'ahavta – the Canadian Jewish Humanitarian Relief Committee. It has no office yet, but it does have a charitable tax number, a board of directors, and a clearly stated goal: to aid those who need aid, no matter where they are, no matter who they are.

It's all designed to restoke the fires of Jewish commitment to the alleviation of suffering. Notably, the name Ve'ahavta, whose root is the verb to love, is taken from the biblical command to love the stranger as yourself.

Rosensweig and president Stephen Epstein envision a three-pronged approach: awareness and education; a "Jewish peace corps" in which medical and other experts would be dispatched the world over to help where they could; and the core, a crisis response team that would address the Rwandas and earthquakes and Bosnias and famines of the world with money, supplies and if need be, bodies.

For its inaugural mission, a team of Jewish doctors, pharmacists and nurses is scheduled to go to Guyana in February to bring medical relief.

Rosensweig's passion was kindled during his seven years at United Jewish Appeal, when he teamed with Canadian Jewish Congress to send funds and donate medicine to Sarajevo, and later to Rwanda. In his efforts, he discovered what he says is "a huge void in the Jewish community."

Not that the community is doing nothing. There's Mazon, a Jewish response to hunger, and several small social action groups. But consider this: there are 40 Metro churches feeding and taking in the homeless in the Out of the Cold program. How many synagogues? One: Holy Blossom Temple, which came aboard just last year after a protracted debate among the membership. How many synagogues participate in Breakfast for Learning, which feeds hot breakfasts to poor kids and tallies a long list of church partners? None.

"I want for Jews to be activists again," Rosensweig says. "Why? Because it's our responsibility. Because we said we would."

Already, he's had people declining involvement because Ve'ahavta doesn't, in a strict sense, serve Jewish needs.

Rosensweig parries: "We're every bit as Jewish as honoring your parents and not sleeping with your neighbor's wife."

It's almost as if the group is throwing down a gauntlet before the community, daring it to back up its credo with something more tangible than a petition or attending a meeting.

"Oh, this will be a huge challenge. We want nothing less than to change the Jewish consciousness," Rosensweig says. "And if you're not prepared to roll up your sleeves, then we don't want you."

Sleeve-rollers are advised to call 416-406-5111.

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salt	freshly ground pepper
2 large eggs	5-6 cups vegetable oil, for deep frying

Place cut potatoes in saucepan, cover with water, add salt. Bring to boil, cover and simmer about 25 mins. or until tender. Drain, peel and mash. Mix well with eggs and walnuts and season with salt and pepper to taste.

Heat oil. Test oil by adding a small piece of potato mixture to pan. Oil should bubble energetically. Take round teaspoonful of potato mixture and place in oil. Continue to make more fritters from remaining mixture but do not crowd them in oil. Fry 2-3 mins. or until golden brown on all sides.

Transfer to tray lined with paper towels. Keep warm by placing in 200°F oven. Serve hot. Yield: serves 4.

About Seniors

Dear Jesse,

I am concerned about my uncle's deteriorating health and inability to live on his own. He is a 92-year-old widower, who lost his wife three months ago. His wife was his caregiver. They never had any children. My uncle suffers with severe arthritis and has difficulty walking. He needs a walker. He also has a hearing problem and poor vision. Since his wife's death, my uncle has not been managing well on his own. He has neglected his hygiene; he is not eating and his apartment is dirty. He tends to be repetitious, accuses people of stealing and has become very forgetful. I hired a cleaning lady to clean his apartment, but my uncle refused to allow her in. I also feel that he needs help with his bath. My uncle is resistant to all help offered to him. I would like him to move into a residence.

BJ

Dear BJ,

First, I would like to convey my condolences on your recent loss. I am sure it is difficult for your uncle at this time. It is far too soon after your aunt's death to suggest alternative living arrangements to your uncle. It appears, however, that your uncle would benefit from a geriatric assessment. You can contact his physician to request a referral for an assessment. I would also suggest that you call the local social service agency in his area and ask for a social work assessment to identify his needs. You will see what services they will provide. Homecare programs, bereavement group and volunteer services may be helpful until your uncle is ready to explore a protected environment.

Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Jesse to The CJN. *Jesse is the executive director of Jewish Support Services for the Elderly (JSSE) in Montreal.*

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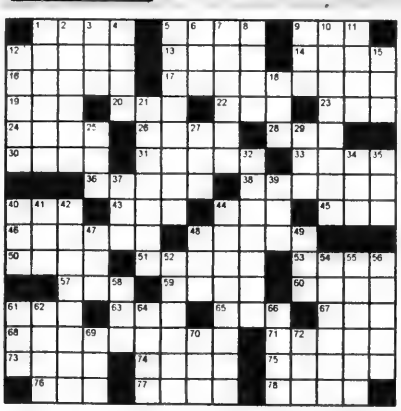
The Canadian Jewish news

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

The Canadian Jewish news



Across
1. Schlump (Eng.)
5. Jews
9. Abba's wife
12. Say the Viddui
13. Cain's victim
14. Like the Rothschilds
16. Commandment no no
17. Language of
19. Digit
20. B'nai Brith Org.
22. Zilpah's sons
23. Hester Street time zone
24. Golem?
26. Apiece
28. ____ Mitzvah
30. Observe Shabbat
31. Artist Chaim
33. Chagall
36. Abram's brother
38. Elizabeth
40. Alias
43. Signed a Ketubah
44. Baby's
45. Chazzer house
46. Shayleh (Eng.)
48. Act the Gonif
50. Tried and ____
51. Chazzerei (Eng.)
53. Talmud, ____ Law
57. Cobb or Grant
59. Competent
60. Wilder or Barry
61. Meshuggeneh
63. Moe Berg stat
65. Salk and Sabin
67. Reason for obit
68. Death camp
71. Lubavitcher
73. Employ
74. Prophesied
75. No Clue
76. Literary initials
77. Writer Ferber
78. Knesset position

Down
1. Moe or Larry
2. Samson and Delilah
3. Shema ender
4. Zeta ____ Tau, fraternity
5. Olympic winner
6. Literary initials
7. Jonah's milieu
8. Killed biblically
9. Bo Belinsky stat
10. Dead Sea plenty
11. Neil Simon sections
12. Newman or Hoffman
15. Steamy
18. Actor Reiner
21. Yeshiva papers?
25. Number ending
27. Jonathan Pollard?
29. Golfer Alcott
32. Half a comedy act
34. Age
35. Heard at a shivah
37. Leather punch
39. Alphabet run
40. Bezalel study
41. Syrian ancient homeland?
42. Commandment no no
44. Jose Jimenez
47. Daled: (Eng.)
48. Commandment no no
49. Chazzer (Eng.)
52. Blew the shofa
54. Exodus egress (words)
55. Apply oil
56. Imitates Moses
58. Wiggling tref fish
61. Last degree
62. "Mila 18" writer
64. Make aliyah
66. Political party
69. Played Maude
70. Oakland A's Holtzman
72. Exist

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 54.)

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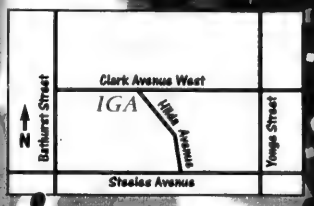

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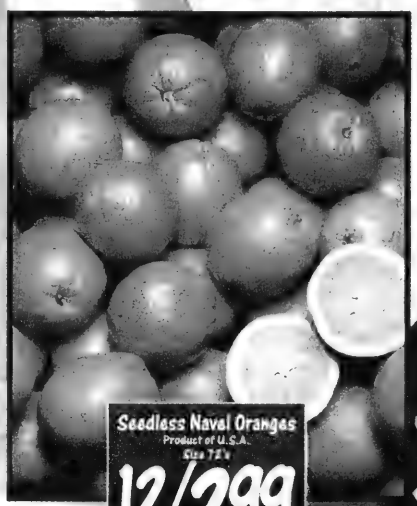

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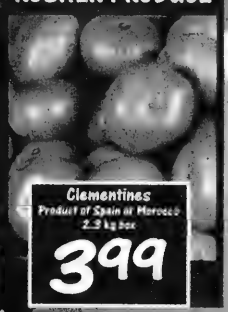

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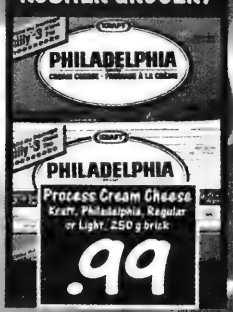

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This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Irony: Welfare state's success is the cause for rise in neo-conservatism, Ed Broadbent says. *Page 5*

Holocaust-themed contest gears up for its second year. *Page 17*

CJC seeks apology from Toronto reverend for television sermon. *Page 20*

On Campus

Jewish Life on Campus fair gives high school students a taste of university life. *Page 23*

Health

Specific gene may hold key to controlling malignant cancer. *Page 33*

Holiday Gifts

George Cohon's book *To Russia with Fries* is one of many great gift ideas. *Page 39*

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
What's New 14
Yiddish Corner 22
On Campus 23
Coast to Coast 24
International 29
Health 33
Travel, Arts & Business 35
Classified 47
Sports 50
Crossword 51
Ask Susan 51

Shabbat: Vayeshev
Candlelighting: 4:24
Kislev 20, 5758
Havdalah: 5:29

Sher joins war crimes unit

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada is looking to its southern neighbor for help in bringing Nazi war criminals to justice. Last week, the federal government announced that Neal Sher, the former director of the U.S. Nazi-hunting Office of Special Investigations (OSI), has joined Canada's war crimes unit to serve as a special consultant.

Sher will bring considerable experience and a proven track record to the job, said Justice Minister Anne McLellan. He is "one of the world's leading experts in dealing with war criminals and its related jurisprudence."

A lawyer in private practice in Washington, D.C., Sher served as head of the OSI from 1983-94 and was with the unit when it was inaugurated in 1979.

McLellan credited him with several accomplishments during his tenure, including prosecuting the OSI's first case, taking deposition evidence in the former Soviet Union and putting Kurt Waldheim on a "watchlist" of undesirables who are ineligible to enter the United Sates.

Sher's retention is a clear signal of the government's commitment to addressing the issue of Nazi war criminals and their modern day counterparts, McLellan said.

McLellan and Defence Minister Art Eggleton announced Sher's appointment at a public news conference at a clubhouse in Earl Bales Park, in the heart of Toronto's Jewish community. Eggleton, who represents the riding of York Centre in Parliament, pointed out that the venue was within site of a Holocaust memorial and a memorial to Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, who saved thousands of Jews from the Nazis.

Continued on page 32

PREPARING FOR CHANUKAH

Debby Sullum, a ceramic artist, is a recent immigrant from the United States who says that celebrating Chanukah in Israel "has more meaning." Here, she helps her daughter, Mollie, 7, place a candle in one of her homemade menorahs. *[RNS/Reuters photo]*

Canadians head to Zionist conference

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canada will send 16 delegates to the World Zionist Congress, to be held in Jerusalem Dec. 23 to 27.

That's down from the 21 delegates sent to the last congress in 1992, but the reduction was expected, as the number of representatives from around the world has been cut dramatically.

Originally, Canada was allotted 14 delegates, but the number was raised by two after the World Zionist Organization (WZO) was pressured by the Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF).

The breakdown is as follows:

- United Torah Coalition (Orthodoxy's Zionist arm, comprising Mizrachi and Emunah): four delegates;
- Arza Canada (Reform): three;
- Mercaz Canada (Conservative): three;
- Labor Zionist Coalition (comprising Labor Zionist Alliance of Canada, Na'amat, and Friends of Pioneering Israel): three;

Delegation makeup 'reasonable'

- Herut-Likud Canada: two;
- Zionist Organization of Canada (ZOC): one.

At the 1992 congress, Canadian Orthodox Zionists had five delegates; Reform had four; and Conservatives, three.

Each delegate is entitled to bring at least one alternate.

As expected, the CZF did not hold nationwide elections for delegates, saying they would be costly and potentially divisive.

Viewed on the political/religious spectrum, the Canadian delegates line up six on the left, three in the middle and seven on the right.

Asked whether the makeup of the delegation is fair, CZF president Kurt Rothschild said: "In light of developments, I consider it reasonable. We couldn't do full justice to everybody."

Rothschild will serve as a 17th delegate, but his voting powers will be different than those of the other Canadians.

Continued on page 32

INSIDE

Abraham Joshua Heschel: a remarkable man.
Please see page 9.

1-1836 today
sh News
y week.

Quick withdrawal not in the cards — please see page 29

The News in Brief

CANADA

Toronto Doctor to Speak

TORONTO — Toronto physician William Seidelman will deliver the opening plenary address at a symposium on euthanasia next month in Vienna.

Seidelman, who plans to establish a centre for the study of Nazi medicine at the University of Toronto, will speak on Jan. 29 at the same hospital where hundreds of Austrian children were murdered during the Third Reich's euthanasia program.

Out of the Cold

TORONTO — Volunteers from Toronto's Reconstructionist synagogue, Darchei Noam, have joined forces with St. Peter's Church to take part in the Out of the Cold Program for the homeless.

Some 40 Metro churches and Holy Blossom Temple take part in the program, in which the homeless are provided with a hot meal and a place to sleep for the night.

St. Peter's opens its doors to the homeless Thursday nights.

YLN Donation

TORONTO — The Young Leadership Network (YLN) has issued a challenge to the community to match its donation of $1,000 for the Out of the Cold program.

The YLN of the League for Human Rights is a unit of B'nai Brith Canada.

Nazi Demonstrators

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region chair Moshe Ronen has commended Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick and Metro Toronto Police for charging eight individuals with willful promotion of hatred.

The charges resulted from the actions of a group of neo-Nazi skinheads who targeted Romani refugees in a demonstration last August.

Ronson Honored

TORONTO — R. Lou Ronson was recently honored by B'nai Brith Canada with the inauguration of the R. Lou Ronson Human Rights Scholarship Fund.

The campaign for the human rights scholarship will culminate in the spring at the annual Media Human Rights Awards.

Fisch Elected York Chair

NEWMARKET — Markham Regional Councillor Bill Fisch has been elected chair of York Regional Council.

At the inaugural meeting of the 1997-2000 regional council, Fisch was elected on the first ballot over Richmond Hill Mayor William Bell and Georgina Mayor Robert Grossi.

Fisch becomes the fifth chair of York Region, succeeding Eldred King, who stepped down this year.

Fish is a lawyer practicing in Thornhill. He and his wife Tova, have two children, David, 23, and Karen, 19.

WORLD

Neo-Nazi Address

FRANKFURT — The revelation that a leading neo-Nazi had given a training lecture to army officers has rocked the German army and forced German officials to scramble to respond.

The German newsmagazine *Der Spiegel* reported in its most recent issue that neo-Nazi leader Manfred Roeder gave a lecture in 1995 at an army officer's academy in Hamburg.

Corpses Found

BUDAPEST — The remains of 10 corpses found earlier this month in Vienna may have been Hungarian Jews who perished in the Holocaust, according to a Hungarian historian.

The remains, which were believed to be mostly of women and children, indicated that the victims had been shot at close range.

The victims could well have been slave laborers or a small group of people who were trying to make their way back to Hungary near the end of World War II, according to Holocaust historian Szabolcs Szita.

Religious Symbols Removed

NEW YORK — Jewish groups are claiming victory in the latest battle at Auschwitz.

Under orders from the Polish government, eight crosses and 11 Stars of David were removed last week from the grounds of the Nazi death camp.

The religious symbols were placed at the former Nazi death camp in 1983 by a Polish scouting group.

Neo-Nazis Supporters

MOSCOW — Almost half of all fascist sympathizers in Russia are 35 years old or younger and live in large cities.

These were among the findings of the first-ever poll tracking attitudes toward neo-Nazis in Russia, which was conducted by the Public Opinion Foundation, a leading Moscow-based polling firm.

Some 58 percent of Russians have a negative attitude toward neo-Nazi groups, while six percent of respondents have a positive attitude toward such groups, according to the poll.

Thirty-six percent of respondents said they had no definite attitude toward neo-Nazi organizations.

Anti-Semitic Book

MOSCOW — Latvia has agreed to halt distribution of a controversial history book, but human rights activists are questioning the sincerity of the move.

In response to a campaign led by the Washington-based Union of Councils for Soviet Jews and local activists, which had demanded that Janis Karklins' *Latvian Eulenspiegel* be withdrawn from schools, the Latvian president's office apologized for its distribution.

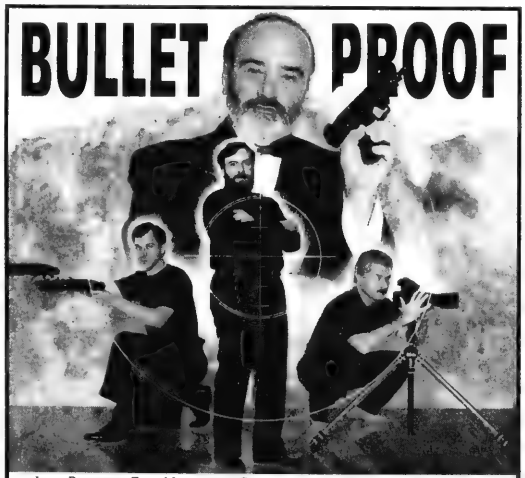
UN Resolution Withdrawn

NEW YORK — Proponents of the Middle East peace process are breathing a sigh of relief after the withdrawal of an Arab-sponsored UN resolution that would have elevated the status of the Palestinians at the international body.

After a week of diplomatic haggling, the sponsors withdrew their resolution last week, when they realized that they did not have enough support to pass the measure.

The Palestinians currently have observer status at the United Nations. The resolution would have granted them member status without voting privileges.

The United States, Israel, Russia and the European Union all opposed the resolution, fearing that any change in the Palestinian status would have harmed the Middle East peace process.



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Former director blasts war crimes unit

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The former head of Canada's war crimes unit is claiming there is a government effort under way to prevent full disclosure of the extent of anti-Jewish prejudice in the unit.

In a news release, Bill Hobson stated "it now appears the government will persist in its coverup tactics for government bureaucrats out of control."

That allegation is part of a wide-ranging and bitter critique by Hobson in which he attacks Canada's record on Nazi war criminals, "political manipulation of the...unit" and of "incompetent management of...senior bureaucrats."

He also suggested that John McCamus, former dean of Osgoode Hall law school, who is investigating allegations of anti-Semitism in the unit, will be hamstrung by an inability to see all relevant documents on the issue.

Hobson told *The CJN* he was attempting to assist McCamus to view relevant documents but that when he requested to see 304 Justice Department documents that "I know existed, they said they lost two of four boxes containing the documents." In all, only 39 of the 304 documents he requested were given him for his perusal. The missing documents include contemporaneous notes of conversations with senior Justice Department officials in which he recorded allegedly anti-Semitic remarks. Also missing was a record of a conversation with the official's superior who declined to intervene when told by Hobson of the first official's comments.

In recent years, Hobson has become a strident critic of the unit and of the government officials who oversaw its operations. He has suggested the almost total absence of success in bringing war criminals to justice was an indication of the low priority given the task by senior bureaucrats. Bureaucrats and lawyers in the unit focused on hard to win criminal cases when denaturalization and deportation remedies were available, and more likely to be successful, he argues.

He pointed out that one of the unit's few successes came in the Jacob Luitjens deportation case on which he and Arnold Fradkin, his deputy in the unit, served as co-counsel.

Before and after the Luitjens victory, "Fradkin vigorously advocated denaturalization as a remedy" and "he did not accept a 'go slow' or 'do nothing' approach," Hobson said in his news release. "Is it entirely coincidence that he had to leave the unit once Hobson left? And is it entirely coincidence that in the the first five years after Hobson stepped down, no new cases were brought forward?"

Hobson criticized the manner in which McCamus is being given access to documents. He acknowledged McCamus is being given the documents he requests, but he was concerned that in the absence of a complete list of documents, McCamus will not know which ones to ask for. It is the duty of the Justice Department to provide a complete list of all documents, from which McCamus can make his selections, he added.

McCamus told *The CJN* "I have had absolutely no difficulty getting documents and getting cooperation from [the] Justice [Department]." He said Hobson had cooperated with him in his investigation but he declined to comment on suggestions he might be in the dark as to the documents he should request. He said his confidential report will be completed "sooner rather than later."

Hobson had sought the cooperation of the office of Conflict Resolution and Harassment in the Workplace to facilitate access to relevant documents. But a letter to Hobson from Mathilde Gravelle Bazinet, senior adviser in the office, called Hobson's request for documents "unworkable."

"You are requesting access to entire classes of unknown and unidentified documents," she wrote. "Among others, you request '...all

Bill Hobson

relevant memoranda (documents) exchanged between Yvan Roy, Kim Prost, Julius Isaac, John Tait, Bruce MacFarlane, Peter Kremer, Mr. Rutherford, the right Honorable Kim Campbell, this writer or any of them.' You undoubtedly appreciate the magnitude of the search that this would impose on the staff of the Access to Information and Privacy Office. Moreover the question of whether documents constitute 'memoranda relevant' to the investigation could only be determined by a senior person with an understanding both of the war crimes work and of the nature of this investigation. In our view, this is simply unworkable."

Hobson's coverup allegation did not surprise Sol Littman, Canadian representative of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre. For 40 years, the Justice Department came up with reasons to avoid prosecuting Nazi war criminals. Senior bureaucrats were uninterested in the issue because it had happened to Jews, Littman said.

"I don't have much of a question that the government is approaching this gingerly because of the possibility of embarrassment," he said.

Justice Minister Anne McLellan said "there is no coverup. John McCamus is looking into those allegations [of anti-Semitism]. That was an extraordinary measure in the first place.

"One of the things we wanted with the McCamus review was to get to the bottom of things."

Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' war crimes committee, said he could not comment on the specifics of Hobson's allegations. "From our perspective, Hobson is a loyal public servant who was one of the more active members of the unit committed to the pursuit of war criminals. We should take everything he says seriously."

John Sims, assistant deputy attorney general responsible for citizenship and immigration matters, declined to comment on Hobson's allegations.

BARAK VISITS

Israel's Opposition leader, Ehud Barak (right), made a private visit to Toronto recently. He held talks with National Defense Minister Art Eggleton on the Mideast peace process.

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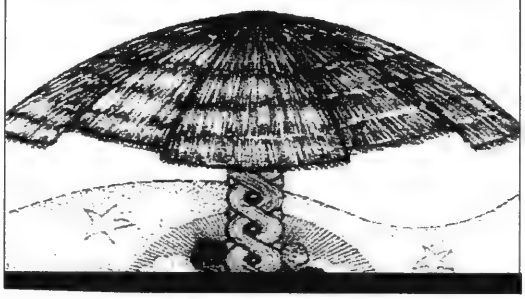

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From the editor's desk

Knives are always a poor education tool

Readers may have been struck as I was, to see on the front page of the *Globe and Mail* last week, a four-column wide photograph of young Palestinian boys; it was entitled *Resistance Remembered*.

The resistance that was being remembered by the youngsters in the photo was the 10th anniversary of the intifadah uprising.

The photo focused on three young boys, whose ages I judged to be 3 to 6 years old. They were standing alongside each other in what purported to be a karate exercise of some kind.

The child closest to the photographer bore a quizzical expression; his large dark eyes stared past but not at the camera. His was the only face seen fully in the photo. The faces of both of his two young friends were partially hidden. What was horribly striking about the photo was the fact that each of these young boys was wielding a knife.

They were not small, play knives. Rather, they were large menacing instruments of death. The boy closest to the camera held a hunting knife of some sort with one of its edges serrated. The second boy held a bayonet; the third held a butcher's knife.

The knives appeared to be readied for action, in mid-lunge, as it were, held firmly in the outstretched hands of these small, young arms.

The scene was undoubtedly choreographed and staged for the benefit of the camera. But it was macabre and morbid.

Staring back at the youngsters' dazed expression, I asked myself, what lesson of hate were these very young boys learning? What evil message were they absorbing into the deep parts of their psyches? What malevolent set of values will guide their right-and-wrong as they grow up?

All societies recall their past. Indeed they must, if they are to fashion any sense of collective memory by which to foster social cohesion and a common identity. But what sort of society is it that extols this form of recollection?

What sort of leader places in the hands of its youngest children, with full blessings, the wherewithal of violence and murder, who therefore says, implicitly, that the taking of another's life is not wrong?

What sort of man eventually evolves from this youngster?

The photograph evoked echoes of the comments made by Yasser Arafat 10 years ago, after the intifadah was in full, violent swing, that the Palestinian children themselves, were the stones to be hurled in the battle against Israel.

Ten years later, the children have become adults; and the stones have become knives. The boys who have become men, it seems, have been taught only the harsh, cruel ways of destruction, violence and mayhem.

Through such education, their leaders are effectively dooming the young boys and the men who will grow from them, to a life of hatred, despair, enmity and unfulfilled national aspirations.

Young boys should not be playing with knives. But more importantly, old men should not be putting those knives in little children's hands.

* * *

Mount Sinai Hospital

Lloyd S.D. Fogler, QC

The Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation of Toronto is pleased to announce the appointment of Lloyd S.D. Fogler QC as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Fogler is the immediate past Chairman of the Board of Directors of Mount Sinai Hospital and has served as a member of the hospital's Board of Directors for 22 years. Mr. Fogler has been a member of the hospital's Executive Committee for 12 years.

Mr. Fogler is a Senior Partner with Fogler, Rubinoff, Barristers and Solicitors. He currently holds directorship positions with several major Canadian companies including First Marathon Inc., First Mercantile Currency Fund, Goldlist Properties Inc., and MDC Communications Corporation as well as directorships in The Holy Blossom Temple Foundation, The Canadian Society for the Weizman Institute and the Canadian Opera Company.

Now in its 75th year of operation, Mount Sinai Hospital and its Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute provide excellent patient care using a combination of frontier scientific research and leading clinical practitioners. The Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation raises funds and manages endowments to support the scientific and clinical leadership required to meet the Hospital's commitment to deliver the best medicine.

MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL

A special birthday celebration

Last week, I had the privilege of attending a special 80th year birthday celebration for a dear friend.

Rachel Kanner is a survivor of the destruction of European Jewry. In spite of that experience, or perhaps more probably, because of it, she lives each day with unique vigor and purpose. On the anvil of her experiences, has been forged a sharp understanding of life's deeper truths.

Rachel invited some of her friends, among whom my wife and I were included, to attend a birthday kiddush at Congregation Darchei Noam, of which she is a member.

It was very moving, but not surprising, to see the love and the warmth with which Rachel was embraced by her fellow congregants.

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Greater Toronto Area

Branson specialists heading to Humber hospital

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — About 15 specialists at Branson Hospital will join the staff at Humber River Regional Hospital after Branson closes its in-patient beds, said Dr. Lanny Goluboff, Humber's chief of staff.

In the meantime, Goluboff said Humber River, which includes the former York Finch Hospital at Jane Street and Finch Avenue, will do everything possible to keep Branson open, including holding positions for the specialists.

The 496-bed Humber River, operating at three sites, has thus joined North York General in vowing to help Branson overcome its staff shortages.

Although scheduled to close in June, 1999, there is concern that Branson won't be able to operate that long because it is losing staff.

"It's looking that way," Goluboff said about the fear of an early closing by Branson.

"It's important not to destabilize Branson," he said. "For one thing we haven't got the beds right now to accommodate any patients from there."

There is no doubt that Humber River will get more Jewish patients once Branson closes, Goluboff said.

At the moment it only has from two to six Jewish patients on any day according to Jennifer Ferguson speaking for Humber River.

But in anticipation of Branson's closing, Humber River has asked Branson for a copy of its dietary program and visiting hours schedule to accommodate Jewish patients, Ferguson said.

Humber River does bring in kosher meals from Peter Graben Caterers at the request of patients.

The plans for a $55 million redevelopment of Humber River include consideration of a Shabbat elevator.

As well, its staff will be trained in looking after the dietary and other needs of Jewish patients.

Humber River has had the help and advice of Rabbi Ronald Weiss of Jewish Family and Child Service (JF&CS) in serving its Jewish patients, Ferguson said. As well, a volunteer from JF&CS visits Jewish patients every other week.

The York Finch site of Humber River will be a much better looking hospital once the redevelopment is completed, hopefully by the end of 1999, Goluboff said. The same architects who designed the new Princess Margaret Hospital and the addition at Sunnybrook have been retained.

With Branson's emergency department closed at night, Humber River, as the closest hospital, is prepared to take these cases, he said. However, ambulance drivers are generally given direction by dispatchers who take the patient's wishes into account, if there is time.

Although the Hospital Restructuring Commission estimated that 50 percent of Branson patients would go to Humber River, Goluboff thinks it will be less than that.

"Nobody asked the patients where they would go," he said. "Usually they follow their physicians."

He said elderly patients from the Branson area are reluctant to go to Finch and Jane, thinking it unsafe.

"I'm not saying they're right in thinking so, but it's a fact we have to face."

Broadbent defends role of the welfare state

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The success of the welfare state has had the unintended result that workers are being converted to neo-conservatism, Ed Broadbent, former NDP leader, said here recently.

Canadians should resist attacks on the welfare state and call for higher taxes on corporations and the rich, he said in delivering the second annual Louis Lenkinski memorial lecture marking international human rights day.

The lectures honor Lenkinski, trade unionist and Jewish activist, who was described by Moshe Ronen, Ontario region chair of Canadian Jewish Congress, as a man who built bridges between faith communities .

Sponsored by Congress and UJA Federation, the talk drew a warmly appreciative audience at Council House on Bathurst Street.

Introduced by the evening's chair, Rabbi Jordan Pearlson, as a man who tenaciously fought for human rights, Broadbent said that sniping at the welfare state was led by former Premier Margaret Thatcher of Britain and former president Ronald Reagan of the United States.

Reagan promoted the idea that the welfare state was meant only for people who needed welfare, he said.

Now a professor at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Broadbent charged that while corporation taxes in Canada have declined from 43 to 33 percent, and income taxes on the wealthy have gone down from 59 to 42 percent, taxes on workers have gone up from 36 to 38 percent.

The welfare state is a marriage between fairness and self-interest "and like all marriages it is risky."

Inequality in the United States has reached record levels, Broadbent said, with the number of millionaires increasing by 500 percent while the incomes of 80 percent remain stagnant.

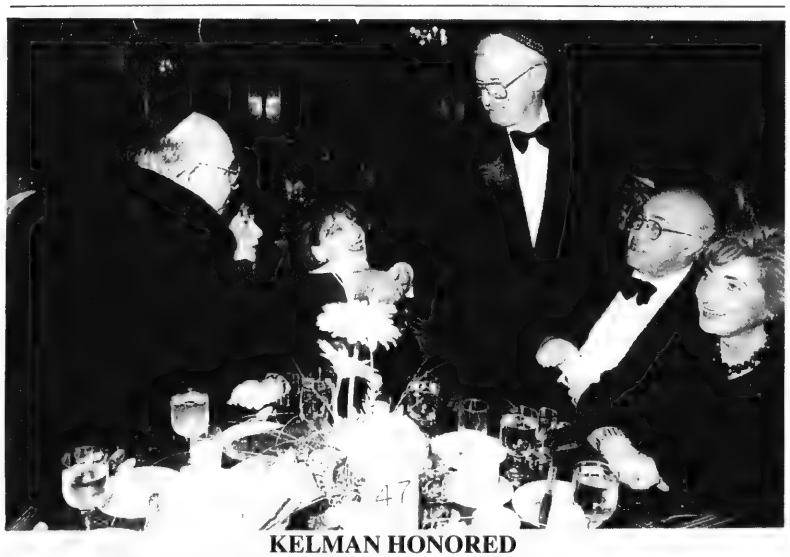
In Canada, he said, the demand for expensive Mercedes-Benz cars is at all-time high while workers' incomes are lower than a decade ago.

This is one of the reasons why the Liberal government lost seats in the last election, he maintained.

While the welfare state concept faces new problems as the century ends, relating to women's rights for instance, there is no solution to be found in a simple-minded return to the 1960s.

Neo-conservatism has become so powerful a force in Canadian political parties that it must be attacked, Broadbent said.

He was thanked by Joey Steiner, UJA Federation president.



KELMAN HONORED

Rabbi Joseph Kelman is congratulated by well-wishers at a recent dinner honoring him on his retirement as rabbi of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue after 38 years. [Hudson Taylor photo]

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Greater Toronto Area

Chanukah to mark start of Israel's anniversary

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — An outdoor candle-lighting ceremony at Queen's Park followed by music and Chanukah treats will kick off a year-long community celebration to mark Israel's 50th birthday.

Toronto will join communities in Israel and in 46 other locations around the world in the official start of the golden anniversary celebrations. The public is invited to attend the event, which begins at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 23.

Hundreds of children visiting Queen's Park will take centre stage to participate in the Chanukah candle-lighting ceremony as Toronto-area cantors lead a sing along. Participants will then head indoors to the lobby of the legislative building where 50 children and Canadians with special ties to Israel will light 50 chanukiot (holiday candleholders) in honor of Israel's anniversary.

Among those who will light candles are Harold and Linda Kimelman, whose daughter Marnie was killed in a terrorist bombing on a Tel Aviv beach in the summer of 1990. Others to light chanukiot include: Itia Golan, a native of Israel who was honored with a commemorative medal for the 125th anniversary of Canadian confederation for her extensive community involvement; Simcha Jacobovici, an Emmy award-winning documentary filmmaker; Cantor Joseph Cooper, a Holocaust survivor; and Chana Dahab Cohen, a native of Syria who worked to gain the rescue of that country's Jewish community.

"The message of Chanukah and Israel is intertwined — the Jewish spirit can triumph over any obstacle. It's a message reaching out to all nations and all generations," said Donald Carr, co-chair of the event along with his wife, Judy Feld Carr.

"This event is one of the most meaningful possible ways to start *Israel at 50* celebrations," said Judy Feld Carr. "I think the people who attend, especially the children, will take home wonderful memories."

In addition to the music and festivities, a draw will take place for a trip to Israel courtesy of El Al Israel Airlines and participants will enjoy latkes and soufganiot (jelly-filled donuts).

The *Israel at 50* celebrations are a project of a consortium of hundreds of organizations representing the full spectrum of the Jewish community, said Howard English, a spokesperson for the group. It includes community organizations, membership groups and synagogues.

The Dec. 23 candle-lighting, co-hosted by the Consulate General of Israel, is a kick off of events that will culminate on April 30 when Israel will mark Yom Ha'atzmaut, its Independence Day. More than 10,000 people are expected to attend the Toronto celebration of that event, which will be held at the National Trade Centre at the CNE. It will include an Israeli-style market with food and other products of the Jewish state, music, dance and a multimedia satellite link to Israel.

Other *Israel at 50* events include a fashion show at the Yorkdale Shopping Centre in March as well as a community walk for Israel on May 24. In addition, Israel will be showcased at the CNE during "the Ex," from Aug.15 to Sept. 6, English said.

Ethnocultural services safe, says Premier

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The Ontario government has no intention of interfering with ethno-specific groups who run seniors' homes and other programs, a coalition of leaders of these communities was assured by Premier Mike Harris.

"The premier said he believed in the integrity of these programs and agreed they should continue to be administered by the ethno-specific groups," said Moshe Ronen, chair, Ontario Region, Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC).

Ronen said the assurances were given in the presence of Community and Social Services Minister Janet Ecker and other senior staff.

Aside from a five percent cut in administration costs, Harris said the government would not be further cutting their funds.

"I have to take at face value what the premier said," Ronen said.

He chaired the coalition's meeting with the premier which was postponed several times.

The dozen coalition members represented the Jewish, Italian, Portuguese, Chinese and Jamaican communities and the United Church, Toronto district. In addition, representatives of the Anglican and Catholic churches, who met earlier in the afternoon with the premier and his senior staff, attended.

Accompanying Ronen were Joey Steiner, president, UJA Federation, and Bernie Farber, acting executive director, Ontario Region, CJC. Rabbi Dow Marmur, senior rabbi, Holy Blossom Temple, sat in on the earlier meeting with the premier.

Ronen said the premier guaranteed that the services would not be forced into mergers with other "generic" organizations as part of social service restructuring and budget cuts.,

"Their integrity will be maintained," he quoted the premier as saying.

Ronen said the premier seemed surprised that any of the groups felt threatened by the government's program, and said that if they had any complaints they should bring them to the attention of the ministry.

***

Also last week, a coalition of Ontario religious leaders called on Queen's Park to hold a public inquiry into the 1995 shooting death by police of native protester Dudley George at Ipperwash Provincial Park.

Representing the Jewish community was Karen Mock, national director of the League for Human Rights.

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Greater Toronto Area

Immigrant fraud victim seeks return of money

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — All Arkadi Kogan wants is his money back.

But when you're dealing with a shady Russian company that stole millions of dollars from unsuspecting Jewish emigres, that's not as easy as it sounds.

Kogan is a victim of a fraudulent scheme perpetrated by a company he trusted, a company he says was promoted by the Israeli Embassy in Moscow and by shlichim of the Jewish Agency.

Kogan was cheated out of all his savings, and arrived in Canada two years ago with the little money he was able to salvage.

"I lost everything," says the 46-year-old Toronto computer programmer. "Even $500 I borrowed from my daughter."

And although Israel has offered to compensate victims of the scheme, the money would only go to those who settled in Israel.

Arkadi Kogan and some of his paperwork.

[Ron Csillag photo]

Kogan's nightmare began in his native Moscow in 1994, when he decided to leave, partly because he faced daily doses of anti-Semitism. He wanted to go to Israel to join his mother and the rest of his family, but his wife insisted on settling in Canada.

Like all would-be emigres, Kogan was informed that he would have to open a foreign bank account in order to get his savings out of Russia. He tried to open an account with a Canadian bank, but his Russian bank said he couldn't.

Kogan then asked for and received an invitation to Israel, believing it would be easy to transfer his money from there to Canada.

He visited the Israeli Embassy in Moscow and found advertisements in the waiting room on how to transfer money to the Jewish state. The signs touted a company called Israsov, which sounded to Kogan and others like a joint Israeli-Russian venture.

What's more, Israsov was right across the street from the Israeli Embassy, in the same building as El Al. To Kogan, that lent it additional credibility. The company, he says, also came recommended by various officials, including those from the Jewish Agency.

Israsov even promised to pay interest and had an office in Jerusalem.

So in May 1995, Kogan handed over $60,000 in cash – the proceeds from the sale of his flat – and signed a contract saying the money and the interest would be deposited in the Bank Mizrahi in Jerusalem six months later.

It never was.

By the following spring, Israsov's doors were locked. At its Jerusalem office, at least one victim was compensated with a check drawn on the Bank Hapoalim. The check bounced.

Kogan wasn't the only victim. In Israel, the numbers swelled to 500 families who'd been cheated of a total of $20 million. For many, it was their life savings. The emigres were mainly Russian, but victims were also from Ukraine and Belarus.

The head of the Knesset's immigration and absorption committee, MK Naomi Blumenthal, accused the Israeli government of criminal negligence, saying it must take some responsibility.

Kogan joined a class-action lawsuit against the government. But last April, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced the formation of a committee that would decide who is eligible to receive government compensation for 75 percent of the funds lost. In return, the lawsuits would be dropped.

Lawyers for the victims called the decision fair. But the money will only go to those who settled in Israel, leaving Kogan and others in the Diaspora out in the cold.

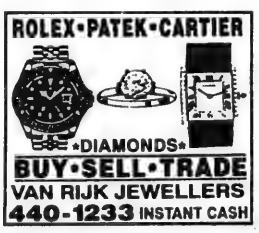
Kogan says there are "at least" 500 other families, in addition to the ones in Israel, who were cheated and who settled in North America.

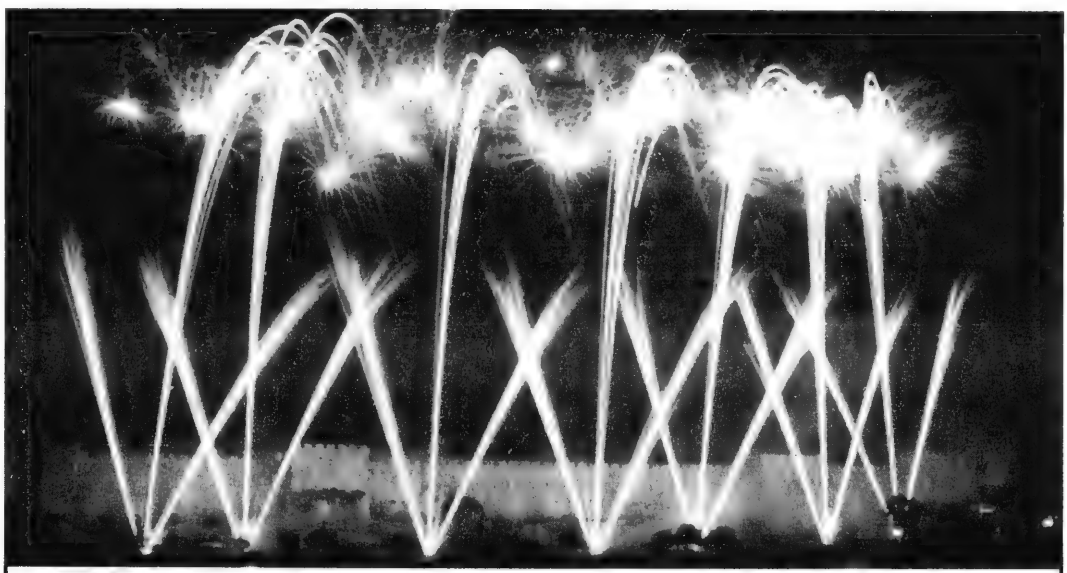
"It was shameful for Israel to act this way," he told *The CJN*. "I trusted Israel."

Kogan is knee-deep in paperwork. He's mailed letters to Israeli cabinet minister Natan Scharansky, the governor of the Bank of Israel, and even Israeli President Ezer Weizman. All passed the buck to other agencies.

Now, he wants the Israeli Embassy in Ottawa to get involved.

David Sultan, Israel's ambassador to Canada, told *The CJN* recently that he's aware of the situation, but that nothing can be done for victims outside Israel.





Something to light home about.

This Chanukah, millions of homes will be lighting the way **for Israel's 50th anniversary in 1998.**
On December 23, the first night of Chanukah, the State of Israel and Jewish communities everywhere, will officially inaugurate 50th birthday festivities. Help us take the miracle of Israel and the miracle of Chanukah to the heart of Toronto, with a spectacular candlelighting ceremony.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1997, 7:30 P.M.
QUEEN'S PARK

Candlelighting outside the Legislative Buildings. Followed by a fabulous party inside.

- Enter a free draw for a round trip ticket to Israel, courtesy of EL AL
- Join our city's top entertainment, sports and political personalities
- Sing with a choir of celebrated cantors
- Enjoy the food, fun and entertainment
- Parking available

Israel.
Fifty years as a refuge for Jews everywhere.
Fifty years of incredible achievement.
Fifty years of pride.
Now that's something to light home about.

Editorials and Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

Publisher and Proprietor
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Dry Bones
WATCHING THE HISTADRUT AND THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT SLUG IT OUT...
IS LIKE GOING TO SEE A HEAVY WEIGHT BOXING MATCH
IN WHICH THE FIGHTERS CLIMB OUT OF THE RING...
AND BEAT UP THE SPECTATORS.

Ignored incongruities

The government of Israel is attempting to draw the lines on what it terms its final status "interests map" for the purpose of negotiating peace with the Palestinian Authority (PA). To assist in the effort a special ministerial team comprised of Foreign Minister David Levy, Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon was established. As of this writing, the team has not been able to find common ground on that map.

But Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is relying upon the team to develop proposals from which he can present "principles" to both the Americans and the Palestinians. In particular, he was hoping to have those principles in place to present to U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright at their meeting in Paris scheduled for this week.

It is no secret that Albright is expecting Israel to come forward with substantive ideas that, in her mind, will be sufficient to breathe life into the limp Oslo process. She has publicly demanded that both sides live up to their signed commitments. In truth, however she shines the light more hotly on Israel than on the PA.

One commitment in particular whose constant violation we would urge Albright to investigate is the promise by the PA to ensure its educational system "contribute[s] to the peace between the Israeli and Palestinian peoples and to peace in the entire region,"...that it "refrain from the introduction of any motifs that could adversely affect the process of reconciliation." (Article XXII of the Interim Agreement of 1995.)

But like so many articles in the agreements signed with the Palestinians, this one too is being virtually ignored by the PA.

Among the events organized by the PA to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the intifadah, was a martial arts display at which the youngest of the young Palestinian boys was wielding a long knife. Elsewhere in this issue of *The CJN* (From the editor's desk, page 4), we comment on the profoundly far-reaching implications of such exercises on the children who perform them and on the society that applauds them.

This is, unfortunately, merely one of the myriad incongruities on the part of the PA between its promises under the Interim Agreement and its performance.

Perhaps, as Albright is hectoring the government of Israel to offer up more for the sake of peace, the government of Canada might bring this latest incongruity to the attention of the PA.

Unbecoming Conduct

The government of Ontario finally provided the fiscal details of its controversial offloading scheme. What Premier Mike Harris and his key cabinet officials promised time and again would be "revenue neutral" has in fact turned out to be a $163 million shortfall for the newly amalgamated city of Toronto.

When, in defence of his 2½ million constituents, the mayor-elect Mel Lastman upbraided the premier for lying to the people of Toronto, the premier responded in a manner which is unfortunately becoming his trademark. He threw a slur at Lastman. "Mel is Mel and that's the way he sold refrigerators and furniture."

Whether they are nurses, teachers, civil servants, members of unions, or now, the mayor-elect of the City of Toronto, it appears that the premier of Ontario has a penchant for directing glib, ad personam asperity at people who disagree with him and strongly protest his policies.

A key aspect of the premier's portfolio is to lead by example. But casual, flippant insult is absolutely not the kind of example the people of the province should see and hear from their premier. It is conduct wholly inappropriate and unbecoming to his office.

WISDOM OF THE AGES
"Literature is the safest key to a nation's treasure."
Bialik

This Week in Canadian Jewish History
Dec. 29, 1766, Eleazar Levy of Quebec became North America's first Jewish notary public.
(Canadian Jewish Congress Archives)

Jewish family vitality depends on Halachah

Re: "Family, faith, identity" by Rabbi David Hartman (*CJN*, Nov. 6).

The rate of assimilation and intermarriage in Judaism at all levels is a chilling fact, reflecting a great percentage of Jews unconcerned with their religion. The lack of Torah knowledge in one's life is what leaves room for all the negativism mentioned by Rabbi Hartman. Torah provides the framework of Jewish values with indisputable authenticity.

Rabbi Hartman says that "family and collectivity precede the commitment of faith." The study and practice of Torah has made us into a family. Generations may change, but the constancy of the Torah and family's commitment to Halachah give the family its vitality. The point Rabbi Hartman makes actually presents itself in reverse.

Rabbi Hartman says as a fait accompli, that "having lost Torah as the organizing factor of Jewish consciousness, we must nurture the remaining element of family awareness." How dare we weaken this indispensable feature of continuity?

Who lost Torah? Rabbi Hartman should see that there is more Torah today than we have had in a century, the number of yeshivot and seminaries is exploding across the world. And without Torah, what are we "continuing?"

Finally, what is family about? If family members oppose the tradition of parents and grandparents, then they refuse to understand what family togetherness really means. Family is continuity, with basic respect for its laws and structure. With Torah values in the home, there is continuity and no generation gap.

Rabbi Eli Friedman
Montreal

A message to future generations in Montreal

Plans for the Montreal Jewish Community Campus (*CJN*, Nov. 13), which is expected to break ground next spring and be completed the following year, include: integrating Cummings House, the Saidye Bronfman Centre and the YM-YWHA Ben Weider Jewish Community Centre through underground and above-ground extensions and matching their exterior facades and landscaped grounds; replacing the old swimming pool at the YM-YWHA with a new Olympic size pool; taking the Holocaust Museum out of the basement and putting it on the ground floor of Cummings House down the hall from a new 400 seat auditorium; as well as many other renovations totalling approximately $23 million.

Just a week after the unveiling of the plans, an article appeared on the front page of *La Presse*, headlined "Jews prepare for an exodus." It is unfortunate that while the leaders of the Jewish community are trying to instil a vote of confidence in the future of Quebec, the provocative article failed to recognize the efforts of these leaders in preparing for a secure, positive environment that will encourage people to remain in the province.

The complex of buildings represents part of the Jewish community's history, culture and self-perception and therefore reveals to others, as well as ourselves, what it is, in fact, that we value. The people involved in the renovating project are not performing the renovations for themselves, but for future generations of Jewish Montrealers, as well as for the future of the Montreal community as a whole. They are making a leadership statement to us, the many young adults within the community, as well as to our children and our children's children.

I, as well as the entire Montreal community, must remember to recognize the message that we should not abandon the particular character, history and future of the Montreal community.

Debbie Mouadeb
Hillel Executive
Marianopolis College
Montreal

Improve services instead of building

I, and many people I know, are aghast at the fact that the Jewish community of Montreal is spending millions of dollars on extending existing buildings (*CJN*, Nov. 13). In essence, they are saying to the separatist Parti Québécois, that, despite its outrageous policies we are prepared to live with the violations of individual rights embedded in its policies and will turn the other cheek.

The reality is that the Montreal Jewish community is aging and shrinking in size, and as long as the separatists are in power, the economy will continue to decline.

All the community's resources are needed for its stated priorities: caring for the poor, strengthening Jewish education and providing services to the aged and youth.

Shirley F. Lipkus
Montreal

Found two boxes of human soap in store

Further to your article claiming there was no proof of soap being made from human remains by the Nazis in the concentration camps (*CJN*, Oct. 9).

I had a store in Legnice in 1946. In the storage room, I found two boxes of "RIF" zeif Rein Judisches Feten (pure Jewish fats). This was given to a Russian major who was going to have it documented at the Russian Army headquarters situated in Legnice at the time.

Isaac Wahlen
Montreal

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Abraham Joshua Heschel: a remarkable man

By RABBI SOL TANENZAPF

Abraham Heschel, a remarkable personality whose impact on Jewish life in North America was singular, died on Dec. 23, 1972 (18 Tevet, 5733) at the age of 65. This year marks his 25th yahrzeit.

Heschel is known as a scholar, a philosopher, a teacher and a social activist, but I remember him as my Rebbe. I had completed my graduate studies in philosophy at Yale and was teaching at the City University of New York when I enrolled in the Rabbinical School of the Jewish Theological Seminary, where I first met Heschel. I had had a number of truly great teachers as professors; I came to Heschel looking for a spiritual mentor rather than a teacher. Happily, Heschel undertook the job of Rebbe. He taught me that you cannot begin to resolve more immediate problems until you are clear about the direction of your life, about your long-term goals.

Heschel's credentials for the job of Rebbe were impeccable. His grandfather, Abraham Joshua Heschel, after whom he was named, was the Apter Rebbe, the *Ohev Yisrael* (the one who loved all Jews). On his father's side, he was descended from Rabbi Dov Ber of Mezeritch, the successor to the Ba'al Shem Tov, founder of the chassidic movement. On his mother's side he was a descendant of Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berditchev.

Abraham Joshua Heschel
[Photo by Joel Orent]

Heschel successfully combined the deep spirituality of Eastern European Chassidism with the culture of modern Western civilization. He received his doctorate in philosophy from the University of Berlin in 1936, three years after he published his first book, a volume of poems in Yiddish, and one year after he wrote a biography of Maimonides. He succeeded Franz Rosenzweig and Martin Buber as director of Freies Judisches Lehrhaus in Frankfort.

In 1938, he was deported to Warsaw by the Nazis, but was rescued from the horrors of the Shoah by the Hebrew Union of College of Cincinnati (HUC), where he taught until 1945. He then accepted an appointment to the faculty of the Jewish Theological Seminary, a post he held for the next 27 years.

At the seminary, Heschel influenced the thinking of a generation of North American rabbis and teachers. However, he did not build up a following or a body of disciples because his methods of philosophizing were uncongenial to North American students. Heschel's methods were those of existential analysis and phenomenological description, methods used by continental thinkers at a time when the dominant schools of philosophy in the English-speaking world were logical empiricism and conceptual analysis. During my six years in rabbinical school, I often found myself in the position of explaining Heschel to his students and explaining his students to Heschel.

Heschel's life as a social activist was filled with controversy. He engaged in interfaith dialogues long before they became fashionable. He was the first Jew appointed to the faculty of the Union Theological Seminary, the most important Protestant theological school in North America. I recall his inaugural lecture at Union Theological Seminary: he introduced himself as His Majesty's Loyal Opposition, and the Protestant clergy insisted on referring to him as Father Abraham. This was in the fall of 1965.

The previous year, Heschel had gone to Rome to consult with Pope Paul VI and Cardinal Bea on drafting the *Schema on the Jews*, that was later adapted by Vatican II.

Heschel was also one of the first to espouse the cause of Soviet Jews, long before their plight was recognized by Jewish communal leaders in North America.

His work with the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the early years of the Civil Rights movement, and his anti-war protests during the Vietnamese conflict were widely condemned at the time. I believe that it was his travels around the United States to speak at anti-war rallies that finally destroyed his health and led to his untimely death.

Heschel's vision of Judaism was broad and inclusive, transcending sectarian differences. He never criticized other movements in religious Judaism, even if he disagreed with their theology. After all, it was the leaders of the Reform movement who had rescued him from Poland in 1940. More importantly, he took to heart his grandfather's admonition to be an *Ohev Yisrael*, to love all Jews.

It has been remarked that Heschel wrote little about the Shoah. Yet, I think that the Shoah influenced everything that Heschel wrote and did. His experiences in Nazi Germany colored his theories of human nature and his explorations into depth psychology. Heschel believed that each person has a dark side to his/her personality and that the discipline of the mitzvot was meant to control the discreditable impulses of the human psyche and to transform human character.

His experiences in Nazi Germany also motivated his social activism. He was determined to act here and now, while there was still time to do something effective, to eradicate social injustices in race relations and to end an immoral war in Vietnam. When the world became aware of the atrocities of the Germans and their confederates, the Nazis were already entrenched and were using terror to consolidate their hold on power. Heschel was determined to act to prevent a similar situation from recurring, a situation where public complacency and indifference would permit evil to flourish.

The social activist and the teacher was also a great scholar and a profound thinker. Heschel made important contributions to diverse scholarly disciplines in several languages. His poetry and his books on the history of the chassidic movement were written in Yiddish and translated into English in his later years and after his death. For Heschel, Yiddish was the language of Chassidism. *The Earth is the Lord's* (1946), describing the communities of Eastern Europe before they were destroyed during the Shoah, *Kotsk: The Struggle for Integrity* (1973) and *A Passion for Truth* (1974) were written in Yiddish.

Heschel, second from right, at the forefront of the march for civil rights in the United States.
[photo from The JTS, reprinted from the Jewish calendar.]

His first works in biblical scholarship, *The Prophets* (1936), and in the history of philosophy, *Maimonides* (1937) and *Don Isaac Abrabanel* (1937), were written in German. He wrote his three-volume study of talmudic thinking about the concepts of Torah and Revelation (1962-65) in Hebrew; it was recently translated into English as *The Theology of Ancient Judaism.*

All of Heschel's philosophical works were written in English and these books are the best known to North Americans. Many people are surprised to learn that English was not Heschel's first language or his second language or his third language. He wrote his English books in a lively and felicitous style that is always readable and often lyrical. Since the title of one of his philosophical books was *Man's Quest for God* (1954) and that of another was *God in Search of Man* (1955), students at the seminary would refer to Heschel's office on the sixth floor as "the lost and found." Among his other works on philosophy are: *The Sabbath* (1955), *The Insecurity of Freedom* (1966), *Israel: Echo of Eternity* (1969) and *Who Is Man?* (1971).

Although Heschel's contributions to scholarship in Bible, Talmud, Medieval philosophy and chassidic literature are widely recognized as significant, it is the legacy of his philosophical writings that will have an enduring influence on Jewish life. In his major work, *God in Search of Man: a Philosophy of Judaism* (1955), he asserts that the religious life of contemporary Jews is without fervor and inner conviction, a form of religious behaviorism. Contemporary persons need to rediscover the paths that lead to an awareness of God's presence in the world and in one's own life. The paths to such awareness are not those of rational argument, but of existential decision-making. Reason, however, can function to clarify the alternatives among which we must choose and to refute incoherent options.

According to Heschel, the first of the three paths is that of reawakened religious emotions, the experiences of wonder and amazement, of awe and reverence. These lead to an awareness of the sublimity and grandeur of natural and human existence, of their mystery and of their allusiveness to an ineffable reality.

The second path to God is through the Torah. God's voice can be heard addressing us in the words of the Torah. The Torah is written, not in descriptive language, but in indicative and evocative language, proclaiming mysteries rather than explaining facts. There is a human element as well as a Divine element in the revelatory experience – the words of Torah are the prophets' own in response to the initiative of God. Most importantly, contemporary persons need to put aside preconceptions and to open themselves to the actual content of the biblical message: that God's omnipotence is restrained, that God needs humans as much as they need to be needed, that without human cooperation the goals of redemption cannot be achieved and that God too experiences emotions. The pathos of God is God's loving concern for creatures, God's suffering together with creatures who are in pain and God's anger at the moral failures of human beings.

The third path to the awareness of the presence of God is through the life of mitzvot, which begins as an experiment in living, as a leap of action. In his rationale for the life of mitzvot, Heschel points out that the mitzvot can evoke experiences of the sublimity, grandeur and mystery of existence. The discipline of the mitzvot can also enable people to control their darker impulses. Finally, through sacred deeds we can become God's proxy in bringing redemption to the world, in ridding the world of violence and oppression.

This legacy is waiting to be reclaimed by a new generation of thinking Jews.

Rabbi Tanenzapf is the spiritual leader of Beit Rayim Congregation in Toronto.

Opinions

Greasy but good

By Viva Press in Halifax

Whether you're religious or secular, Conservative, Reform or Orthodox, it doesn't matter. If you're Ashkenazi or Sephardi, it might make a bit of a difference. Still, you're expected to abide by the customs; so get ready because it's time to eat again!

The holiday of Chanukah is just around the corner and so is the food associated with it.

Jewish holidays require food. Lots of it. Strudel, t'fina, knishes, cholent, kreplach, warka, perogi, kugel, gefilte fish, challah, lockshen... to name a few.

Fortunately, each holiday has its own food. So we don't have to eat everything every time a holiday comes around.

Chanukah got the greasy and fatty stuff. Latkes, soufganiot, bumuelos, chocolate, pancakes, cheese blintzes, grivn, goose.

Put away the diet books, forget the calories and remember, this is a mitzvah.

Chanukah marks the liberation of the Jews from the oppression of the Syrians in the second century BCE. The Syrians captured the Temple and desecrated everything in it, including the jugs of oil the High Priest had prepared for lighting the menorah. In 165 BCE, the Hasmoneans recaptured the Temple from the Syrian army and rebuilt the altar. They found a small jug of oil with which to light the menorah and miraculously, the oil burned for eight days. To commemorate this event, we kindle lights for eight days. Hence Chanukah's other name, the Festival of Lights.

We eat special foods associated with the chag to remember the miracle of the light and the miracle that the outnumbered Jews once again triumphed over their mighty enemy.

Food has own meaning

Each food has its own meaning. Potato latkes, bumuelos, soufganiot and pancakes are eaten because they are fried in oil, which symbolizes the miracle of the jug of oil that lasted for eight days instead of one. Latkes are also called *levivot, fasputshes* and *pontshkes*. Jews in both Israel and the Diaspora, Ashkenazi and Sephardi, share in the eating of this food.

The cheese blintzes represent a Jewish victory over the enemy. Cheese is normally associated with Shavuot, but tradition holds that Chanukah is also a cheese holiday. According to legend, Judith, a beautiful widow, fed cheese to Holofernes, an archenemy of the Jews and a Syrian general. Holofernes ate so much cheese that he became extremely thirsty. To quench his thirst, he drank wine and wound up drunk. After Judith beheaded him, the Jews were assured a victory.

I had no idea goose was a traditional Chanukah food until I read the *Book of Why*. Supposedly, chicken fat and the fat of other fowl was needed to prepare some Chanukah delicacies. It therefore became traditional to serve this fatty fowl on Chanukah to provide its fat. Some of the fat was also used to prepare grivn – fried fat of a fowl served with latkes on Chanukah. For vegetarians like me, apple sauce and cinnamon on latkes tastes just as good – not that I've ever tasted goose fat on my latkes.

And as it is with all meals, dessert is of the utmost importance. If the meal is a dairy one, then chocolate coins are the ideal closure. I'm not sure how far back the custom of playing with the dreidel and gambling with chocolate coins goes. But I do know that it is a great tradition in my family. And the only difference between the dreidel games in Israel and the ones in the Diaspora is the fourth letter on the dreidel. Here it's a "shin," there it's a "pay." We say, "A great miracle happened there." They say, "A great miracle happened here."

Either way, it was a great miracle. Let's celebrate and let's eat.

'Tis the season for final exams

By Justin Korda in Montreal

The most gruelling time of the year for students is now upon us in full force, as the biannual epidemic called "final exams" spreads around the country, forcing students to lock themselves up in their homes or retreat to the packed libraries for cover. Procrastination is another symptom of the exam period, one that I personally associate with very well.

In my last procrastination session, it dawned on me that the final exam period is really a very deep spiritual time saturated with a tremendous amount of religiosity, especially of the Jewish nature.

As we all know, prayer is an intrinsic part of Jewish life. Jews have traditionally prayed three times a day and there are holidays in which additional prayers play a significant part. During exams, the moment I awake in the morning I begin to pray that I have not slept in and missed my exam. In the afternoon I am at it again, praying for all this studying to be over, and at night I pray for a miracle to happen, that despite my lack of studying and abundant procrastination I will still succeed on my exam.

Even those who are adamant about their atheism seem to be talking to someone when they are stumped in the exam room.

During exams, students are divided between those who prepare by memorizing every word of their notes and then regurgitating it all on the exam, and those who feel the need to thoroughly understand all the information so that they can reason through it during their exam. This reminds me of my synagogue. There are those who try to connect with the words in the prayer book and find meaning for their own lives, and then there are those who seem content to listen.

Exams like Jewish holidays

During exam period, the library, which during the rest of the year is a facility in which many students would not be caught dead, becomes one of the coolest hang-outs in town. As thousands of students set up temporary homes in the library for a couple of weeks, much more than studying seems to be going on; it becomes a social scene. This is reminiscent of the synagogue on the High Holy Days. Some people can't wait for the annual Rosh Hashanah fashion show and perfume test-o-thon that takes place in synagogues every year.

Exams are also comparable to some specific Jewish holiday rituals. For instance, on Shavuot we are suppose to stay awake all night studying Torah. This is done because the holiday of Shavuot celebrates the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. However, when Moses descended from the mountain with the tablets of the Law in hand, he was confronted by a people who were clearly not ready to receive the Bible, as they indicated by building the golden calf. Therefore, we stay up all night studying the Torah to demonstrate our sorrow for the sins of our ancestors and our eagerness to accept the commandments. During exam period, we also put in frequent all night study sessions. However, these are usually to demonstrate our sorrow for not attending lectures throughout the semester or for not keeping up with the course readings.

Going back to Rosh Hashanah for a minute, we can all recall the Jewish custom of self-evaluation at that point in the year. This looking inward is usually complemented by a series of resolutions concerning characteristics and qualities that we would like to change in the coming year.

This is similar to the feeling you get at four o'clock in the morning in the middle of an "all-nighter" while cramming for an exam at nine. At this point, you are usually promising yourself that this will be the last time you ever do something so ridiculous. Unfortunately, you always somehow end up repeating this resolution a week later when studying for your next exam.

And finally, when exam period is over, you are comforted by a break as a reward. No matter how bleak your exam period looks from the outset, you can always count on there being a light at the end of the tunnel.

Actually, there are eight lights at the end of the tunnel. The eight lights of Chanukah remind us of many miracles that have taken place in the past. Completing exams while maintaining your sanity is definitely one of these.

A Berlin memorial

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

Some time ago, in this column, I discussed the cancellation of the planned Holocaust Memorial in Berlin. The award-winning design had called for a cement slab the size of a football field, which was to be elevated at an angle and inscribed with the names of the six million who had perished. From the beginning, that memorial ran into controversy, not only because of its size and design, but also because the whole idea of a memorial was a controversial subject in itself. The debate led a number of people to conclude that Germany, despite all its protestations, had not yet come to terms with its past.

However, even Ignatz Bubis, chair of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, said that the original design with its millions of names would not lift the dead from anonymity. There were other Jews who had lost their dear ones and objected that a public memorial with names written on it would violate the right to the privacy of both the dead and their survivors. These objections, along with those concerning the location, the size and the artistic value of the proposal led to the cancellation of the project – a cancellation supported by the chancellor of Germany himself.

It now seems that those who subsequently predicted that this was the end of any kind of visualization of the Holocaust in Germany's most prominent city have been proven wrong. Plans have gone forward for a new competition and in early November, the minister in charge of the new memorial said that a decision on the winning design for the new memorial would be announced shortly. Thus, the basic idea that Germany should have a central place where the Holocaust would be brought to the attention of every German is alive again and Germany's past is once again being examined.

In this respect, American author Daniel Goldhagen's triumphant tour through Germany was, in many ways, a heartening phenomenon. Goldhagen was the one who wrote *Hitler's Willing Executioners*, a book in which he argued that Germany had always been primed for not only the expulsion, but also the physical elimination of Jews, and that Hitler merely executed this not so subliminal desire.

It had been generally assumed that when Goldhagen was invited to Germany there would be great opposition. The contrary occurred. He was hailed everywhere in public – a sign that Germans were now ready to face the past and read it as an aberration to which they would never give in again.

This development was underscored recently in another of Germany's prominent cities. In Leipzig, they will at last erect a new memorial to Felix Mendelssohn, the composer who was the grandson of Moses Mendelssohn, the great philosopher of the preceding era. Hitler had ordered the destruction of a monument to the composer because he was of Jewish ancestry – and in fact his music was banned in the Third Reich. This too has now been rectified, another sign that a permanent reversal of Hitler's racial policies vis-a-vis the Jews remains a significant objective 50 years after his death.

The Kirshner File

Russia's Jewish foreign minister is an Arabist

"I consider this a great success of Russian diplomacy recognized by all," boasted Russia's foreign minister, Yevgeny

By Sheldon Kirshner

Primakov last month, after persuading Saddam Hussein to readmit United Nations weapons inspectors to Iraq.

By convincing Iraq to step away from the brink, Primakov not only scored a personal victory, but defused the latest crisis over Iraq's lack of compliance with United Nations resolutions.

It came as no surprise that Primakov, an Arabist on close terms with the leaders of the Arab world, had stuck out his neck to save Iraq from American military retribution. He had tried to do so before, in the run up to the 1991 Gulf War. As one of Mikhail Gorbachev's foreign policy advisors, and as an architect of the Soviet Union's alliance with Iraq, Primakov had gone to Baghdad on three occasions to try to find a face-saving way for Iraq to pull out its troops from Kuwait and thereby pre-empt a U.S. armed attack. These missions had failed.

Given his record as a Soviet and a Russian diplomat, it may come as a surprise that Primakov is Jewish. Known as Yona Finkelstein before he Russified his name, he was born in October 1929 in Kiev, Ukraine. When he was two years old, his father died. His mother married an Armenian doctor, and he spent his childhood in Tbilisi, Georgia.

In the late 1940s, prior to entering the Institute of Oriental Studies in Moscow, he changed his name. His timing was perfect. Josef Stalin had launched an anti-Semitic campaign, and Primakov wanted to fade into the woodwork. Even so, it remains unclear why he was able to rise in the ranks while many of his fellow assimilated Jews fell victim to anti-Semitism.

Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, Primakov — a member of the ruling Communist party — was a reporter and editor. At one point, he was *Pravda's* Middle East correspondent, based in Cairo.

Primakov Russified his name

During the 1970s and 1980s, he was by turns deputy director of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations and director of the Institute of Oriental Studies. He also held important posts in government as a member of the Communist party's Central Committee, of the Supreme Soviet and, subsequently, of the Politburo, the supreme policy-making body.

In the wake of the Yom Kippur War, when the Soviet Union had no formal relations with Israel, Primakov travelled to Jerusalem in vain attempts to convince two Israeli prime ministers, Yitzhak Rabin and Menachem Begin, to support the reconvening of the Geneva Conference on Middle East peace.

On the eve of his appointment as foreign minister in January 1996, Primakov headed the Foreign Intelligence Service. As foreign minister, he has sought a greater role for Russia — the co-sponsor of the Madrid peace process — in the Middle East. He has strengthened relations with old Soviet allies such as Syria and Iraq and built bridges to Iran and the Palestine Authority.

During a recent tour of the Middle East, Primakov said that Russia would be the first country to recognize a Palestinian state. He blamed Israel for the deadlock in Mideast peace negotiations.

Having served a variety of masters in the Kremlin, Primakov is widely viewed as a political chameleon. Marian Leighton, an American scholar who has studied his career, has observed that he was a centrist under Leonid Brezhnev, a liberal under Gorbachev and a conservative under Yeltsin.

A man for all seasons.

First-time author

At 72, Jacqueline Park, a grandmother, considers herself a first time author. "It feels wonderful," exulted Park, whose novel, *The Secret Book of Grazia dei Rossi*, was published recently in New York by Simon & Schuster.

The Secret Book of Grazia dei Rossi is about an Italian Jewish woman who is suspended between two cultures. Set during the Renaissance, the novel, which unfolds against the backdrop of religious intolerance, war, papal politics and family strife, was inspired by two letters Park found in a library.

As a professor of dramatic writing at New York University's film school, Park was entitled to free courses. Studying art history, she became fascinated with early Renaissance painting. This, in turn, prompted her to learn Italian and to delve into the chronicles of Italian Jewry.

Reading Shlomo Simonsohn's *History of the Jews of Mantua*, Park stumbled across an intriguing footnote suggesting a forbidden romance between Pacienza Pontremoli, a Jew, and her Catholic lover. Piqued by curiosity, Park went to the New York Public Library to investigate. There, on microfilm, she found two defunct Italian-Jewish journals which had printed the correspondence between Pontremoli and Isabella D'Este, the daughter of a Catholic aristocrat.

D'Este urged Pontremoli to give up her foolish attachment to Judaism and convert to Christianity so that she could wed the young man who adored her. Pontremoli, weak and confused, wavered.

"At that point," Park said, "the curtain descends and Pacienza disappears into the mists of history."

As this material simmered in her imagination, Park, who lives in Toronto, Miami Beach and New York City, decided it was the stuff of a grand, sweeping novel. Park, who had written a mystery novel in the 1970s based on one of her television scripts, plunged into the task. She finished the manuscript in 10 years. Two more years elapsed before it was finally edited and ready for publication.

Long before embarking on *The Secret Book of Grazia dei Rossi*, Park, a native of Winnipeg, produced scripts for the National Film Board of Canada and dramas for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. However, she hesitated to attempt an original, fullblown novel. "I didn't have the nerve. It seemed presumptuous of me to tackle that form."

Writing during sabbaticals and vacations, Park learned that the crafting of a novel is a process of self-revelation. "You don't really know what it's all about until you reach the end. A novel has a life of its own."

Remarkably enough, Park's life mirrors this credo. "I never had career plans," she explained. "I went where the wind took me." The daughter of Douglas and Eleanor Rosen, she was an unusually bright student, graduating with an honors BA in economics from the University of Manitoba at the age of 19. Next, she took an MA in economic history at the University of Toronto. "I did it to enlarge my knowledge," said Park, who then was a Marxist.

Leaving Canada in 1960, she immigrated to the United States, where she met her husband, Ben Park, a TV producer with whom she had two daughters. Later, she began teaching at New York University, where she is now a professor emerita.

For Park, *The Secret Book of Grazia dei Rossi*, coupled with her commitment to promote the book and her intention to write two more Renaissance-era novels, comes at a fortuitous juncture. "My husband died last year, and there was a hole in my life. Now I have a good reason to get up in the morning."

The novel has brought her closer to her Jewish roots. "It took me 60 years really to appreciate that heritage," said Park, who founded a Torah study group while composing *The Secret Book of Grazia dei Rossi*.

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Books

By Bernard Baskin

***More Unfinished Business* by W. Gunther Plaut (University of Toronto, $35).**

At the age of 85, Rabbi Gunther Plaut admits that his golf game is slipping and that his prowess in tennis isn't what it used to be. He is comforted, however, "that for those of us who keep mentally active, there is little loss of acuity, if any, and what we might lose we make up by experience."

This memoir, a companion to his first volume of autobiography, unfolds salient events and issues in his life and work over the last two decades. What is refreshing about this book is the author's willingness to discuss controversial and personal problems with unusual openness and candor.

He deplores the unseemly Jewish religious divisiveness in the Toronto community. Cooperation and understanding have given way to "polarization and even demoralization." The right-wing of Orthodoxy, he asserts, no longer supports the rest of the community, though it expects support from it if needed.

Rabbi Plaut believes that the synagogue, as we have known it, is "facing the battle of its life." In large cities especially, the function of the rabbi will undergo radical change. He will end up as an independent operator prepared to serve the special needs of people on request. "Rabbis and cantors can be hired, like caterers and photographers, on a fee-for-service basis. After all, isn't that the way we relate to our doctors and dentists?"

Pessimistically, he visualizes the synagogue of tomorrow as a moribund institution. "Outside personal crises, prayer is no longer part of the average person's daily or weekly life. Its diminution mirrors waning belief in an operative God, whom we no longer revere as the one who, for instance, "heals the sick" (as the prayer book says) or performs other miracles — functions we now expect from human professionals whom we pay."

Among the 20 or so books that the author has written the *Torah Commentary* has been, by far, the most successful. By 1995, several hundred thousand copies have been sold. The time involved in research and writing made it necessary for him to resign his position in the Holy Blossom Temple — "the best job any rabbi could have wished for."

In 1996, Rabbi Plaut's *Haftorah Commentary* was published which deals with the Sabbath readings from the prophets. The material is often difficult and the commentary fills an essential need — especially for bar/bat mitzvah candidates and their families.

The author discloses why and how he wrote his various books, the pleasures and pitfalls of lecturing, his travel experiences in many parts of the world and his reaction in disposing of his cherished library.

There is a delightful chapter about his mother who died just before her 103rd birthday and who was awarded an honorary BA degree by the University of Toronto — the first of its kind ever granted. Other chapters deal with his important work on the Ontario Human Rights Commission and his controversial report dealing with the needs of refugees into Canada.

Once he retired, attending services as a congregant was a new and upsetting experience. "During parts of the service I seem to be on automatic pilot, and I have since found that others in the congregation seem to share my problems...for the first time in my rabbinic life I have learned what I should have known (but never thought about) — that the pew differs vastly from the pulpit."

Rabbi Plaut predicts that during the first half of the 21st century, Judaism will produce the following configuration. "Reform's left-wing will marginalize itself...Reform's right wing will form an alliance with Conservatism's left wing and will become the movement of choice for the largest number of Diaspora Jews. Conservatism's right wing will ally itself with Orthodoxy's vanishing left wing and possibly reinvigorate it thereby."

This book, the summary of a segment of an extraordinary life, inspires the hope that Rabbi Plaut's "business" will continue for many years to come.

Plaut's memoir refreshing

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Roots & Remembrance

By ZE'EV GLICENSTEIN

Putting pioneers into print

Reuven Lexier, a Toronto orthopedic surgeon, recently published a handsome 150-page volume that documents his family's experience in Canada from the moment his great-great-grandparents, Shimon and Chana Lechtzier, settled in Winnipeg with their four sons and two daughters in 1882.

The book is called *From Kamenets-Podolsk to Winnipeg: The History of the Lechtziers, A Pioneering Canadian Family*. Lexier spent about 10 years gathering the 196 photographs, archival documents, newspaper clippings and memorabilia that are reproduced inside. These items lend enormous visual appeal to the work and help give it the flavor of a social history as well as of a family history.

Lexier researched and wrote the text in only two years; in trademark physician's style, he dictated it into a tape recorder for a typist to transcribe. Still, he managed to provide, along with the detailed family charts, a good historical context of the times in which his forebears lived.

He describes the Russian pogroms that propelled family members to Canada; and he elaborates on various aspects of life in Canada – the building of the railway, the whiskey trade, the rise of organized athletics – that affected their lives.

"The very first night that my great-great-grandfather came in 1882, he and his sons were approached to unload rafts of lumber that had been floating down the Winnipeg River, and then they worked for the CPR," Lexier said.

"The CPR gave them special dispensation not to work on Shabbat and Yom Tov.

"They spent the first Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur on the border of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, where they had been laying track for the CPR. They spent $100 to get a sefer Torah and a shofar."

As the author explains, the name Lechtzier comes from two Yiddish words, lecht (candle) and tzier (puller); the name denotes a "candlemaker."

One relative, Rhoda Lechtzier, was the first Jewish girl born in Western Canada to survive beyond infancy. After four other babies in the community died from malnutrition and exposure, Shimon Lechtzier established B'nai Israel, the first Jewish cemetery in the Winnipeg area, in 1882.

Other notable relatives include Sid Halter, who was the first commissioner of the Canadian Football League; George Druxman, who played for the Winnipeg Bluebombers for 10 years and helped the team win five Grey Cups; Sam Lexier, the first Jew to attain the post of worshipful master of a Masonic Lodge (in Regina in the 1930s); and brothers Sam and Saul Lexier, who introduced modern recreational bowling to Canada (in Vancouver in 1927).

Lexier says he took on the project in order to demonstrate the unity of a family that has become increasingly far-flung. Contemporary branches may be found in Ontario and every western province, half a dozen American states and London, England.

"The relatives in Florida, Winnipeg and Yorktown, they don't know each other," he said. "I wanted to unify everybody." He is happy to report that publication of the book has sparked plans for a family reunion, due to take place in Winnipeg next summer.

Lexier's first advice for family historians intent on publishing their research? "One of the main things you should do before undertaking a project like this is to approach your relatives and ask for financial assistance," he said. "I'm not joking. It can be quite costly."

[Cont'd. on page 13]

Jewish Life

My Chanukah sites

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Chanukah is almost upon us. Time once again for another instalment of my Top Eight List of reasons to travel the Jewish Highway this Festival of Lights:

Reason No. 1 – The Traditions

Start at Virtual Jerusalem's Chanukah mega-site **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/chanukah/]**. There is no single better site to read up on the traditions and all aspects of the holiday. Rabbi Shlomo Riskin presents his observations about the holiday and its customs at **[http://virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/chanukah/riskin.htm]** and Rabbi Michael Strassfeld suggests some Chanukah meditations at **[http://www.jcn18.com/holiday/hanukkah/strakav.htm]**.

Sometimes traditions change, not always for the better. Rabbi Cherie Koller-Fox remembers a time when her children would look forward to all the Chanukah traditions. But as the years wore on, her kids became more preoccupied with Chanukah presents than with the rest of the holiday. In Celebrating Chanukah Meaning-fully: Creating Family Memories that Last, she has a few suggestions for making the holiday a family time once again. **[http://jewishfamily.com/scripts/newjfl/paper/article.asp?articleid=576]**.

You can discuss your own observances at **[http://jewishfamily.com/scripts/newjfl/forum/forum.asp?ForumID=52&TopicID=2]**.

Reason No. 2 – The Gelt

Nowadays, the concept of Chanukah "gelt" might mean shopping for the latest cartoon action figure or hottest video game. If you want to be a bit more literal about giving gelt, consider a gift that says something about our heritage. The Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation **[http://www.coins.co.il/]** offers a wide assortment of medallions that tell the story of Israel and the Jewish world.

Since we're talking about collecting, philatelists may want to take a look at the first American stamp to recognize a Jewish holiday, the Chanukah stamp **[http://www.holidays.net/chanukah/stamp.htm]**. Jointly issued with Israel, both countries' stamps feature the same design of a colorful menorah. The American stamp has lettering in English and the Israeli stamp in Hebrew.

Reason No. 3 – The Food

Sure you can get your fill of recipes for latkes **[http://www.jcn18.com/holiday/hanukkah/recipe.htm]** and soufganiot (jam-filled donuts) **[http://www.eskimo.com/~jefffree/recipes/sufgan1.htm]** on the Internet.

But isn't this the year to try something different. Naomi Arbit's Chicken Marengo uses chicken, paprika, olives, mushrooms and of course, olive oil **[http://www.jewishfamily.com/food-miracle.htm]**. You can find mother-watering Frittelli di Chanukah (Chanukah fritters) at **[http://godzilla.eecs.berkeley.edu/recipes/ethnic/italian/chanuka-fritters1.html]**.

There's the wonderful eGGsalad site where you'll find both history and recipes for sweet potato latkes, crepes, roesti potato pancakes and pommes duchesse **[http://www.foodwine.com/food/egg/egg1296/eggsalad.html]**. Chanukah nut cake with honey syrup is a special holiday cake from Turkish Jewish tradition **[http://www.foodstop.com/recipes/nutcake.html]**. And for chocolate Chanukah stars, see **[http://www.ajlc.waterloo.on.ca/Recipes/Chanukah.html]**.

Now, I'm not quite sure about the connection between this concoction and the holiday. But you can brew your own Chanukah ale and decide for yourself **[http://www.columbia.edu/~peller/ale.html]**.

Reason No. 4 – The Links

OK, there's no such thing as traditional "Chanukah links." Except if you're still looking for more information on the Internet. Try out Ohr Somayach at **[http://www.ohr.org.il/special/chanukah/index.htm]** which links to many sites including a page giving eight reasons why Chanukah is celebrated for eight days. The Jewish Communications Network lists several Chanukah sites including four holiday chassidic stories at **[http://www.jcn18.com/holiday/hanukkah/]**. Also well-worth a look are NerdWorld **[http://www.nerdworld.com/cgi-bin/vdata.cgi?5342]** and Link L'cha Chanukah **[http://www.bethelsudbury.org/linklcha/chanukah.htm]**.

Next week, the rest of my Top Eight Chanukah List.

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at mdm@inforamp.net.

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[Cont'd. from page 12]

Lexier hired a professional editor-designer and paid more than $18,000 in total to produce 500 copies of the book; nearly one-third of that sum was spent on acquiring photographs, archival documents and reproduction rights.

He is attempting to recoup his investment by selling copies of the book for $39.95 apiece. To order one, write to Lexier Editions, 474 College St., Suite 406, Toronto, Ontario M6G 1A4. Phone 416-972-0206

* * *

One of the best guides I've seen on the subject of genealogical publishing is Patricia Law Hatcher's Producing a Quality Family History (Ancestry, Inc., Salt Lake City, 1996). As a style guide for genealogical publishing, it is a sensible arbiter of such essential questions as the format of dates, genealogical numbering systems and the need for uniform spellings of names that were variously rendered in centuries past.

Hatcher also deals with many technical matters such as page layout, choosing type and fonts, documenting your research, generating an index, and the use and captioning of illustrations, charts and photographs. For family tree researchers who want to self-publish, this book could prove invaluable.

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

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DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Friday, Dec. 19, is deadline for Jan. 8 issue and Monday, Jan. 5, is deadline for Jan. 15 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829.

Saturday, Dec. 20

CONSERVATIVE MINYAN

General Wingate Branch, Royal Canadian Legion, Federation of Jewish Brotherhoods Conservative Sabbath services, 10 a.m. to noon, kiddush following, Sunnybrook Synagogue. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Sunday, Dec. 21

WEST TORONTO PARTY

West Toronto Jewish Community Association Chanukah party, 1-3 p.m., Swansea Community Centre, 15 Waller Ave. Refreshments and entertainment. 236-2054.

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

Aish HaTorah's Chanukah party for people in their 20s. Latkes, other refreshments, dance to live jazz and klezmer music, 8 p.m. $10 **Marni** 905-764-1818, ext. 225.

Tuesday, Dec. 23

DR. FILDERMAN LODGE

B'nai Brith Dr. Filderman Lodge (Romanian speaking) celebrates Chanukah with lighting of the first candle, music, dance, door prizes, Chanukah refreshments including latkes, 7 p.m., B'nai Brith Building, 15 Hove St. $15. 631-0634.

SISTERHOOD LUNCHEON

Shaarei Shomayim Sisterhood Chanukah luncheon with musical entertainment by **Cheryl Saperia** 12:30 p.m. **Ruth Fruitman** 905-731-6660.

ADULT EDUCATION

Rabbi Moshe Stern lectures on What are the Practical Implications of the Concept of "Tumah" and Kohayn?, 8 p.m., Shaarei Tefillah Congregation.

WE DON'T HAVE A TREE

Mommy, Why Don't We Have a Tree?, Jewish Views on Christmas and Christianity, with **Rabbi Eliezer Breitowitz**, Ohr Somayach senior lecturer, 8 p.m., Jews for Judaism Centre, 800 Steeles Ave W. $5. 789-2851.

Wednesday, Dec. 24

JEWISH SINGLES

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning invites Jewish singles, ages 28ish to 48ish to Light Your Fire: Heat lahavut: Hot Jewish Celebration, featuring Jewish learning, hors d'oeuvres, desserts (COR kosher), cash wine bar, klezmer music, Leah Posluns Theatre foyer. $18 in advance, $22 at door. 905-764-1329.

CAFE NIGHTS TOUR

Ohr Somayach presents Cafe Nights Tour featuring singer/songwriter/recording artist **Dana Mase**, 8 p.m., Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. W. Women only. $15 in advance, $18 at door (if available). 905-886-5730.

Thursday, Dec. 25

COUNTER-MISSIONARY

All-day Counter-Missionary Survival Seminar, Jews for Judaism Centre, 800 Steeles Ave. W. Lecturers **Rabbi Michael Skobac** and **Julius Ciss**, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. $36 includes catered lunch and materials. Register 789-2851.

FAMILY CHANUKAH EVENT

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Chanukah event for the entire family, light lunch, candlelighting, movies, games, music, entertainment with **Ben Stein** and **Isabel Fryszberg** noon to 5 p.m. Adults $5, children $3. Tickets must be purchased in advance at synagogue office.

And What Else Is New

TRIBUTE DINNER

Canadian Yiddish writer **Chava Rosenfarb** will be honored by the American Association of Professors of Yiddish at a tribute dinner Sunday, Dec. 28, 7 p.m. at Bloor Jewish Community Centre. Full course dinner (vegetarian option) followed by program of Yiddish songs by

[Cont'd. on page 15]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 14]

Toronto Jewish Folk Choir and readings by honoree Rosenfarb, **Simcha Simchovitch** and **Goldie Morgantaler**. Reserve. **Adam Fuerstenberg** 221-2088 or **Eda Zimmler** 781-8331. Co-sponsors are Committee for Yiddish, Workmen's Circle and Bloor JCC.

HEBREW CLASSES

Canadian Zionist Federation winter session 1998 Hebrew classes with instructor **Chana Sargon** begin the week of Jan. 5 (evenings) for Beginners, Beginners I and II, Intermediate and Advanced "Chug Ivrit" (Day School graduates welcome). Classes at 3995 Bathurst St. #300. Register now. 633-3988.

FOR ISRAELI SINGLES

Israeli Association of Greater Toronto Chanukah party for Israeli singles, ages 20 plus, Saturday, Dec. 27, 9 p.m., The Promenade. **Michelle** 905-886-6898 or **Danielle** 905-0924.

MENORAH LIGHTING

At Mel Lastman Square, upper level, daily Dec. 24-31: Wednesday, Dec. 24 and Thursday, Dec. 25 at 3 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 26 at 2 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 27 at 7 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 28-Wednesday, Dec. 31 at 3 p.m. Latke party Tuesday, Dec. 23 at 6 p.m. Presented by Jewish Russian Community Centre of Greater Toronto 222-7105, ext. 21.

YIDDISH CLASSES

Yiddish conversation courses, all levels, start in January. Locations in Toronto and Thornhill. Call Yiddish Hotline at UJA Federation 635-2883, ext. 700.

CHANUKAH WEEKEND

Jewish Youth Learning Centre (JYLC) Shabbaton Chanukah weekend retreat for young adults ages 18-35 at Maple Lake Resort in Parry Sound Dec. 26-28. Accommodations, Shabbat experience, kosher meals under COR, entertainment, skiing, lots of fun. Students $100, non-students $130. Reserve. **Rabbi Danny Bahar** 633-5722.

The JYLC's December Coffee House, ages 20-35, Saturday, Dec. 27, Maple Lake Resort, entertainment and a kumsitz around a centre fire place. Reserve. Rabbi Bahar.

TEL-AIDE

Tel-Aide: The Jewish Distress Line is a telephone listening service. If you are lonely, depressed, confused, or just need a friendly ear, Tel-Aide volunteers are available to listen. 636-9610.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family & Child Service groups, **Pat Lieberman** 638-7800, ext. 215.

Children of Survivors – discuss how being a child of survivors has impacted on your life. How does it impact on your relationships? Begins Feb. 3.

Self Confident Woman, begins Jan. 12.

Step-parenting: Coping with His, Hers and Mine, begins Jan. 26.

Parenting Teens: Who is this Stranger in My House? – realistic expectations, independence, responsibilities, peer influences, begins Feb. 2.

JIS IS ON CALL

Jewish Information Service is available to help you find the program or services you need; also accommodation needs, recreation. We can register your organization's event in the Community Calendar, or refer you to a social service agency. 635-5600.

Also, JIS is looking for additional information and referral volunteers. 635-5600 or 635-2883, ext. 221.

YIDDISH IN ENGLISH

Learn about Yiddish in English. Two new courses, Yiddish Literature in Translation, lecturer **Ellie Moidel** and History of the Yiddish Language, lecturer **Richard Bassett**. Yiddish Hotline at UJA Federation 635-2883, ext. 155.

SHOW SENIORS YOU CARE

Volunteer at Senior Care. Provide links to the community for home bound seniors – deliver kosher meals on wheels, visit an isolated senior, provide escort or transportation, assist someone with special needs, or monitor vulnerable through telephone support. **Arnold Foss** 635-2900, ext. 413.

PARENTS, PRESCHOOLERS

Parent and Preschool program of North York Board of Education winter session begins the week of Jan 5. and ends the week of March 9. Informal discussions, puzzles, toys, arts and crafts, physical activities, music circles. Registration/information, 395-5042.

FOR SENIORS

Wagman Centre Bereavement Group for older adults who have recently lost a spouse. Group meets every other Friday at the Wagman Centre. **Paula David** 785-2500, ext. 2271.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Tuesday, Dec. 23, come and offer a story, recitation, anecdote. Thursday, Dec. 25, no program. Saturday, Dec. 27, Chanukah party 7:30 p.m. music, dancing, wine, members $8, non-members $10. Tuesday, Dec. 30, buffet lunch 1 p.m., Jerusalem Restaurant, Finch and Leslie., members $6, guests $13. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Dec. 18, Retirement Seminar, video, light lunch; Dec. 31, New Year's dinner, dance, 7p.m.; activities – table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork, trips, bingo. Membership $12. 395-7881.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning, vacations, cruises, theatre. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Young at Heart Seniors one-month stay in Florida at Saxony Hotel on the ocean, $2,661 Canadian including shuttle, hotel, air fare. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

The 1992 movie, *Used People*, with **Jessica Tandy, Shirley MacLaine** and **Marcello Mastroianni** will be shown Monday, Dec. 22, 1-3 p.m. This is the story of a grieving Jewish widow socializing for the first time since her husband passed away.

Israeli Club Etrog meets 7 p.m. Tuesdays for movies, lectures, singalongs, dances, bingo. Dec. 23 is a Chanukah party. **Anna**.

Movie *South Pacific* Sunday, Dec. 21, 2:15 p.m.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band Sunday, Dec. 21, 7:30 p.m.

MEETING WITH NETANYAHU

Canada-Israel Committee (CIC) national chair Brian Morris (right) and CIC national executive director Robert Ritter meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Israel.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Registration is being taken for winter session of BJC courses for Senior Adults: Ballroom Dancing, Mondays 9:30-11 a.m. (partner not necessary); Line Dancing Fridays 1-2:30 p.m. (10 week sessions) **Yvonne** ext. 259.

BLOOR JCC

Bloor Jewish Community Centre, 750 Spadina Ave. 924-6211.

Israeli folkdancing with **Yossi Strauch**, Mondays, beginners 8:15-9 p.m., intermediate, level 1, 9-10 p.m. Yossi 661-6361.

Bloor JCC Seniors Club Chanukah party with international music by **Lenka Lichtenberg**, plus treats, Thursday, Dec. 18, 1:30 p.m. members $3, non-members $6. To reserve, call **Judy.**

CHAI SHALOM DONATION

The executive of Chai Shalom of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue present a $1,000 check to the Association for the Soldiers of Israel. Leon Frisch is president; Ed Charney, treasurer; Eli Kleiner, vice-president; Ben Wasserman, secretary; Mildred Persofsky, Leon Kane, executive members.

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Judy Cohen shows a sterling silver box and a leather-bound prayer book that were buried for safekeeping by her father in Hungary before the Holocaust and retrieved by her brother after the war. They are now part of the exhibit at Baycrest.

Holocaust exhibit at Baycrest

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Photos and memorabilia are on display at a Holocaust exhibit in the Kanner Heritage Museum located on the main floor atrium of Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care.

The exhibit titled, A Tribute to Courage: Stories of Survival, celebrates the stories of survivors' lives before, during and after the Holocaust. Contributions are from Baycrest clients and people in the community.

Almost half the residents at Baycrest are survivors. The Holocaust exhibit, open to the public until March 15, is a tribute to their will to survive.

"This is the first time an exhibit of this type has been offered at Baycrest," says Pat Dickinson, museum coordinator. "We believe it's the first Holocaust display of this scope to be offered in this kind of Jewish facility, where so many survivors live."

Dickinson says that the exhibit gives visitors, particularly school children, a chance to talk to survivors. "There are lessons to be learned about tolerance, and that what happened has meaning today." She adds that it is a direct link to living history.

An interpretive program with guided tours and an opportunity to speak to elderly survivors who are now Baycrest residents, is available to community and school groups.

The exhibit includes panels of personal accounts from survivors living at Baycrest, videotaped interviews with Baycrest Terrace residents and footage from the annual Yom Hashoah memorial service.

Sculptures, textiles and paintings are from artists including Ernest Raab, Rochelle Rubenstein, Linda Goldman and Toan Klein, whose glass sculpture *Listen to the Flame* honors 19 members of his family who were killed in the Holocaust.

Judy Cohen, a Holocaust survivor and one of the exhibit's organizers, has lent the exhibit all that remains of her life in Debrecen, Hungary before the war — a sterling silver box, an intricately beaded matzah cover, and a leather-bound prayer book.

"When we were about to be deported to the camp," explains Cohen, "my father put these things in a heavy iron box and buried them in the yard of his scrap iron business. After the war, my brother went back to find them. They are very precious to us."

Sculptures

Cohen's parents, Margit and Sandor Weissenberg were murdered in Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1944. Two sisters died of starvation in the Stutthof concentration camp and two brothers died in the Ukraine as slave laborers. Only Cohen, a brother and a sister survived.

Cohen, who is one of the tour guides, says that the exhibit has a positive side from which people can learn and draw inspiration. "People will see that before the Holocaust we came from thriving communities that enriched the nations in which we lived. That was all destroyed, but out of the ashes we built new lives for ourselves."

Funding for the exhibit has been provided in part by the Landsman Family Foundation and the Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

Exhibit hours are Sunday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. School groups can book tours by calling Mara Swartz, 785-2500, ext. 2275. Community groups can call Pat Dickinson, 785-2500, ext 2802.

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Greater Toronto Area

Holocaust-themed contest gears up for second year

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — One Holocaust survivor and two children of survivors took it on themselves last year to form an independent non-profit organization and launch an ambitious Holocaust-themed project aimed at high school students.

Motivated by a desire to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive, Jon Kulas Geist and Malka Rosenbaum, both fortysomething children of survivors, joined forces with Eli Pfefferkorn, a Holocaust survivor in his mid-60s, to run a literary/art contest, The Yad B'Yad Expressions of the Holocaust Awards program, for students at Jewish schools across Canada.

This year's contest, for which submissions are due in April, has been expanded to include selected local public high schools that include Holocaust studies as part of the curriculum.

"I think it's important that we reach the [non-Jewish] future leadership of Canada. I hope we can show that Hitler's design was to undermine Western civilization. The Jews were just on the forefront of the annihilation," said Pfefferkorn.

There are three monetary prizes, funded by a Yad B'Yad member, in each of three categories: poetry, art and historical essays.

The core group of three has grown to a committee of about a dozen people of diverse backgrounds, including high school students who will be speaking to other students as part of the program.

In the past year Yad B'Yad has obtained charitable status and funded a play, *Virtual Reality*, in which six museum sculptures of child Holocaust victims come to life after hours. The script was written by Pfefferkorn – who before moving here in the early 1990s, worked on the Holocaust Memorial Council in Washington – and was performed at Holy Blossom Temple.

Future Yad B'Yad plans include a travelling exhibit and possible publication of winning entries.

The committee was "astounded" at the quality and sensitivity of last year's submissions, said Pfefferkorn, a native of Germany who teaches Jewish History at the Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto. (He did not judge local entries.)

"I didn't expect such an emotional and intellectual involvement," he said.

Last year's first prize winner in the art works category, *Zachor* by 15-year-old Zena Pearl of Nepean, took Pfefferkorn's breath away, he said. He was amazed that "a young kid could hold in a frame an entire moment of existence."

"I was curious to know what kids thought about when they thought about the Holocaust," said Kulas Geist, a Canadian-born real estate developer and the father of three young children. Going through the winning entries, "all of a sudden we came to the realization of why we were doing this. We were really emotionally taken."

Rosenbaum, a mother of three and a former high school history teacher, wanted to do more than "just leave [students] with information. We're interested in their response, their thoughts."

Although she has been active in the community in the past, Rosenbaum has avoided Holocaust-related projects because she found them "sort of painful."

An only child who was born in Poland and lived there for her first month, Rosenbaum enjoys Yad B'Yad because it "brings out something new and hope for the future."

Kulas Geist's interest in the project can be attributed in part to the deaths of his parents four years ago and to business travel in Europe, both of which heightened his Jewish identity.

"When you realize the life [survivors] went through and the comfortable life we had, you feel there's something you should do to give something back," he said.

For further information about Yad B'Yad, call 905-940-8345.

The following poem won first prize for poetry in last year's Yad B'Yad competition.

The Waters of Life

A rough day in the dirt
sun glinting off our
sweat covered faces
the dusty game of touch football
ends in a tie.

I trudge home
lazily dragging my
clay covered feet
who have never known
the dance of the brick maker.

The sweet air of the
softly humming air conditioner
greets me. My skin cools
but the stickiness has not yet left.

And now for the sacred ritual
after my long journey
the opportunity to change
this suit of skin
for a more comfortable one.

A shower

The light pitter patter
coming from upstairs
indicates the use of the
shower in the main bathroom.
My last option is the one downstairs.

A queasy uneasiness
slowly slithers up my stomach
but my filth covered skin
gets the best of me
and I open the basement door.

The darkness glares in my face
and the silence is deafening
but I force myself to continue
I am not pushed
by the butt of a Nazi gun
but by own challenge from within.

I must defy these illogical fears
their source has long ago ended
never to be repeated.
I am safe
yet I shiver from an unknown draft.

I undress hurriedly
and wrap a towel around me
embarrassed by my own
glaring eyes from the mirror.

My pace slows as I enter
the four square brown walls
I shut the door.

The shower feels crowded
and I gasp for breath
even though I am alone.

I turn the handle
and breathe in the lushness smell
of the air
as the water of life
washes over my body.

by Aviva Leber

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TALKS WITH HARNICK

Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick (centre) held talks recently with Moshe Ronen (left) chair of the Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress, and Joey Steiner, president of UJA Federation.

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Jews for Judaism

Variety of kosher restaurants offers community real choice

The kosher scene in Toronto is exciting, partly because new kosher establishments are always opening up and appear to be staying.

This is the final article in our current series on what's new in kashrut in the Greater Toronto Area.

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — I remember the day perfectly.

A recent bride, I was hurrying home, trying to decide what to make for dinner. Then I saw it: Marky's, a tiny restaurant on Bathurst Street, just north of Wilson, had gotten its hechsher.

KASHRUT FRONT

I rushed home, grabbed my equally excited husband, and dashed out for a kosher dinner.

My children howl with laughter when I tell that story, but the fact is, there were so few kosher restaurants at that time that it was a very big deal indeed.

Marky's is still around some 20 years later, now with two locations, one on Wilson, where it moved not too long after its Bathurst Street days, and one in the burgeoning Thornhill community. While it concentrates on deli, its current menu includes salads, grilled poultry, meats and veggies, and some great new desserts.

Fortunately for the kosher consumer, that one restaurant has been joined by over two dozen more, offering Torontonians a selection of kosher eateries that is the envy of many other communities.

Also fortunately, kosher establishments have progressed beyond the attitude that "people will accept whatever we serve because it's kosher," as well as the notion that modern trends in gourmet eating are somehow suspect.

The latest to open is 5th Avenue Eatery, in the Toby and Henry Battle Developmental Centre on Clark Avenue in Thornhill. Victor Alloul, formerly of Vic and Samy's, and head chef Allan Brearley have opened a bright, airy facility that holds 100 people comfortably and offers a limited but decidedly appealing menu.

Breakfasts, which include omelettes, waffles, bagels and cereals, are milchig, while lunch and dinner offer pareve or fleishig selections.

Both lunch and dinner menus include soups made by Brearley, with such intriguing varieties as tomato peanut, lentil rosemary and potato onion; salads and sandwiches; and two entrees, which change every day according to the season, what is fresh in the markets and, one suspects, the operators' imaginations.

Lunches have featured salmon in a phyllo pastry with saffron rice and broccoli, roast turkey with "smashed" potatoes, hamburgers, vegetarian cabbage rolls and oriental beef, while one recent dinner was "maple soaked quarter chicken in a maple, juniper sauce."

One of their specialties is the "muffallata" – pesto and sundried tomato pesto, and grilled red and yellow peppers, eggplant and zucchini on rosemary or tomato focaccia bread.

Desserts for the moment are bakery-bought, but they plan after January to hire a part-time pastry chef.

A patio will be used for outdoor dining in warm weather, complete with patio tables and umbrellas, and a sukkah will be built there on Sukkot.

The restaurant can accommodate parties on-site or can serve as a caterer, and it has a special Chanukah menu. They are planning to kasher the facility for Pesach, and offer a Pesach take-out menu.

Another innovation on the kashrut scene is Ammmazing Donuts, at Bathurst and Wilson. Customers can indulge their passion for cake or yeast donuts with various toppings, including brightly colored sprinkles, chocolate, vanilla, nuts and icing sugar. There are also muffins, soup, gourmet coffee and a few sandwiches.

Gourmet dining not sacrificed

Milk n' Honey is not a new restaurant; in fact, it has been around for 14 years. However, owner Moshe Zombek, after redecorating with Mediterranean murals and country tablecloths, is redoing his menu to emphasize fresh produce, daily and weekly specials, salads and fresh herbs.

Chef Sunil Kant is proud of his antipasto selection, which includes artichoke hearts with mushrooms in a mango dressing; pesto'pasta with feta cheese; braised cabbage with raisins and apples; and shells with smoked salmon and large diced onions in an olive oil and dill dressing. All pastas are organic.

Pasta in green-and-red-pepper sauce, honey mustard salmon, and pizza with grilled vegetables are some of the new offerings.

Zombek promises that old favorites like blintzes and cheesecake will remain on the menu.

Two new pizza places have also opened, Dairy King, next to Ammmazing Donuts, and Yehuda'les, on Bathurst near Chabad Gate in Thornhill.

Besides pizza, Dairy King has a wide selection, including falafel, calzone, egg rolls, vegetarian selections, lasagna, and its specialty, stuffed Moroccan pizza, which is a covered pizza in a special dough, stuffed with sauteed mushrooms, eggplant and other vegetables, and topped with sesame seeds.

Yehuda'les sticks to pizza and falafel, but offers a daily special, which might, for example, top pizzas with zucchini, eggplant or broccoli.

Dairy King and Yehuda'les join many other pizza stores, including Mati's, who adds to his falafel a deep-fried potato chip that is worth the cholesterol; My Zaidy's; Pizza Tova; King David's, which recently opened a new branch in the Sunnybrook Plaza; Tov-Li; and Brooklyn Pizza. All have added extra veggie toppings to their pizzas.

Middle eastern cuisine is featured at Taste of Tikvah and Vic and Samy's, both in Thornhill. Both go beyond hummus to grilled shwarma and shashlik, steaks, chicken and burgers. Vic and Samy's features an add-your-own toppings bar.

Chicken Nest, at Lawrence and Bathurst, and its sister-restaurant Recess, in Thornhill, feature chicken, but also offer ribs, stir-fry, salads and a wide dessert selection.

An interesting development is a selection of four restaurants owned and operated by the same person. Cafe Sheli and Dairy Treats serve a wide selection of dairy entrees, soups, salads and pastries, while Miami Grill is a meat restaurant, combining Chinese, North American and Israeli selections. It is also the only Toronto kosher restaurant that has joined the trend in the general community to have mashed potatoes on the everyday menu. Oasis, at 2 Canadian Place, is a beacon of kosher food in the downtown business area. Selections are generally light, luncheon-type food, and are milchig or pareve.

For a romantic, impression-making or special meal, King Solomon's Table, at Sheppard and Chesswood, offers not only elegant, continental cuisine, but an extensive Chinese buffet.

Another gourmet restaurant, one that has become somewhat of a meeting place, is Spheres, in a strip mall on Centre Street between Bathurst and Dufferin. Although it offers mainly salads, pastas and sandwiches, it is best known for Belgian waffles and gourmet desserts and coffees.

The two branches of Isaac's Bakery have small restaurants attached, offering light dairy meals or the chance to have coffee with one of their own pastries.

Several Second Cup branches now offer kosher baked goods and also serve as places to socialize rather than just to eat.

Kosher food is also available at the Bloor JCC and the Bathurst Jewish Centre, the Baycrest Centre and, if you get there at the right time, Mt. Sinai Hospital.

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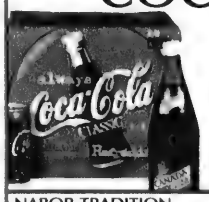

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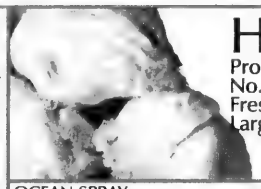

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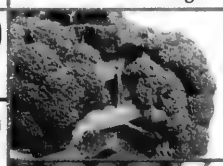

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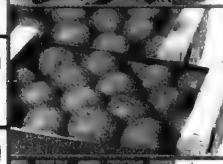

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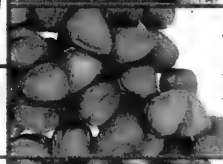

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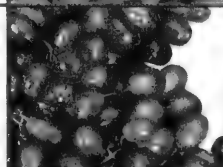

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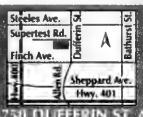
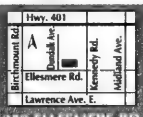
Sun. December 14, 1997 until Sat. December 20, 1997
We reserve the right to limit quantities.



4750 DUFFERIN ST. AT SUPERTEST RD. (SOUTH OF STEELES AVE.)



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Greater Toronto Area

Personals

Kolel: A Centre for Liberal Jewish Learning

Invites Jewish singles ages 28ish to 48ish to "Light Your Fire". Join us for an evening of liberal Jewish learning, gourmet Kosher hors d'oeuvres (COR) and live Klezmer music. Wed., Dec. 24th, Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst St. $18 in adv., $22 at door. Call **905-764-1329** for tickets & info.

The membership of the Stashover Society, Ladies Auxiliary and Hilfsferein

mourn the passing of our devoted member

LEO BERGER ז"ל

Our condolences go to the entire Berger family.

The Staff of
The Canadian Jewish News
extends sincerest condolences
to our colleague and friend

Alma Delory
and her family

on the loss of her mother

Concepcion Montero

Contemporary Singles Network International

(416) 410-6010

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SINGLES OF ALL AGES ARE INVITED TO A

GREAT LOCATION

CASH PRIZES — CASH PRIZES

HOLIDAY SEASON SINGLES DANCE

THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20th

HOWARD JOHNSON AIRPORT HOTEL

600 DIXON ROAD

(At Martingrove Rd. & Hwys. 401/27/427)

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SPOT PRIZES
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CASH DRAW
DRESS CODE
BIG DANCE FLOOR

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Non-Denominational
FREE PARKING
8:30 PM
$10.

COME EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT & LONG LINEUPS
ELEGANT BALLROOM
TOP D.J.
GREAT MUSIC

Next Party: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27th - 8:30 PM
HOLIDAY SEASON DANCE - DELTA HOTEL TORONTO AIRPORT

Ohr Somayach Presents:

Café NIGHTSTOUR

featuring singer/songwriter/recording artist

Dana Mase

performing songs from her critically acclaimed CDs, as well as personal favourites & stories about life, childhood, family and the overwhelming importance of love & faith

Wednesday, December 24, 8:00 p.m.

Ohr Somayach Thornhill 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill

Café Nights is a women only program!

TICKETS

$15.00 in advance • $18.00 at the door

entrance fee includes concert & light café fare

"I was struck by Dana's voice, her gentle vibe filled with optimism, it was infectious" **The Village Voice**

"The rebirth of 'soul music'... songs about spiritual journey & fulfilment, provides an alternative to secular music's overwhelming negativity." **The Jewish Week**

"Hoping to bridge the gap between the Jewish and secular worlds ... Dana's songs denote intimate change, faith, struggle and personal experiences." **The Jewish Voice**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: Ohr Somayach Thornhill

VISA orders & information: (905) 886-5730 or Somayach@MSN.con

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SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feature of *The Canadian Jewish News*

Deadline is Wednesday, 4:00 p.m., 8 days preceding issue date.
NOTE: See the classified section of this issue for early deadlines for December & January.

For rates or to place an ad, please call TANYA at (416) 391-1836

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they may have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

****TIMEOUT!**** Co-ed Volleyball. Great fun & fitness. Space is limited. Don't miss out! **Call now! (416) 255-2230**

BERLIN NIGHT CLUB
FREE Gift Offer! **Be one of the first 400 guests at our Wednesday, December 24th Chanukah Bash at the newly renovated Berlin Night Club (2335 Yonge St., 1 1/2 blocks north of Eglinton, on the East side of Yonge) & receive a FREE Yuk Yuk's comedy club "admit one" pass. (Valued at $12.) Doors open at 7 pm, cover charge $15. For more info. Call 416-222-7111.**

Check out Jewish Singles Events on the web, www.total.net/~isreg

Darren Mark & Ari invite you to.. The Matzo Ball. Wed. Dec 24, 9:00pm, **Whiskey Saigon**, 250 Richmond Street West (at Duncan). Door prizes, Pool Tables, 3 Floors of Fun. Great D.J. Dance Music, Win a $1,000.00 stereo system. Tickets $12.00 advance, $15.00 at Door. TicketMaster 416-870-8000 or DM&A Hotline 416-733-1419. **You're never too old to dance & party - come with your friends!**

Darren Mark & Ari invite you to.. New Year's Eve. Wed. Dec. 31, 1997 9:00pm. **Atlas Bar & Grill and The Satellite Lounge.** Carte Blanche Access to Both. 129 Peter St. (at Richmond). Featuring complimentary... hors d'oeuvres - all night long DM&A cocktails, party favours, Champagne toast at midnight, fully tented heated patio, 2 dance floors! Attendance strictly limited - plenty of room to dance and move. Dress to impress! Semi formal. Tickets $40.00 - advance, $60.00 - at door.
TicketMaster 416-870-8000
DM&A Hotline 416-733-1419
Atlas Bar & Grill 416-977-7544.

Heaven On Earth presents the 3rd Annual **Bagel Bash** on Wed., Dec. 24. (DJ Ramy), at **Fluid Lounge** (217 Richmond St. W.) Limited number of tickets in adv. $10. or $12. at door. 373-8322.

Jewish Singles Registry. Over 1515 registered. Averaging an engagement every 4 wks. **483-4151.**

Jewish Singles Week at **Club Med, Cancun**. Jan. 11-18, 1998. Over 30 Jewish singles from Toronto & 100 from USA. Few spaces still avail. Call the JSR at 416-483-4151.

Large Singles Chanukah Party at Collage Night Club (7880 Keele St. at Highway 7) Fri., Dec. 19 at 8:00pm. $7 at door. Prof. DJ, open cash bar. Call 905-761-0586.

Marika's 45+ Singles Coffee Night. Saturday, December 27 at 8:00pm. Call 905-731-2914.

The Beth Tzedec Young Members, ages 25-40, invite singles to join them to celebrate the Third Light of Hanukah on Thursday, Dec. 25 at 8:00pm at the **Comedywood Club**, Bathurst & Steeles, Northwest corner. Live entertainment, $10 in advance, $15 at door. To reserve, call Marlene at 416-781-3514 ext 46.

Apology sought for offensive sermon

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Rev. Paul Melnichuk of Prayer Palace, Toronto, has been asked to apologize on TV, as he already has in a letter, for a sermon termed offensive to the Jewish people.

His Sunday sermon on ONtv (Channel 11) Oct. 26 referred to Judas as a "tight-fisted money changer" and said Jews objected to gentiles being granted salvation.

Though both ONtv and Tom Melnichuk, producer of the program and son of the pastor, have apologized, the Ontario region of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), which initiated the complaint, has asked that the apology also be made on TV.

This is consistent with CJC policy that apologies for offensive material should be repeated in the same medium in which they occurred, said Ellen Cole, the region's community relations chair.

Her complaint said Pastor Melnichuk had incorrectly interpreted scripture in a story based on the Parable of the Inn and that the minister went on to say, "You can just see Judas pulling out his bag of money, peeling off the bills, looking to strike a bargain. Judas was always a cheapskate."

Cole commended ONtv for its quick action in obtaining an apology from Prayer Palace and for promising Congress that it would screen the weekly Sunday programs the previous Friday afternoon to guard against offensive material.

After the complaint was filed, *The CJN* made several attempts to reach Pastor Melnichuk or his son, Tom, but they did not return messages.

In her letter requesting an on-air apology, Cole said she hoped it would include an invitation to the Jewish community for dialogue in combatting racism and bigotry.

The complaint from Congress to the CRTC said: "In our opinion the pastor went beyond the line of legitimate pastoral licence, indeed crossed the line of intolerance, and engaged in inflammatory rhetoric against Judaism and the Jewish people.

"The construction of Judas as the cheapskate and the sole disciple who attempts to keep the innkeeper way from Jesus is factually incorrect. The perceived Jewish attitude portraying gentiles as dogs who are unable to achieve salvation has no basis in text and particularly runs contrary to the Jewish concept of non-Jews achieving their place in the world to come. For a non-Jew to alight to heaven, one only has to be a decent moral being. Judaism does not damn non-believers. Judaism does not require non-Jews to convert, nor does it term non-Jews as dogs."

In his letter of apology to Ontv, Tom Melnichuk said he had told a representative of Congress that there were Jews in the Prayer Palace congregation and "that our foundation of Christianity is based on the Jewish people and their history, which we endorse, cherish and protect."

The Melnichuks refused to turn over the tape of the Oct. 26 broadcast to Daniel Fine, interim community relations director, but Ontv agreed to let Congress representatives see it.

There were no previous complaints against the Prayer Palace program said Bryan Ellis, executive vice-president and general manager of Niagara Television Limited.

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(416) 410-6010

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CASH PRIZES EVERY HOUR — ULTIMATE LUXURY — CLASSIEST HOTEL — BIG GRAND PRIZE CASH DRAW

NEW YEAR'S EVE SINGLES DINNER & DANCE GALA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31st

INN ON THE PARK HOTEL - PARK BALLROOM
1100 EGLINTON AVENUE EAST AT LESLIE ST.

DOOR PRIZES — SPOT PRIZES

DRESS CODE — A FULLY SERVED 4 COURSE DINNER — DRESS CODE

OPTIONAL COCKTAILS 6:30 PM
DINNER 7:00 PM
DANCING FROM 9 PM TIL 2 AM
FREE GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE AND BALLOON DROP AT MIDNIGHT

LAST CHANCE TO SAVE — LAST CHANCE TO SAVE

Dinner & Dance $59.95 Before Dec. 20th Add $10 After Dec. 20th DUE TO MAIL STRIKE

FREE PARKING

Dance Only $24.95 Before Dec. 20th Add $5 After Dec. 20th DUE TO MAIL STRIKE

FOR DETAILS & TICKET ORDERS, CALL (416) 410-6010

LAST CHANCE TO $AVE

Community Matters

UJA FEDERATION HELPS WIN TAX EXTENSION

UJA Federation is grateful that Ottawa heeded its call for an extension to the 1997 tax deadline for charitable contributions. The decision, which will mean millions of dollars for the needy, allows contributors to receive 1997 tax credits for donations made by January 31, 1998.

Prime Minister Chretien announced the extension on December 4 to help charities recoup lost revenue resulting from the recent postal strike. Had the federal government not responded to the pleas of non-profit organizations, dozens of charities, including UJA Federation and the United Way, stood to lose millions of dollars worth of donations.

Urgent direct pleas from UJA Federation, in partnership with the United Way, for the government to remedy the damage caused by the postal strike was especially strong the day before the announcement. Key UJA Federation volunteers and staff members made direct appeals to MPs and cabinet ministers, including Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray, to ensure action.

"I'm pleased the government has extended the period for making charitable donations," noted Gray. "This will help many organizations like UJA Federation meet their objectives."

"We started considering requests for an extension the moment they were made," explained Jim Peterson, Secretary of State for International Financial Institutions. "There was an immediate willingness to take this issue right up to the Prime Minister.

Jim Peterson

Herb Gray

Peterson was first informed by the Jewish community about the consequences of the postal strike on UJA Federation's 1997 Ottawa Fly-In, November 26.

The timing of the postal strike was particularly threatening because most charities collect 30-50% of their annual contributions, mostly by mail, in December. "We might have lost close to $3.5 million in payments had the government not responded in time," said UJA Federation's Vice-President of Fundraising, Ted Sokolsky.

Jewish Agency Targets Fifty For Fifty

As Israel celebrates its 50th anniversary in 1998, the UJA Federation funded Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) forecasts the arrival of another 50,000 Jewish immigrants from the former Soviet Union. The largest proportion of funds allocated to the Jewish Agency from UJA Federation campaigns finances the ongoing exodus of Jews from the region. Here are some surprising statistics about modern Jewish history's largest emigration:

- JAFI brings a new immigrant to Israel from the FSU every 10 minutes.
- Every year, JAFI helps 4.5% of the FSU's remaining Jewish population start new lives in Israel.
- Of the 50,000 Jews expected to make aliya, 21,500 will come from Ukraine and Moldova and 20,000 will be leaving Russia.
- Over 60,000 FSU Jews will enjoy Jewish holiday programs and Israeli events sponsored by JAFI.
- Nearly 25,000 youngsters will participate in youth clubs, seminars, summer camps and counsellor training programs provided by the Jewish Agency.

The Jewish Agency teaches Hebrew to 22,000 young people in the Former Soviet Union, preparing them for aliya.

This year, JAFI will spend over $225 million U.S. on aliya-related activities in the former Soviet Union.

Small Move Big Benefits

UJA Federation's Jewish Information Service (JIS) is not only moving but expanding its outreach.

Although JIS, currently housed in the Lipa Green Building, 4600 Bathurst, is relocating a few steps away in the Bathurst Jewish Centre, JIS Director Joel Verbin says the new address is expected to raise the agency's profile by a mile.

Hundreds of community members visit the Bathurst Jewish Centre everyday.

Verbin hopes to enhance services for new immigrants, especially those coming from the former Soviet Union and Israel, in the new office by inviting Russian and Hebrew speaking community members to volunteer. Anyone interested can call (416) 635-5600.

JIS provides information and referrals on everything from Yiddish language courses to programs for singles. "We can even tell you where to find a *mohel* to perform a *bris*," notes Verbin. "We have whatever anyone could possibly want to know about the Jewish community."

Of the 21,000 annual inquiries JIS receives by fax, phone, or in person, the top three deal with housing and accommodation, Jewish day schools and activities for singles.

"Moving to the second floor of the BJC will give us higher visibility and greater accessibility to those who need our help," explains Alan Sandler, Vice-President of Community Planning and Allocations at UJA Federation. Deborah Pinsky, Executive Director of the BJC says she is "thrilled" to welcome JIS to the community centre. "We're looking forward to having this important service on our premises, enabling us to respond in a more timely manner to requests for information."

Telethons Top $400,000

UJA Federation's Days of Decision telethons raised an additional $400,000 for Campaign '98. It was the final push before the Campaign closing December 17. The telethons featured activities for children sponsored by UJA. Dalia Newman displays two of her telethon creations.

Yiddish Corner

Happy Hanukkah!

Wishing you health and happiness during this festive season.

Prices effective until Wednesday, December 24, 1997.
We reserve the right to limit quantities.

18 g ELITE Chocolate Coins 2/88¢	6 oz CARAMEL POTATO Pancake Mix 1.79 ea.
Assorted Varieties, 2 L, 4¢/100 mL GENERATION ZEL! Soft Drinks 79¢ ea.	11 oz KOHL'S Thin Pretzels 79¢ ea.
70 g TRADITION Chicken Noodle Cup-of-Soup 79¢ ea.	Pkg. of 44 MENORAH Chanukah Candles 79¢ ea.
680 g, Mini or Regular EMPIRE KOSHER Potato Latke 2.29	Assorted Varieties, 170 g GENERATION ZEL! Potato Chips 99¢ ea.

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דער אורשפרונג פון חנוכה

פון י. ליפסי

דאָס לעבן פון אַ קליין פּאָלק, וואָס וואוינט אין אַ לאַנד צווישן צוויי גרעסערע אימפּעריעס, איז קיינמאָל נישט ליכט און קיינמאָל נישט זיכער. יעדער גרעסערער און שטאַרקערער שכן האָט אַלע מאָל חשק און פּרוּבירט אויך אַטאַקירן דעם קלענערן שכן און איבערנעמען די מאַכט איבער דעם קליינעם שכן, וועג ער מיינט, אַז ער האָט אַ גוטע געלעגנהייט דאָס צו פאַרווירקלעכן.

מיט אַרום צוויי־אָן־צוואַנציק הונדערט יאָר צוריק איז אַזעלכעס גע־שען צו אונדזער לאַנד יהודה, ווי ארץ־ישראל האָט זיך דאָמאָלט גערופן. נאָכן טויט פון מצרישן קעניג תלמי פילאָמאַטאָר, האָט דער גריכישער הערשער פון סיריע, אַנטיוכוס דער גרויסער, פון דער סילקוס דינאַסטיע, זיך פאַרנומען מאַרכאַפן דאָס לאַנד יהודה פון דער עגיפּטישער הערשאַפט. גוטע און בארעכטיקטע סיבות האָבן באַוואויגן די יידן צו העלפן דעם גרי־כישן הערשער איבערצונעמען די מדינה פון מצרישן הערשער. יהודה איז געוואָרן אַ טייל פון דער גריכיש־סיריישער אימפּעריע. דאָס האָט פאַסידט נאָר אַ לאַנגער מלחמה צווישן די צוויי שטאַרקע מלוכות איז ינעער ציט, אַרום צווי הונדערט יאָר פאַרן חורבן פון צוויטן בית המקדש.

אַנטיוכוס דער גרויסער האָט זיך באַצויגן מיט פאַרשטענדניש צו זיינע ניע אונטערטאָנען — די יידן — און האָט זיי געלאָזט זיך אויסלעבן לויט יידישע טראַדיציעס. ער האָט פאַרליכטערט די צימען (טעקסעס) בי־ די נייע ביבלער און האָט דערלויבט איבערבויען די טיילן פון לאַנד יהודה, וועלכע זיינען צעשטערט געוואָרן אין דער מלחמה. ער האָט אויך צוגע־טראָגן יעדן יאָר אַ באַדייטנדע מתנה פאַרן אויפהאַלט פון בית המקדש.

מיט אַ שטיקל צייט שפּעטער האָט אַנטיוכוס זיך פאַרוויקלט אין אַ מלחמה מיט דער רוימישער רעפובליק און ער האָט פאַרלוירן. ער האָט גע־מוזט באַאַנדלן די רוימער אַ שוועדע קאָנ־ ציע, וואָס ער האָט נישט פאַרמאָגט. אין פאַרצוויפלונג האָט ער פון־ ט צו בארויבן דאָס אָנגע־זאַמלטע גאָלט אין אימעם פון די סעמפּלען אין דער שטאָט עלם אין מעסאָפּאָטאַמיע. דאָס פּאָלק איז געווען שטאַרק דערצאָרנט פון זיין גע־וואָגטן שריט און האָבן אַנטיוכוס מיט זיינע אַרויסהעלפער דערמאָרדעט. זיין עלטסטער זון אַנטיוכוס דער פערטער, עפּיפאַנעס, איז געוואָרן קעניג. ער איז געווען גאָר אַן אַנדער טיפּ מענטש ווי זיין פאָטער. ער האָט באַ־ פוילן די יידן, אַז זיי מוזן נאָכפאָלגן אַלע גענעראַלישע מנהגים און זייער לעבנסשטייגער. ער האָט פאַרבאָטן די יידן צו היטן שבת. ער האָט געווען אַרויפצוצוינגען אויף די יידן די גריכישע קולטור מיט איר געצנדינערישע ציוויליזאַציע. די יידן האָבן זיך שטאַרק אַנטקעגנגעשטעלט.

אַן עלטערער כהן מיטן נאָמען מתתיהו החשמונאי, מיט זיינע פינף העלדישע זין, האָבן זיך געשטעלט אין שפּיץ פון אַ יידישער אַרמיי צו קעמפן קעגן דעם גריכיש־סיריישן הערשער אַנטיוכוס עפּיפאַנעס.

עס ווערט דערצײלט, אַז אַ יידישע פרוי האָט באַווידקט אידע זיבן זין, אַז זיי זאָלן נישט אויספאָלגן דעם קעניגלעכן באַפעל און נישט בוקן זיך צו גריכישע געצן. אָבער זיבן זין זיינען אומגעקומען מיט אַ פּינטפולן מאַרטירער מוט, ווייל זיי האָבן העלדיש פאַרטיידיקט דעם יידישן גלויבן אין איין גאָט.

סאָך אַ שווערן קאַמף, האָט האָט אַנגעהאלטן דריי יאָר, האָט יהודה המכבי מיט זיין ארמיי אריינגעשיידט קיין ירושלים, אריסנעריינקט דעם בית המקדש פון די גריכישע נעפּן און צוריקגענרענגט אין ארנאניזד די יידישע רעגים און מהנגים אין דיסס פון בית המקדש. דער תלמוד (שבת כ״א) דערצײלט, אז די כהנים האבן געפונען א קליין קריגל מיט ריינעם אילביד־טן־אויל, גענוג צו ברענען אין דער מנורה אויף איין טאָג. איז געשען אַ נס און עס האָט געברענט אכט טעג. בית מער אויל האָט גע־קאָנט צוגעגריט ווערן. דערפאַר, הייסט עס, פיירן מיר אכט טעג חנוכה, מיט אַנצינדן דעם ערשטן טאָג איין ליכטל און אין צוויטן טאָג צוויי, אזוי ביזן אכטן טאָג — אכט ליכטלעך.

יאָספוס פלאַוויוס, אין זיין „קדמוניות היהודים", און אויך אין די „ספרים חצונים", וועלכע זיינען נישט אַריינגענומען געוואָרן אינעם תנ״ך — חשמונאים א׳ און חשמונאים ב׳ — רופן אַן דעם יום־טוב חנוכה „חג האורים" — „דער יום־טוב פון ליכט". טייל היסטאָריקער האַלטן, אַז „ספר יהודית", — וואו עס דערצײלט זיך, וויי די יידישע העלדין יהודית האָט געראַטעוועט דעם יידישן כבוד מיט דעם, וואָס זי האָט פאַרשיכורט דעם גענעראַל האָלאָפֿערנעס און אים דער־הרג׳עט — איז געשריבן געוואָרן אין דער צייט פון די חשמונאים און איז פאַרבונדן מיטן נס פון חנוכה.

אַ פּרייליכן חנוכה צו אַלע יידן!

On Campus

MDA program offers unique experience

By BATYA GRUNDLAND
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Last summer, after finishing my second year at York University, I spent two months in Israel in a student volunteer program for Magen David Adom.

Run by the Israel Aliyah Centre, the program sends Canadian university students to work with the ambulance service in Israel.

My participation in Magen David Adom provided me with a unique Israel experience. For the first time, I was not in Israel as a tourist. Instead I was an active volunteer in Israel, living and working among Israelis. As a result, I had the opportunity to experience aspects of Israel that a tourist does not typically see.

There were two sides to the Israel I experienced. The first was the positive, enjoyable side that I experienced when I was spending time with ambulance volunteers and the ambulance drivers, getting to know some Israelis on a personal level.

However, there was also another, more serious side to Israel that I experienced firsthand through the ambulance work.

On the ambulance, I dealt with people of the lower economic echelons who did not have the means to get themselves to the hospital, or lonely elderly people who had no family to assist them as they required. Most sadly of all, I saw troubled young men just out of the army, who, for some reason, could not find a reason to go on living.

This side of Israel is one to which most of us are never exposed. However, as troubling as many of the ambulance experiences were, they did not diminish my love for Israel. In some ways, they may have strengthened it. I came back from Israel with a fairly realistic view of life there, recognizing both positive and negative sides of Israel today.

Yet, in the same way as people's relationships are often strengthened the more they learn about one another and learn to accept all aspects of each other's personalities, my relationship to Israel was enriched as I got a deeper glimpse into more aspects of Israeli life, both good and bad.

Program honors volunteers

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Over a dozen university students received certificates and honoraria for their summer volunteer stints with Magen David Adom at a recent ceremony held at the Zionist Centre on Marlee Avenue. The event was co-hosted by Canadian Magen David Adom (CMDA) and the Israel Aliyah Centre.

The volunteer program, limited to 30 students each year, began in Montreal and now includes participants from a few Canadian cities. Among them this year was Herbert Brill, a first-year medical student at the University of Western Ontario, who appreciated the opportunity for hands-on experience.

Aliyah shlichah Miri Gur thanked the students for contributing their "time, effort and heart."

Among the students' more memorable experiences were assisting at a birth, a bombing and the Maccabiah bridge collapse.

"This was a very difficult summer for Israel and for Magen David Adom that had to respond to all those critical emergencies," said Yigal Rosen, vice-president of the CMDA Toronto chapter.

The Toronto chapter was started only two years ago and is purchasing two ambulances for Israel as its current project, said Alan Spector, chapter president.

Campus fair offers high school students taste of university life

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

MARKHAM — High school students got a taste of university Jewish life at the recent Jewish Life on Campus fair.

Representatives from 14 Ontario universities were available to answer questions. Also, seminars were given on such topics as financial aid, Jewish studies programs, doing Jewish on campus and how to survive on campus.

Ilan Meister, York Region coordinator for UJA Federation said the fair was scheduled about three weeks before the application deadlines for university.

"We wanted students to know that there is Jewish life on many campuses across the province.

"The university may not be in a city that has a large Jewish presence, but on campus there is Jewish life. This is a comfort for parents whose children are leaving home."

Meister said that in one seminar students learned that it is never too early to prepare for the workforce. They were told that they would increase their chances of getting a job after graduation if they work part time or do volunteer work while in school.

"We made students aware of the volunteer opportunities available in York Region and told them about the York Region Volunteer Committee."

Among the universities present were the University of Guelph, Queen's University and McMaster University.

A representative from Queen's Hillel told students that an estimated 500 to 600 Jewish students attend the school, which makes up about three percent of the student body.

At McMaster, students can attend Shabbat dinners sponsored by its Jewish Students Association, and take part in social and educational programs. University of Guelph students can be housed with a Jewish family for Shabbat or holidays.

They can also take part in the Guelph Shabbaton, designated as a way of bringing together the Jewish students from small campuses across Ontario.

Meister says another fair is planned for next year, just prior to university application deadlines.

The fair was sponsored by Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region, UJA Federation, York Region and Jewish Campus Services of Greater Toronto.

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FOR THEM THE BATTLE CONTINUES

From coast to coast

Crown, police explore reasons behind case failure

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — The fiasco over the trial last August of four alleged racist skinheads for second degree murder is leading to much finger pointing.

The case against Matt McKay, James Lisik, Robert Welsh and Garry Kuffner collapsed because a key witness who claimed to have been with the accused on the evening of June 30, 1991, when Gordon Kuhtey was beaten to death, was actually living in Vancouver at the time.

The men were arrested in March 1996, and charged with the killing Aug. 18, after a female skinhead talked about the murder at a drinking party in British Columbia.

All four men were alleged to have been connected to the racist and violent Northern Hammerskins and other such groups. They were alleged to have set out that evening to beat up a gay man and picked on Kuhtey because he was walking alone near the Manitoba Legislature in an area reputed to be frequented by gay men.

Although the police claimed to have confessions from Kuffner and Welsh, Judge Nathan Nurgitz ruled that the confessions alone were not enough to sustain a case that was riddled with inconsistencies in addition to the key witness' lack of credibility.

Both Winnipeg Police Chief David Cassels and the Crown Prosecutors Department have conducted reviews of their departments to try to determine what went wrong. Although the police report, released on Nov. 22, concedes that the department ignored contradictions in the case – blaming a lack of manpower in the homicide department at the time.

Cassels believes that the police department's actions were appropriate in recommending a direct indictment rather than a preliminary inquiry, which may have exposed the weaknesses in the case before it went to trial. He blames the botched case on the Crown for not checking the information more thoroughly and the defence attorneys for withholding information.

The Crown Attorney's Office presented the results of its review a week later and came up with much the same story. Manitoba Justice Minister Vic Toews has pronounced himself satisfied with the way the Crown handled the case and also blames the defence attorneys for not informing the police and Crown of the witness' whereabouts at the time of the murder.

In an earlier interview, Saul Simmonds, Lisik's lawyer, suggested that the case collapsed because of the Crown's rush to judgment rather than holding a preliminary inquiry first.

"Direct indictments have been happening with increasing frequency in Manitoba and they should not be," Simmonds said. "A preliminary inquiry tests the credibility of witnesses early on and can pinpoint weaknesses in a prosecution."

Simmonds maintained that the police had enough information in their hands that they should have known the principal witness' claims were inaccurate. His client spent 18 months in custody awaiting trial and is applying to the province for compensation.

Although the murder of Gordon Kuhtey remains unsolved, the witness said she did see four men beating someone up near the banks of the Assiniboine River near where Kuhtey was killed – although she was too drunk and stoned to remember any details – and Kuffner and Welsh did confess to beating up someone in the same location. The police investigation continues and charges could still be laid against all or some of the accused.

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UN convention aids kids: Lewis

By DAVID LAZARUS
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — The most vulnerable and innocent segment of society, its children, are benefiting the world over from the rare but real power of a particular international convention on children's rights, former United Nations (UN) Canadian ambassador Stephen Lewis said here recently.

Despite the continued exploitation and abuse of children the world over, Lewis said at the recent John P. Humphrey Lectureship in Human Rights at McGill University, the document, passed by the United Nations in 1989 and given binding force in 1990, has impressed Lewis, who described himself as a "healthy skeptic" of international conventions, like no other.

"It is a remarkable document," he told a full house inside the McGill law faculty's Moot Court. "I have been astonished by its impact."

In an eloquent address sprinkled with cutting wit, Lewis, who was introduced by human rights lawyer Irwin Cotler, said the children's convention, whose implementation is monitored worldwide by UNICEF, has proved to be the "most promising and successful" in the UN's history, in part because 191 out of 193 countries have ratified it, except for Somalia and the United States.

Even more important, the document has real teeth and the quality of "indivisibility." For the first time, an international convention recognized the rights to health, economic stability and social justice on the same level as political and civil rights.

"You can't imagine how seriously this is being taken in the developed world," Lewis said. "It has become almost a biblical text. It is being used to change laws and implement public policy, things I would never have thought possible."

The main reason for its success, Lewis said, is because the convention is about children and because it rests on four intellectual pillars: non-discrimination, the child's best interests, the right to survive and develop and the rights of children to be heard.

In the next century, he said, the goal will be to make the convention "as real as possible in each country" that ratified it. "It is not perfect, and the breaches are legion.

"But it is an instrument of human rights law that is making a difference, and it is a faithful mirror on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" on the eve of its 50th anniversary.

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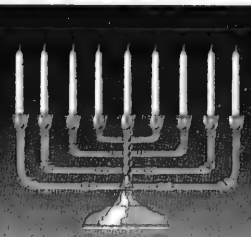

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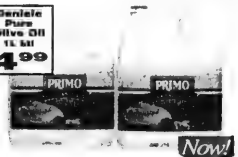

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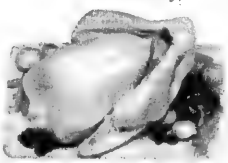

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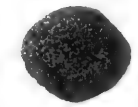

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Cabinet fails to create pullback map

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will not be able to show a pullback map to U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in their planned meeting, nor will he be able to even give her a percentage-figure concerning the scope of the prospective redeployment, government sources said Sunday.

The prospect of a second IDF withdrawal in the West Bank appeared to be tearing the government apart Sunday, as ministers divided at least four ways, and the United States evidently concluding that a quick and definitive decision is not in the cards.

Besides the divergent approaches to the territorial issue expressed by Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, the National Religious Party's ministers insist that even the most minimal pullback must be contingent on strict fulfilment of the Palestinian Authority's commitment to root out terrorism.

Foreign Minister David Levy stressed the harm that would be caused to relations with the United States and the European Union if a viable formula for troop redeployment and a concomitant handover of West Bank territory are not delineated and implemented.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk, evidently concluded that overt pressure for a cabinet decision that would conform to American specifications might exacerbate the situation, and the Clinton administration should bide its time — until January, if necessary.

Indyk conceded to Netanyahu that Israel evidently needs time to work out the parameters of the projected troop pullback, indicating that this was understandable and acceptable to the United States.

A senior Israeli official said Netanyahu "will be able to tell her which areas can be relinquished and which are vital to Israel's security."

Netanyahu's inability to pinpoint the precise sectors to be evacuated is a direct result of the inconclusive cabinet session on the redeployment issue, during which Mordechai and Sharon were at loggerheads over the amount and location of areas that could be handed over to the PA. It was prompted as well by the cabinet's decision to reconvene and to tour the areas under discussion next week.

Military experts who helped draw the map proposed by Mordechai contended that 500,000 Palestinians will remain under Israeli control if the cabinet adopts the map prepared by Sharon. They also contended that Israel would retain 70 percent of the West Bank. This was described as a potential impediment in future negotiations.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister David Levy confer at this week's cabinet meeting. [RNS/Reuters]

Sharon recommends keeping a 20-kilometre-wide swath of land in the Jordan Valley, while Mordechai wants between 7 km and 10 km. Sharon's plan calls for a 10 to 15-km buffer zone along the Green Line, while Mordechai's measures between 3 km and 6 km.

The Defence Ministry has presented two maps, one outlining security needs and drawn up by the IDF. The other represents "national interests" and includes all settlements, as well as their needs, such as roads and water, government sources said. However, the percentages included in Mordechai's maps are being kept secret.

"Both sides need to make compromises," Mordechai told the cabinet.

In rebuttal, Sharon argued that the dimensions of the security zone delineated by Mordechai are "too narrow" and therefore would not provide the tactical maneuverability required for it to serve its defensive purpose.

His map would leave all the settlements and the mountain aquifer under Israeli jurisdiction.

Sharon maintained that the government must determine which areas should be designated as security zones and therefore cannot be surrendered, noting that this would be in line with the ministers' decision in principle.

Arieh O'Sullivan contributed to this report.

Israel sends message to Pollard

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Signaling a possible policy shift, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has sent a message to jailed spy Jonathan Pollard expressing hope for his imminent release.

The message will be conveyed by Communications Minister Limor Livnat, during a three-day visit to the United States.

Her visit to the federal prison in Butner, N.C., where the former U.S. Navy civilian intelligence analyst is serving a life sentence for spying for Israel, comes several weeks after Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein became the first Israeli minister to visit Pollard in jail.

Prior to her departure, Livnat said it was time the Israeli government took a more active stand in pressing for Pollard's release.

Last week, the Knesset passed a motion calling for his release.

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Insurance firm to pay survivors

By DEIDRE BERGER
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

FRANKFURT — A German insurance company has announced that it will settle only a tiny fraction of the 1,800 claims filed by Holocaust victims and their families.

Allianz AG Holding said it will resolve seven insurance claims filed by the victims.

But an Allianz spokesperson made it clear last week that the company does not expect to pay out many more.

The spokesperson said that Allianz was offering about $5,600 to settle each of the seven claims — five from Israel and two from the United States.

Allianz was one of seven European insurers targeted by a $7 billion class-action lawsuit in April that was filed by Holocaust survivors and their families.

The claimants allege they never received payment for policies issued between 1920 and 1945.

The suit alleges that the insurers failed to honor the policies and that in some cases they turned over some of the money to the Nazis.

According to a recently found 1941 letter, the Austrian police ordered several insurance companies to pay to the Nazi government the proceeds of life insurance policies belonging to Holocaust victims.

California's Department of Insurance told the federal judge in the case recently that it wanted to join the plaintiffs on behalf of the survivors living in that state.

Edward Fagan, one of the lawyers representing the plaintiffs, told reporters that he had heard that the states of New York and Florida might also want to join the suit against the insurers.

A New Jersey assemblyman last week called for similar action by his state.

The Allianz spokesperson said last week that after an eight-month search, the Munich-based company has been unable to document hundreds of unpaid insurance claims by Holocaust survivors and their families.

Allianz, the largest insurance company in Europe, maintains that there is only evidence that the seven policies were never paid out.

Since the company set up an international hotline in April to deal with queries on unpaid policies issued before the end of World War II, more than 800 people have called requesting information about 1,800 policies.

Allianz says it forwarded many of the search requests it received on its hotline to other insurance companies.

Kalejs ejected from the U.S.

By JEREMY JONES
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

SYDNEY, Australia — A suspected Latvian war criminal has now been ejected twice from the United States.

Three years after he was originally deported, Konrad Kalejs, 84, was stopped last week at Los Angeles International Airport, where he was planning to transfer to a flight to Mexico, according to Australian news reports.

American officials suspected that after arriving in Mexico, Kalejs was planning to try to re-enter the United States at another border crossing.

But Kalejs, who was on a U.S. immigration watch list, was detained at the airport and placed on a flight back to Australia, where he obtained citizenship after World War II.

The Australian government has placed no restrictions on his travel.

Kalejs is alleged to have been a member of the mobile killing squad known as the Arajs Kommando, or Latvian Auxiliary Security Police, that collaborated with the Nazi SS during World War II. He is accused of having participated in the killing of 20,000 Jews in Latvia.

About 75,000 Jews, or more than 90 percent of Latvia's prewar Jewish community, were murdered by the Nazis — with help from local residents.

Kalejs, who moved to Australia after the war and later relocated to the United States, claims that he was a university student during the war.

He was ordered deported from the United States to Australia in 1994. He subsequently fled to Canada, where he lived for three years.

He was deported by Canada to Australia in August.

Australian officials have said it is unlikely he would be prosecuted there. Latvian officials recently launched an investigation into Kalejs' past, but Jewish officials have accused them of having little desire to bring him to trial.

In a related development, a previously secret memo from the Australian federal police indicated that an investigation of another suspected Latvian war criminal, Karlis Ozols, was dropped for financial reasons, despite the view of investigators that he was probably the most serious war criminal living in Australia.

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The Week in Israel

Dec. 8

• Ehud Barak, the head of the Labor party, dissociated himself from remarks made by former party leader Shimon Peres calling for a full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights and for the establishment of a Palestinian state. Barak said Peres' remarks do not represent the party's political platform.

Dec. 9

• Israel beefed up its security in eastern Jerusalem to prevent the Palestinian Authority (PA) from carrying out a census there. Under the terms of the Oslo accords, the Palestinians are not allowed to take a census in the eastern half of the capital. *The Knesset passed legislation on Wednesday prohibiting the census.*

Dec. 10

• Israel and the PA agreed that four of the nine committees addressing issues outstanding from the 1995 Interim Agreement will resume talks. The issues to be discussed are: security, the Palestinian airport, a safe-passage route between the West Bank and Gaza, and a proposed industrial park.

Dec. 11

• The Knesset passed a motion calling for the release of Jonathan Pollard.

•Israeli media reported that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat are slated to meet in London next week.

• Israel's emergency rescue service is training Palestinian paramedics and ambulance drivers.

• A team of Israeli agriculturalists visited Iran recently to teach Iranian farmers agricultural techniques. The Foreign Ministry said the visit was not coordinated with any government official.

Dec. 12

• A senior defence official stated that Israeli fighter jets have carried out 120 training sorties in Turkey this year, many of them practice for long-range missions.

With files from JTA and the JPFS

Iraq problem unresolved

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Mideast Analysis

"This is not over," Samuel Berger, President Bill Clinton's national security advisor, cautioned last month after Saddam Hussein bowed to pressure and readmitted United Nations weapons monitors back into Iraq.

Berger is absolutely correct. The crisis touched off by Iraq in late October, and defused by Russia three weeks later, is far from resolved.

Inspectors, charged with finding and destroying Iraq's biological, chemical and nuclear weapons of mass destruction, have resumed their work to ensure that Iraq fully complies with UN resolutions.

But they do not have access to scores of sites — presidential palaces, factories and research institutes — that Iraq has declared off limits to UN teams.

Iraq, therefore, is flouting international norms again. There is nothing new here. Iraq has been playing a devious game with the UN since the end of the 1991 Gulf War, the so-called "mother of all battles." Iraq's strategy is clear: to rid itself of UN economic sanctions *without* truly eliminating its stockpile of prohibited weaponry.

Inspectors have destroyed much of Iraq's stocks, far more than were wiped out by American and allied air raids during the war. But by all accounts, Iraq has managed to squirrel away vast quantities of military equipment and toxins it should have surrendered to the UN.

If nothing else, Iraq has been consistent. With each breach of UN resolutions, Iraq has pledged to fulfil its obligations. In 1996, Baghdad promised "immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access" to all sites. And by the terms of Saddam Hussein's recent understanding with Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov, Iraq once again agreed to comply with the will of the UN.

But within days of the inspectors' return to Baghdad, Iraq reverted to form. Iraq insisted that only foreign experts, rather than seasoned monitors affiliated with the UN Special Commission (UNSCOM), would be permitted to check sites supposedly containing banned weapons. The UN promptly rejected the offer, as well as a proposal by Russia to declare Iraq free of nuclear weapons and nearly free of ballistic missiles.

Richard Butler, UNSCOM's director, discussed these contentious issues with the Iraqi government in Baghdad late last week, but he achieved very little.

While Butler went about his business, Kofi Annan, the UN secretary-general, began examining the arrangement under which Iraq is allowed to sell limited amounts of oil — $2 billion every six months — to buy food and medicine for its long-suffering population. Russia and France want that sum to be doubled. Annan is expected to submit a report by Jan. 30.

The United States, meanwhile, is building up its air and naval armada in the Persian Gulf, having accused Iraq of continuing to try to deceive weapons inspectors.

A military solution, however, is not necessarily inevitable. Pinprick attacks, carried out by the United States since 1993, have not deterred Iraq from defying the UN and rebuilding its armed forces. And it is highly doubtful whether Washington would commit ground troops to topple the Ba'athist regime in Baghdad. Washington realizes that the grand coalition which prosecuted the Gulf War has all but fallen apart.

The reasons are clear. Iraq is not occupying a country, as it was following its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990. Russia and France, two key players in the diplomatic crisis which culminated with the 1991 war, have strong financial incentives to end the sanctions and normalize relations with Iraq.

Finally, there is a widespread perception in the Arab world, fanned by Baghdad, that Washington is too hard on Iraq and too soft on Israel.This resentment was evident last week. Arab states which boycotted a recent U.S.-sponsored economic conference in Qatar, designed to foster Arab-Israeli cooperation, chose instead to attend an Islamic summit in Iran, which the United States, in vain, has tried to isolate.

Farrakhan arrives in Israel

By JAY BUSHINSKY
Jerusalem Post Foreign Service

JERUSALEM — Controversial U.S. black leader Louis Farrakhan caught Israeli officialdom off guard when he showed up last Sunday at the Allenby Bridge to visit both Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

Farrakhan said he hoped to visit al-Aksa Mosque in Jerusalem Monday.

Farrakhan, whose intended visit received mixed responses when it was originally announced earlier this month, was not expected until mid-January.

He was, however, greeted by a PA representative upon his arrival.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry ruled out any meeting between the Nation of Islam leader and Israeli officials, as long as he "adheres to vicious and hateful language against Israel, Judaism, and the Jewish people."

This stand was taken after prolonged consultations about Farrakhan's unexpected entry to the West Bank as a guest of the Palestinian Authority.

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Sher joins war crimes unit

[Cont'd. from page 1]

About 150 people attended the news conference, including many Holocaust survivors as well as representatives of Jewish community organizations.

McLellan stressed that improving the effectiveness of the war crimes unit was part of policy to instil public confidence in Canada's justice system.

She pointed out that 14 alleged Nazi war criminals have been named in the last three years, more than at any other time. As many as seven of those cases will come before the courts in the next few months, she added.

Sher took up the theme of bringing Nazis to justice, saying "it forces us to deal with the human element of the Holocaust... This is an issue for all Canadians. It is a human rights issue. It's a matter of justice."

Sher, who is Jewish, said "they wouldn't have retained me and I wouldn't have come if both sides weren't serious" about bringing Nazis to justice.

Jewish groups commended the federal government for hiring Sher.

"They could not have made a better choice than Neal Sher," said Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress' war crimes committee. "I think it is a sign that the government does indeed realize that time is running out and they must take whatever measures necessary to bring to justice the perpetrators of heinous crimes committed during World War II."

"We're very encouraged by the appointment of Neal Sher," said Richard Bogoroch, chair of B'nai Brith Canada's war crimes commission. "It is a very important step... We hope it bears fruit. We think that ministers McLellan and Eggleton ought to be commended for helping to bring about a change in attitude to the issue of war crimes."

In other developments, the war crimes unit identified the 13th person to face possible loss of citizenship and deportation for allegedly lying about his wartime activities.

The war crimes unit alleges that Wasyl Odynsky, 73, collaborated with German forces by serving as a guard at labor and concentration camps from 1943 to 1944. They allege he was trained at the Trawniki camp and then served at the Poniatowa labor camp Poland.

Odynsky obtained Canadian citizenship in 1955. Further details of the allegations against Odynsky will be released in mid-January, said Paul Vickery, head of the war crimes unit.

Contacted at their Toronto-area home, a woman who identified herself as Odynsky's wife said her husband was not home. "He has nothing to say to you," she said. "I'm not talking to anybody."

Canadians head to World Zionist Congress

[Cont'd. from page 1]

World Zionist Congresses are held every four or five years and bring Zionists to Israel from around the world to hammer out priorities and policies of the WZO.

Some 500 delegates are expected at this month's congress, the 33rd. It will also mark the 100th anniversary of the first congress in Basel.

Traditionally, Israel receives 38 percent of delegates, and the United States 29 percent, with the remainder from the rest of the world.

The WZO shares responsibility for the $500 million annual budget of the powerful Jewish Agency, its organizational partner, with most of that money earmarked for immigrant absorption and education. A sizable portion of those funds comes from North American United Jewish Appeals.

Expected to be a hot-button issue at the congress is religious pluralism and Israel's controversial conversion bill, which would recognize only Orthodox conversions.

Rothschild said he hopes the issue "will not find excessive expression" at the congress.

He defended the absence of elections in Canada, saying the selection of delegates was handled "in a friendly and dignified manner, without confrontation."

In the United States, the election of 145 delegates to the congress was at times nasty, with those on the left and right trading public barbs.

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ABOUT NUTRITION

By LISA WEINBERG

Q. I often eat a bagel at lunch or breakfast and I feel comfortable with this low fat choice. Is it an acceptable choice?

A. Bagels are a low fat choice. However, many bagels are quite dense and can have as many as 300 to 500 calories, even more in the large twisters. Thus, while bagels are low in fat, they can still pack in a hefty amount of calories. I would also suggest that you try to include a source or protein along with the bagels at meals.

Q. I love olives and eat them frequently. I was very upset recently when I was told that olives may be high in fat and calories. Can you please give me the facts?

A. Here is some reassuring news for you and many other olive lovers. Olives are not high in calories – one large olive contains approximately five calories. Olives are, however, higher in fat than most vegetables at 0.5 grams of fat per one large olive. Therefore eating a lot of olives can add up in the fat department.

Q. I am three months pregnant and am finding it very difficult to consume all the dairy products recommended during pregnancy. Do you have any advice?

A. I have fabulous news for you. New research about calcium in pregnancy reveals that we do not require additional calcium during either pregnancy or lactation. We need only consume the age-appropriate recommendation for calcium. Calcium recommendations for Canadians have recently been revised to reflect this important new finding. You can also benefit from calcium in non-dairy foods such as sardines, almonds, canned salmon with bones, bok choy (kale), canned baked beans or cooked soya beans.

Lisa Weinberg is a registered dietitian/nutritionist, specializing in pediatric and adult nutrition in Toronto. If you have any nutrition questions, send them to The CJN.

Specific gene may hold key to controlling malignant cancer

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — A gene being studied by a scientist supported by the Toronto-based Marnie Kimelman Research Fund may hold the key to preventing cancer cells from becoming malignant.

Dr. Isaac Witz, professor of immunology at Tel Aviv University, speaking at a meeting of Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University, said that he wanted Marnie's parents, Harold and Linda, to know that their memorialization of their daughter had borne fruit.

(Marnie was killed by a terrorist bomb on a beach in Tel Aviv in 1990. The research fund is one of the projects her parents instituted in her memory. Others include the renovation of the Teen Lounge at the Hospital for Sick Children.)

Witz explained that Rinat Eshal, the Marnie Kimelman Fellow, is working on a protein called E48, which appears to reduce the likelihood that head and neck cancer cells will become malignant.

The research is focusing on what makes a cancerous cell begin to divide and attack other cells in the body. Research in the past has focused on the cell as a single, isolated entity, Witz said, but now, he said, the focus of research is on the interaction between the cancer cells, the immune system of the patient, and the environment both within and outside of the body.

In the mid 1970s, he said, a protein called LY 6 was discovered, that later was found to suppress the ability of cancer cells to proliferate.

"It appeared to have something to do with stopping the body from producing a blood supply that would nourish cancer cells," he said.

In collaboration with a Dutch group of scientists, Witz said, Eshel is studying E48, a cloned version of the LY 6 protein.

"The study has shown that head and neck squamous (cancerous) cells with more E48, are less malignant than those with less of it."

Thus, he said, speaking with great caution, "it appears that E48 is a good gene for a person to have – maybe."

E48 seems to have something to do with how cells communicate, Witz said, which is the aspect that Eshel is studying, "doing experiments to separate cells in which E48 proteins have been stimulated [as opposed to] cells in which it has not been."

If the people studying it can prove that E48 is an anti-cancer gene, Witz suggested that they will try to figure out how it works, and how it acts with (or does not act with) other genes that retard the progression and cause the death of tumor cells.

The hope is, he said, "to prevent or at least slow the process that takes local cancer cells and makes them malignant."

He stressed during the question period that "E48 may be the solution for cancer of the head and neck, but not necessarily [a cure for cancer in general]."

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Travel, Arts & Business

Tamara Podemski: Rent

Rez actor tackles the theatre

BY ADAM BELLO
Special to the CJN

Tamara Podemski

TORONTO — A North York movie and television actor of Israeli and Native Canadian heritage is now stretching her abilities before theatrical audiences in the much anticipated local production of *Rent*.

"I saw *Rent* on the Tony Awards two years ago and I was instantly mesmerized," says Tamara Podemski, 20. "When it was announced [a year and a half later] that the play was coming to Toronto, it just seemed too out of this world and I went right away to book an audition."

Facing the transition to live performance was, she says, "the most physically demanding job I have ever had."

The graduate of the Claude Watson School for the Performing Arts has brought her talents to Canadian film with a pivotal role in Bruce MacDonald's 1993 *Dance Me Outside*, and is currently starring as the aspiring actress, Lucy, in the CBC comedy-drama series, *The Rez*.

Podemski plays several roles in Jonathan Larson's modern reworking of Puccini's *La Bohème*, notably Mrs. Cohen, the Jewish mother of Mark, *Rent*'s lead (Chad Richardson).

Performing without makeup or costume to make her look older adds to the humor of the interpretation, Podemski says.

"I think I'm the only one in the cast that could understand the role," she says. "I used every Jewish mother I knew as a model to play this 45 year-old New Yorker. What I found was this consistent level of caring and checking up that all these mothers do with their children."

Her other roles in the production include a homeless person, a junkie and Pam, a character with AIDS.

While Podemski was one of the first cast members chosen from the roughly 6,000 who auditioned for the Royal Alexandra Theatre's production of *Rent*, the YTV Award-nominated actress says her destiny could have taken another path.

She said going to the rock musical's initial casting call in February meant some soul searching…and a boost of confidence.

"The morning of the first auditions, I almost had a change of heart. It just seemed too far fetched that I would be involved," she says. "Before *Rent*, I had auditioned for every musical theatre show that has come to Toronto – which became a very humbling lesson in how hard it is to get into the profession.

"But my father knew how much being in the play meant to me and gave me the encouragement not to give up, that nudge of positive reinforcement I could do it."

The level of family support and shared experience found among the Podemskis (sister Jennifer is a fellow *Rez* co-star) come with a multicultural outlook. Integrating her father's background of K'far Saba, Israel, with her mother's of the Prairies-based Ojibway nation of Saulteaux, Podemski has kept herself tied to both.

"The great thing about playing on *The Rez* is the entertaining way it allows us to educate the audience about living on an Indian reserve," she says.

"We do it without stressing the political issues, but still focus on the different aspects of the young characters' lives."

While theatrical experiences in the Jewish community have played a less active role in her career (a year of jazz performance at the Bathurst Jewish Centre), growing up with a strong sense of Israeli nationalism has remained a matter close to Podemski's heart.

Many of her summers were spent at the Zionist camp Hashomer Hatzair, where she was given an early artistic outlet.

The sense of Zionistic pride has also motivated her to visit Israel on six separate occasions. As an alternative to the formal ceremony for her bat mitzvah and official conversion to Judaism, Podemski was sent on her 12th birthday to explore the country by herself. She says she eventually plans to settle in Israel permanently.

"One of my long term goals is to start a theatrical arts school in Israel for children," Podemski says. "The arts are the greatest healing power we have in this world and I don't think Israel has developed the abundance of programs that we have in North America. Their artistic community is still evolving and I think it is a great opportunity to pursue."

Bagels All The Way:

Talent show a chance for kids to shine

By CINDY WAXER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — At this time of year, there are many children for whom the jingle bells do not ring.

For this reason, writer/comedian/producer Michael Gelbart and law student Lisa Fefer are producing *Bagels All The Way*, a holiday season showcase featuring the talented youth of Toronto.

"During the Christmas season… there's not much to do for people of different ethnic backgrounds and minorities and we felt that putting together a talent show for children is a way to make them feel more part of the holiday season," says Gelbart.

To be held at the York Woods Library Theatre on Dec. 30, *Bagels All The Way* will feature young people, age 6 to 15, performing songs, dances and comedy sketches on both an individual and a group basis.

But unlike some nerve-racking talent competitions, the event will provide an informal and non-threatening environment for young people who simply wish to perform in front of a live audience.

"I'm getting my agent to come, as well as other agents, just to look at the kids, but really, I don't want anyone going in thinking they're going to come out a star, because it's mostly about having fun," says Gelbart who regularly headlines at Yuk Yuk's comedy clubs.

And *Bagels All The Way* is more than simply an opportunity for children to bring their shtick to the brightly-lit stage.

"[Performing on stage] builds children's self-confidence and gives them an opportunity to feel really good about themselves and shine and express themselves creatively," says Fefer who, prior to her pursuit of a law degree, received numerous prestigious awards as a pianist.

Yet despite both Gelbart and Fefer's on-stage expertise, their criteria for selecting participants is based more on a student's desire to participate than on a background in the performing arts.

Although enthusiasm, originality and a healthy attitude are prerequisites, all children are welcome to participate in *Bagels All The Way* at absolutely no cost.

And the *Great Canadian Bagel* has provided products such as bagels and cream cheese to be sold at the event, with proceeds of the show, following expenses, to be donated to the Hospital For Sick Children.

Gelbart and Fefer are visiting schools such as the Claude Watson School For The Arts and the Randolph School Of The Arts, in order to encourage participation. Al-

[Cont'd. on page 36]

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Travel, Arts & Business

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

ANTHOLOGY CAPTURES ESSENCE OF A.M. KLEIN

A quarter-century after the death of Montreal writer **A. M. Klein** (1909-1972), a committee of scholars still meets regularly to coordinate publication by the University of Toronto Press of his poems, essays, stories, prose and letters under the series title of *Collected Works*.

In all, eight volumes have been planned. Although his *Complete Poems*, a deluxe two-volume set, appeared in 1990, its price of about $125 made it inaccessible to casual readers interested in discovering Klein's literary merit and enduring appeal.

Now the U of T Press has produced *Selected Poems*, a collection of 84 poems that an editorial board judged to be a representative sampling of his finest poetry. The anthology was edited by a troika of Klein scholars – **Zailig Pollock**, an English professor at Trent University in Peterborough; **Seymour Mayne**, an English professor at the University of Ottawa; and **Usher Caplan**, an editor at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa.

"We wanted to publish a relatively inexpensive selection of poems, which can be used in schools and which people can buy," Pollock said. "That's really been the aim of this. We wanted to get the word out on Klein."

A new edition of *The Second Scroll*, Klein's only novel, should be going to press in a few weeks and a volume of letters is due for publication in 1998, Pollock said. The *Collected Works* project is "the largest project of its kind for any writer in English Canada," he said.

According to Pollock, Klein was the first Canadian writer from outside of the Anglo-Saxon and French literary traditions to find his own voice and have a major literary impact.

"There were other writers of other backgrounds, but he was the first who really broke through his own community and had an international reputation. He won the Governor General's Award and he had a following in the United States. He was the first ethnic minority writer in Canada to be a major voice."

Selected Poems includes such widely acknowledged master works as *Portrait of a Minyan*, *Design for Mediaeval Tapestry*, *Scribe*, *Out of the Pulver and the Polished Lens*, and *The Rocking Chair*, a poem about Quebec.

The editors provide an illuminating 20-page introduction and a thorough annotation of Jewish, secular and literary textual references.

The book also contains three poems by Chaim Bialik that Klein translated from the original Hebrew.

"Uriel da Costa / Flightily ranted / Heresies one day, / Next day recanted," Klein wrote in 1931 in *Out of the Pulver and the Polished Lens*, which the editors describe as his "richest and most fully achieved statement of the Jewish themes which had dominated his poetry" in that period.

That line is just a tiny sample of Klein's magnificent wit, which the *Selected Poems* now makes more accessible than ever. U of T Press, softcover, $19.95.

* * *

Second Call for Submissions: Jewish Campus Services seeks submissions of art works by college or university students for a planned arts festival in early March. Themes: discovering our Jewish identity or Israel's 50th anniversary. Extended deadline is Jan. 19, 1998. 416-661-8925.

* * *

Vision TV Offering: Vision TV presents *A Distant God* on its Skylight series, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. The show reveals the bond that develops between a Muslim and a Jew who find comfort in friendship when religion offers none. The two Saskatchewan women slowly reclaim their religions even as they struggle with the role of women in those religions.

* * *

Ontario Museum Guide: The Ontario Museum Association recently launched its *Guide to Ontario Museums* in both print ($19.95) and electronic versions.

Visit the Web site at [http://www.MuseumAssn.on.ca.] or phone 416-348-8672. E-mail: [omachin@planeteer.com].

* * *

Arts in Brief: Toronto singer **Honey Novick**, the artistic director of the Creative Vocalization Studio, has just put out a new tape, *In Tribute (A Labour of Love)*. The cost is $10. To order, call 416-782-7944...

Tea At The Palace, a heart-warming Russian tale about justice, humanity and love, was first written down by Russian monks in the 11th century. A production directed by **Sharon Weisbaum**, and performed by **Ann Powell** and **David Powell** with many puppets, runs at the Tarragon Theatre Extra Space, 30 Bridgman Ave., Dec. 19 to Jan. 4, 1998. For times and tickets, call 416-531-1827.

Talent show for kids

[Cont'd. from page 35]

though many students are already scheduled to perform in the showcase, Gelbart and Fefer will continue to audition young people up to the last possible moment.

"If you're a parent and you have kids you think would be interested in participating, we're okay with last minute acts," says Fefer, determined to include those children who might otherwise remain left out during the holiday season.

For more information or to arrange an audition, call 375-1055. Tickets are $10 in advance, $12 at the door.

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A bumper crop of great Canadian books

By BILL GLADSTONE
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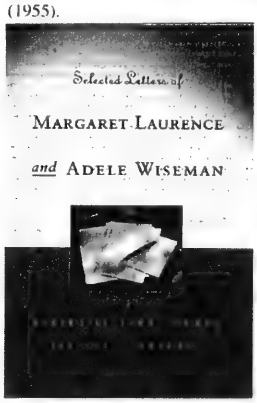
Looking for some good Chanukah gifts to bestow upon your literary friends and relatives? Here are a bumper crop of Canadian titles to choose from, as well as a few more from south of the border.

Canadian writer Adele Wiseman (1928-1992) was only 28 years old when her novel *The Sacrifice* won resounding critical success and a Governor General's Award in 1956.

According to Ruth Panofsky and John Lennox, who are the editors of the recent *Selected Letters of Margaret Laurence and Adele Wiseman* (University of Toronto Press, $24.95), *The Sacrifice* was one of the first Canadian novels to explore Jewish life in Canada, preceded only by Henry Kreisel's *The Rich Man* (1948) and Mordecai Richler's Son of a Smaller Hero (1955).



From that point forward, Wiseman's writing career went into a slow decline, while that of her close friend Margaret Laurence steadily climbed uphill. Laurence ultimately produced such acclaimed novels as *The Stone Angel* (1964) and *The Diviners* (1974). Wiseman published a second novel *Crackpot* in 1974 and a few other works, but never regained her earlier fame.

Having met at the University of Manitoba, the two writers became lifelong "sister friends" who corresponded over four decades. *Selected Letters* reveals the depth of their respective artistic struggles and of their friendship, which was highly supportive with no trace of rivalry. "Please write," they often beseeched each other, in both the personal and professional sense.

Selected Letters is bound to generate new interest in Wiseman and her work.

A logical companion volume is *The Life of Margaret Laurence*, by James King (Knopf, $34.95) which also throws light on Laurence's relationship with Wiseman.

* * *

Mordecai Richler's 10th novel and his first written in the first person, *Barney's Version* (Knopf, $32.95) recently won the 1997 Giller Prize. The narrator, a Montreal Jew named Barney Panofsky, decides to tell his own story after his enemy prepares to publish damaging information about him, his three wives, and his friend Boogie, whom Barney was accused of murdering.

Barney's memory is failing and he's clearly in his dotage, yet he manages to entertain the reader with his Richleresque asides. Indeed, the novel is cluttered with bits of comic shtick, and it's often hard to tell whether they more rightly belong to Barney or Mordecai. But fans of Richler's satiric and frequently acerbic wit are sure not to mind.

* * *

Another Montreal writer, 85-year-old Yehuda Elberg, is finally getting some of the attention he so richly deserves. Two of Elberg's novels — Ship Of The Hunted (1974) and The Empire of Kalman the Cripple (1983) — were recently translated from the original Yiddish into English and published by Syracuse University Press ($26.95 U.S.each).

The first is a Holocaust novel, the second a novel of shtetl life before the Shoah. Both have already gone into second printing.

* * *

Manny Drukier, a Holocaust survivor who settled in Toronto in 1948, has led a varied business career as a manufacturer, importer, and publisher of *The Idler* and *A la Carte* magazines; at present he operates the Idler Pub in Toronto.

Now he is also a writer of a book that won the 1997 Jewish Book Award for Holocaust Literature.

A recent release by the University of Toronto Press, *Carved in Stone: Holocaust Years — A Boy's Tale* ($35) describes how Drukier and various family members survived Hitler's campaign of extermination. Drukier wrote the memoir after a short visit to Poland in 1991.

* * *

[Cont'd. on page 38]

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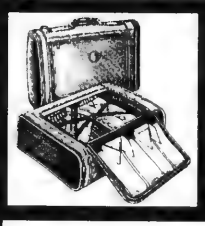

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BEAUTIFUL GIFT WRAPPING

Bumper crop of books will please literary fans

[Cont'd. from page 37]

The Porcupine's Quill, a publishing house located in Erin, Ont., has produced numerous books of distinction, including *Promise of Shelter* ($14.95), a collection of short stories by Montreal writer Robyn Sarah.

A master of subtlety and surrealism, Sarah's tales hint at the darkness, disorientation and danger that lurk behind ordinary life.

Also from Porcupine's Quill comes Jacob's Ladder ($16.95) by Joel Yanofsky, a romantic comedy set in suburban, anglophone Montreal against the backdrop of the 1995 sovereignty referendum.

Cary Fagan, meanwhile, weighs in with *Sleeping Weather* ($15.95), a compellingly readable novel set in midtownToronto. (Like Sarah, Fagan was a contributor to the latest issue of *Parchment*, the journal of contemporary Canadian-Jewish writing.)

Another Porcupine's Quill writer, Elizabeth Hay, recently attained prominence for *Small Change* ($16.95), a short-story anthology that was nominated for a Governor General's Award. These new works by Sarah, Yanofsky and Fagan are equally deserving of wide attention.

* * *

Phyllis Grosskurth, a professor of English at the University of Toronto, has gained prominence for her probing biographies of Havelock Ellis, Sigmund Freud and Melanie Klein; her first book, on John Addington Symonds, won the Governor General's Award for nonfiction.

Grosskurth recently completed a biography of the early 19th-century romantic poet, *Lord Byron: The Flawed Angel* (Macfarlane Walter & Ross, $39.95).

Byron had such an effect on young women that when he entered a room, mothers would lead their teenaged daughters away, and forbid them from looking at him. His tragic death in Greece in 1824, at the age of 36, apotheosised him into a mythic hero. But what was he really like?

After immersing herself in letters and other papers at Oxford, Grosskurth concludes that he was "an outsider, someone who viewed himself as different from other people." Her grand retelling of his life is the first biographical account of Lord Byron to appear in more than 40 years.

* * *

A curious sect known as the British Israelites, who believed the English were one of the lost tribes of Israel, pops up in the story "Speck's Idea" in *The Selected Stories of Mavis Gallant*, (McClelland & Stewart, $26.99).

Gallant, a master Canadian writer who has been compared with Tolstoy, is always a treat to read. Other intriguing recent works from McClelland &Stewart include Guy Vanderhaeghe's *The Englishman's Boy* ($14.99), Nino Ricci's *Where She Has Gone* ($29.99) and Jane Urquhart's *The Underpainter* ($29.99), winner of the 1997 Governor General's Award for English fiction.

* * *

Now for a few select American titles, starting with the charming *Old Books, Rare Friends: Two Literary Sleuths and Their Shared Passion*, by Leona Rostenberg & Madeleine Stern (Doubleday, $29.95).

The authors, who are known in the New York area as the "Holmes and Watson" of the rare book business, are famed for their many literary discoveries, such as the secret pseudonym (A.M. Barnard) used by Louisa May Alcott.

I came across Lawrence Schiffman's 1994 work *Reclaiming the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Jewish Publication Society $34.95) only recently, and regard it as one of the best scholarly books I've read on the subject.

Published this year, Jonathan Kirsch's *The Harlot By The Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible* (Ballantyne, $37.50) retells some of the more lurid episodes of the Bible (involving Lot's daughters, Tamar, Dinah, Moses and others) and interprets them in a contemporary light.

Adele Wiseman (left) and Margaret Laurence from *Selected Letters*.

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Holiday Gifts

How the Russians fell in love with the Big Mac

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

The restaurant business in Russia is a far cry from what it is in North America. Last spring on a visit to mother Russia, I was asked by my interpreter/guide where I wanted to go for lunch.

Never having been to Russia before, I had no idea. Take me to a typical Russian restaurant, I suggested.

A blank look came over her face.

"I don't know of any restaurants," she said.

"Not any?" I asked, somewhat incredulous.

Well, everyone knows McDonald's, she replied.

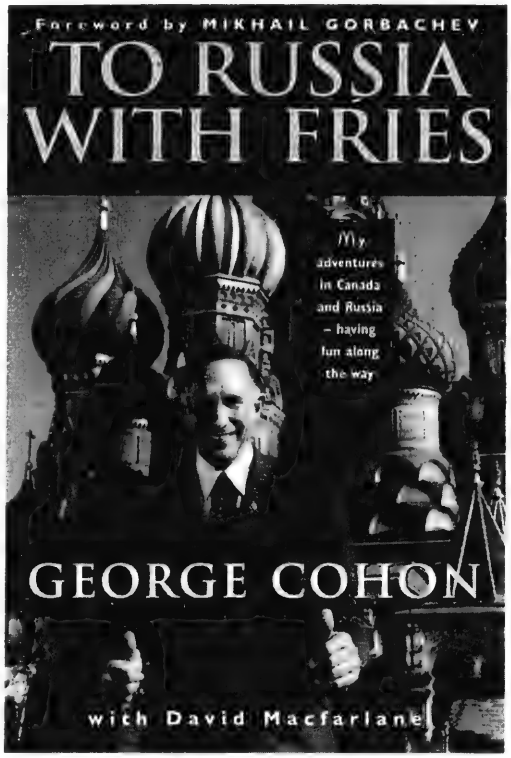
Although my interpreter was in her mid-20s, she'd lived most of her life under communism and under communism, restaurants were as rare as a free press. Sure, there were restaurants for tourists and for the elite of Soviet society, but they accepted only hard currency and were inaccessible to the vast Russian lumpen proletariat.

My clueless guide explained that her family never went out to eat and neither did any of her friends. The only restaurant they knew of, outside of those in tourist hotels, was McDonald's.

It was into that world of exclusive eateries and a hamburger-hungry population that George Cohon, senior chair of McDonald's Restaurants of Canada, decided to import the incredibly successful McDonald's formula. At the McDonald's we visited in Moscow, patrons lined up 10 across and 10 deep to order their McSandwiches, Mcfries and Coke. Adults frequented the restaurant as much as teenagers and judging from their smiles, they enjoyed their food, despite paying (more or less) Canadian prices.

In *To Russia With Fries*, published by McClelland & Stewart ($32.50), Cohon tells how he brought the fast-food chain to the former Soviet Union. The book, written with David Macfarlane, is introduced by former Soviet premier Mikhail Gorbachev.

McDonald's is well-established now with 30 restaurants across the country, but opening the first one in 1990 was anything but a smooth venture.


Foreword by MIKHAIL GORBACHEV
TO RUSSIA WITH FRIES
My adventures in Canada and Russia – having fun along the way
GEORGE COHON
with David Macfarlane

To Russia With Fries **tells of George Cohon's Russian adventures.**

The ambitious and energetic entrepreneur spent 14 years running into inexplicable bureaucratic roadblocks that would have taxed the patience of most other businessmen.

Cohon first got the idea of expanding into the Soviet Union in 1976 when he met a group of Soviets attending the Montreal Olympics. They loved McDonald's fare and Cohon realized that with a population of close to 250 million, the Soviet Union offered tremendous opportunities.

With that in view, he began his first go-round, trying to convince the Soviets to allow McDonald's to open for the 1980 Moscow Olympics. He thought he'd received Soviet approval and he was intensely disappointed when McDonald's was rebuffed for reasons unknown to him.

Cohon continued his efforts, enjoying a breakthrough thanks in large part to the ties he had developed with Gorbachev and with Aleksander Yakovlev, the former ambassador to Canada.

In January 1990, to much international fanfare, McDonald's opened its first restaurant in Moscow's Pushkin Square. More than 30,000 Muscovites lined up for hours to enjoy their first taste of Western capitalism.

For Russians, McDonald's was a revelation: "To be told that a restaurant would be a clean and friendly place, and then to find that it actually is. To order a Big Mac and then actually to get a Big Mac. To work, and then actually to get paid for your work. In their way, these were miracles in the Soviet Union of 1990."

Cohon's instinct for a good sell proved bang-on with his decision to expand to Russia. The Pushkin restaurant serves 40,000 customers a day, while the company's 30 restaurants in Russia have sales to equal 150 smaller Canadian restaurants. More are on the way.

To Russia With Fries, tells the story in an entertaining and breezy way. The book's tempo is fast-paced, like Cohon, and it meshes his Soviet adventures with a description of the development of McDonald's on the domestic front.

A successful businessman today, in 1967 Cohon was a dissatisfied corporate lawyer in his hometown of Chicago when the opportunity arose to obtain the eastern Canada rights to McDonald's. A risk-taker by nature, he grabbed the opportunity. From one restaurant in 1968, today McDonald's has more than 1,000 company-owned and franchised operations in Canada, generating close to $2 billion in sales.

With that kind of success, it's no surprise Cohon's ego is large – a fact he acknowledges in the book With anecdotes of his encounters with the rich and famous, Cohon graces nearly every one of the book's 335 pages. Yet he's gracious enough to give credit to the "Wolf Pack" of advisers who accompanied him on marathon negotiating sessions in Russia and to others who helped him get where he is today.

A longstanding supporter of Jewish and other causes, Cohon is donating his royalties from the book to Ronald McDonald Children's Charities of Canada. So far, it's proving quite popular. He's already raised $1 million.

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Holiday Gifts

Book by *I Love Lucy* writer a good read

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

It's hard to read surreptitiously when a book makes you laugh out loud. That was my problem with *Laughs, Luck...and Lucy: How I came to Create the most Popular Sitcom of All Time*. It arrived at my office on a deadline day, interfering significantly with my written output for the week.

I admit it – I'm biased. I'm an *I Love Lucy* fan from way back. For two years, I drank my tea from a heart-shaped *I Love Lucy* mug until it broke, and I even have a Vitameatavegamin t-shirt, commemorating one of the show's most popular episodes.

So it was a happy coincidence that I was in San Francisco in October when Gregg Oppenheimer, son of *Lucy* producer and head writer Jess Oppenheimer, was speaking there about the book his late father began and he completed. Published a year ago by Syracuse University Press, it's now in its fifth printing.

For Oppenheimer, a youthful 46-year-old who spent 18 years working as an attorney, San Francisco was the highlight of his book tour. Speaking to a capacity crowd in the Jewish Community Centre (JCC) auditorium where Jess Oppenheimer began his show business career in the 1930s, Gregg shared some of his own memories.

(Don't look for him in Canada soon; his book is available here only by mail order.)

Some of the goings-on in that JCC auditorium, including a scene in which Oppenheimer Sr. became handcuffed to a fellow actor, inspired *I Love Lucy* episodes, said his son.

A tense family situation involving Jess' mother's passport application in the 1930s also became fodder for an *I Love Lucy* episode, as described in the book.

Unless she could prove her German-born husband had been a naturalized citizen at the time of their 1910 marriage, Oppenheimer's 53-year-old Jewish mother was subject to deportation to Hitler's Germany.

"A sense of panic swept over us," he wrote.

Finally they learned that Oppenheimer's father had been naturalized in Sacramento, not San Francisco. Lucille Ball's ditzy alter ego Lucy Ricardo likewise had trouble obtaining her birth certificate – until she learned she was born in West Jamestown, not Jamestown.

By the time of his death in 1988, Oppenheimer had completed 85 pages of memoirs. Gregg picked up where his father had left off, initially intending the book as a family heirloom. "I was afraid my daughter wasn't going to remember him," he said in a recent phone interview from Santa Monica.

The writing is seamless. Oppenheimer said he surprises himself sometimes, figuring out which parts he wrote. "We used to finish each other's sentences. We basically have the same sense of humor. The book is supposed to give you the feeling you spent an evening with him telling you stories."

And, at 280 pages, it's an extended, very enjoyable evening. I suspect non-fans will also find it a worthwhile read, especially those with an interest in the early days of radio. Before *I Love Lucy* and its radio predecessor, *My Favorite Husband*, Oppenheimer wrote radio scripts for the likes of Fred Astaire, Jack Benny and Fanny Brice.

Only about half the memoir, it should be noted, is devoted to the *Lucy* years. But there is an accompanying 65-minute CD and several appendices, including a script that Ball's husband and co-star Desi Arnaz refused to perform.

Interesting sidenotes include Oppenheimer's account of his invention of the teleprompter.

Gregg Oppenheimer

And who would have thought that Ball needed to work so hard to master her material? According to Oppenheimer, a likely reaction to her first reading of a script would have been, "...get rid of the redhead. She doesn't know what the hell she's doing."

She sure figured it out. Today, reruns of the hit comedy that ran from 1951 to 1957 are seen daily around the world. "I think it's held up well because everybody can identify with it," Gregg told *The CJN*. "There are shows about jealousy, money problems, fighting with your friends. It's very well

[Cont'd. on page 41]

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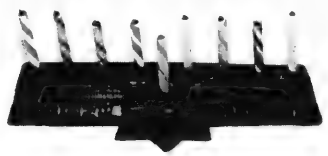

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Shoah book message of hope

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Born to Holocaust survivors in the post-war era, Torontonian Roma Karsh says she grew up "hearing stories that no one should ever know."

While her father didn't talk about his experiences in the concentration camps, her mother would tell anyone who would listen, Karsh said. From her teenaged years until she was well into her 30s, Roma couldn't bear hearing any more on the subject.

"If there were programs on TV, I tried to get away. I thought I would never be able to stomach those stories again."

However, Karsh ultimately realized that the Holocaust was an inevitable part of her family history, and she began seeking other sources in order to write a book. The result is *Endless*, a first novel published recently by Voyageur Publishing.

"People told me, 'You have got to write this book.' They said, 'This book is in you, just get it out,'" said Karsh, explaining that she wrote the book not only to help preserve the memory of the Jewish martyrs but to help those who carried the burden of survival.

Endless tells the story of a young Jewish girl in Krakow whose parents are deported to the death camps and who survives by hiding with a gentile family. It also tells the story of her brother, who survives the war and becomes a psychiatrist in Toronto, ultimately coming to terms with his survivor's guilt.

The title *Endless* comes from the Hebrew *Ein Sof*, an esoteric term meaning infinite or without end, usually referring to God. For Karsh, the word connotes both the endless suffering of the Holocaust and the endless hope that is forever a part of the human condition.

"My message is one of hope," she said. "If my parents, who were in the worst concentration camps, could come through what they came through, and then build the most productive lives and have children and grandchildren, then my message is that anyone can. My message is endless hope."

The book starts in 1941 and continues to the present, making reference to the debate over the prosecution of aging war criminals. Although it encapsulates the experiences of the Holocaust, it is more of a post-Holocaust novel in sensibility. According to Karsh, it speaks most directly to the children of survivors.

"It goes to the next generation, and to the children of the children of survivors," she said. "I have a 17-year-old daughter. Do you think she's not affected? She knows the stories and she knows that they're her legacy."

Endless, at 288 pages, is available from major bookstores for $24.95.

A subjective guide to city's top diners

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts editor

Back when he was a kid in the '40s Toronto lawyer and food critic Leonard Wise started making lists of where he'd eaten his best ice cream, French fries or danish pastries.

Fifty years and 210 items later, Wise had enough information for a book and published *Toronto Eats from A to Z*, an alphabetical listing of where to find the best of anything, from apple pie to zabaglione (an Italian dessert with wine, sugar and eggs).

Since the book sold well, here is the sequel, *More Toronto Eats*, which contains food items not included in the first.

In this one you'll read where to find the best pakora (an Indian dish), the best mushroom soup, the best omelette and many more foods.

Much of the book is filled with humor; for example, his description of abalone: "what tastes like an eraser and costs 50 bucks."

The book will be enjoyed by people who claim *they* know where to find the best pizza in town or who love to try new food and new places. Just keep in mind it's all highly subjective and oh yes, few, if any, of the restaurants listed are kosher.

Sitcom writer's story an entertaining read

[Cont'd. from page 40]

written and beautifully performed."

It's also – ouch – sexist. "My take is that Lucy's a 10- or 11-year-old kid, although she's in the body of an adult, and male-female relationships in the '50s were closer to [adult-child relationships]," he explained. "You can watch it [in that context] and still enjoy it."

For Oppenheimer, *Lucy* has become pretty much a full-time job, for now. He's working on a live recreation of *My Favorite Husband*, to premiere at the Loving Lucy '98 convention next summer in Burbank, Calif.

Laughs, Luck...and Lucy can be ordered from Gregg Oppenheimer, Ste. 205, 1158 26th St., Santa Monica, CA 90403, or over the Internet at www.amazon.com. Order forms can be found on line at www.lucynet.com. Mail order price is $29.95 (US) plus $5 (US) for mailing to Canada. (It can be sent via courier on request.) December gift buyers pay $19.95 (US) plus shipping per autographed copy, when buying two copies.

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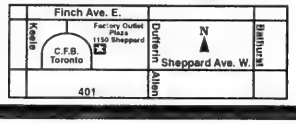

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Chaim Potok: The Gates of November

Soviet refuseniks' plight well told

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts editor

As I flipped through *CJN* back issues from the late '80s, I was hard-pressed to find an issue that didn't have a story about the plight of the Refuseniks – Russian citizens (mostly Jews) not allowed to emigrate.

Among the names cropping up in the articles were Anatoly Sharansky, Andrei Sakharov, Ida Nudel and the Slepaks – Volodya and Masha.

Chaim Potok's latest novel, *The Gates of November*, is a chronicle of the Slepaks, who applied to leave the Soviet Union in January 1970 and were finally granted exit visas in October 1987.

The irony of the Slepaks is that Volodya's father, Solomon, was an Old Bolshevik, an ardent Communist, who led an army in the Russian civil war.

At the outbreak of the revolution, Solomon saw hope in Russia's future. Lenin's Bolsheviks, he believed, would bring racial equality and justice for all. A zealous idealist, he absorbed the revolutionary fervor and battled White Russians and Japanese troops in the Far East.

After serving time as a diplomat in Japan and China after the Communist victory, Solomon moved with his wife and two children to Moscow, where in 1936, he worked for the news service Tass, surviving the Stalinist purges by refusing any position of leadership.

In the '50s, Stalin had become increasingly paranoid about foreigners and particularly any Russians who had contact with them. Also anti-Semitism, downplayed during the war years, was raising its ugly head once more.

This was around the time of the infamous Doctors' Plot, when Stalin began arresting leading doctors and accusing them of plotting to poison the leadership of Russia. Most of the doctors were Jewish.

"Mid-20th Century Russia had resurrected the medieval image of the Jew as poisoner," Potok writes.

He documents a classic father/son conflict, a staple of classic Turgenev/Dostoyevsky literature. Solomon's son Volodya and his wife Masha, a student at the medical school, confront Solomon with the news that all her professors are being arrested.

Solomon, still a devout Communist, defends the party with an Orwellian fanaticism. "The class struggle is now in its fiercest and most dangerous stage," he tells Volodya. "Look at us, we are surrounded by capitalist enemies. Isn't it better to arrest and prosecute a hundred innocent people and catch among them one spy than to let the spy go free?"

Volodya rejects this argument and denounces the party. "There is too much blood on your hands," he tells Solomon. "*That* I understand."

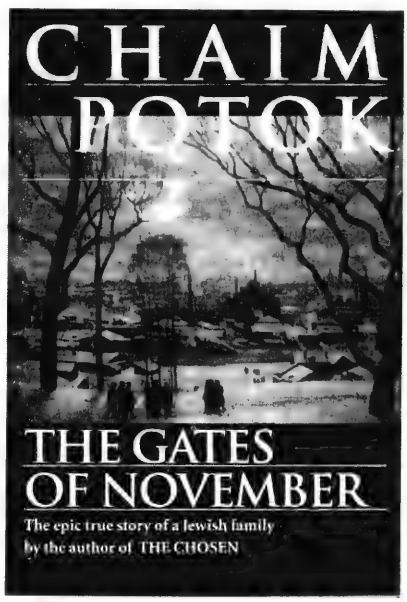
The rift between father and son, heightened when Volodya applies for an exit visa, would never be bridged.

By now, anti-Semitism had reached an almost Nazi-like hysteria. Rumors of deportations and evictions were beginning to circulate. Jews were being asked to vacate their Moscow apartments. However, unlike in Nazi Germany, salvation was partially at hand when Stalin died on March 5, 1953 and Kruschev denounced the Doctors' Plot.

By the time of the Six Day War, when anti-Israel and Zionist propaganda caused even more anti-Jewish hysteria, many Jews began seeking visas to enter Israel.

The Slepaks were by now hardened anti-Communists and their Moscow apartment became a meeting place for many Jewish activists. Because they knew the KGB was bugging their room, they communicated with chalk and blackboards. Volodya became an organizer of demonstrations, hunger strikes and letter-writing campaigns.

After the Slepaks officially applied for an exit visa (swiftly rejected for security reasons – Volodya had worked on the air-defence system of the U.S.S.R.), their lives became a living hell. They were followed by the KGB, their mail opened, pressure put on their children to denounce them and their apartment subject to searches. Volodya was eventually charged with anti-Soviet activity and exiled in Siberia for five years.



The Gates of November (Random House, $17.95) is a thoroughly researched and well-told story. In Potok's skilful hands, the Slepaks' struggle becomes a rich, conversational narrative.

Potok tells the story with the experience of a veteran fiction writer, and like a historical novel, his book uses the central characters' story to expound on the history of the dissident movement, Soviet anti-Semitism, the success of American pressure groups and the role Cold War politics had during the exodus of the 1970s.

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Winnipeg detective tackles blood libel case

By BILL GLADSTONE
Special to The CJN

Winnipeg writer Allan Levine has introduced a Jewish literary detective in his first novel, *The Blood Libel*, recently published by Great Plains Fiction (softcover, $19.95).

The novel is set in Winnipeg's North End in 1911, when the streets were teeming with impoverished immigrants. Levine's protagonist, 28-year-old Sam Klein, works in a brothel and turns gumshoe after a rabbi is accused of a murder that Klein is certain he didn't commit.

"He's a tough character," said Levine, who was in Toronto recently to give a reading at the Sleuth of Baker Street bookstore. "He's very knowledgeable about the streets, and he's forced to use his streetwise talents to investigate the murder."

The premise of *The Blood Libel* is that a Jew in Canada could be credibly accused of a blood libel murder – the slaughter of a Christian child – in order to use the blood for baking matzah and other ritualistic purposes.

Usually a product of anti-Semitism and mass hysteria, blood libel accusations and trials have recurred sporadically in Europe from medieval times until this century.

Allan Levine

Levine, who received a PhD in history from the University of Toronto, adeptly transplants this largely European social phenomenon onto his home turf. He demonstrates a keen historian's eye in bringing the booming frontier town to life, peopled with a colorful mix of crooks, grain merchants, police and prostitutes.

"The hardest part for me as a writer was creating credible characters and dialogue," he said. "I guess readers will have to judge that for themselves."

Levine, 41, is a teacher at a Winnipeg private school. He is the author of several non-fiction works on historical subjects, including a study of Winnipeg's grain trade.

"I think in most non-fiction writers, there's a novel waiting to jump out," he said.

While he has left the door open for a sequel novel featuring Sam Klein, he has already completed another non-fiction book. *Fugitives of the Forest* focuses on the roughly 35,000 to 40,000 Jewish partisans and other Jews who survived the Holocaust by hiding in the forests of eastern Europe. The book is due out from Stoddart in the fall of 1998.

Book celebrates highs and lows of Honest Ed

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

In a way, the title of Honest Ed Mirvish's new book, *There's No Business Like Show Business – But I Wouldn't Ditch My Day Job*, neatly defines his life.

At 85, this theatre impresario clings to his big, gaudy store because "a bargain is a bargain" and though he loves theatre, he is never sure if he has a hit.

Replete with 80 black and white photos, this 224-page hardcover (Key Porter Books) sells for $29.95.

Since 1963, when Mirvish bought the Royal Alexandra Theatre for $250,000, he has met some glamorous people, but he is still a storekeeper.

"It was good enough for Harry Truman, and good enough for Abe Lincoln, it's good enough for me."

The book is a celebration of the curtain calls and pratfalls of Mirvish's life in theatre. He reveals that Rex Harrison once gave his dressing-room refrigerator to his driver as a tip, and that Yul Brinner demanded that all the halls and dressing rooms of the Alex be painted dark brown

He remembers that Peter O'Toole always thought of himself as a "jobbing" actor, and that Lauren Bacall insisted her dressing room be outfitted with baby-blue broadloom – for the enjoyment of her three pet poodles.

He even discloses that actors, for some unknown reason, don't wear their own underwear on stage.

From Joan Plowright and Jonathan Miller to Gilda Radner and Andrea Martin, from John Gielgud and Ralph Richardson to Red Buttons and Lily Tomlin, Mirvish met and remembers them all.

He fondly describes his meeting with Diana, Princess of Wales, and relates how his landmark theatre became her namesake.

"What struck me most about her was her ability to connect with everyone on a personal level. She made everyone around her feel at ease."

When people ask him what his CBE (Commander of the British Empire) stands for, he says, "Creator of Bargains Everywhere."

Which is why he would never ditch his day job.

In his preface, Mirvish recalls how his father died in 1930 when he (Ed) was 15 and so he had to drop out of third year at high school to run his father's fruit and grocery store on Dundas Street.

He still goes to work at eight o'clock every morning at his Bloor Street store and has lunch in one of his King Street restaurants.

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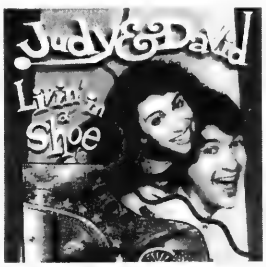
New Judy & David CD an eclectic mix of children's songs

By SUSAN RUDOLPH
Special to The CJN

Canada's musical duo Judy and David recently released their sixth album, *Livin' in a Shoe*. This collection of original songs for children is an eclectic mix of musical styles including Caribbean, soul and light rock.

Since their debut in February 1993, Judy and David have made numerous concert appearances and have amassed a tremendous following. Their albums have been translated into many different languages and have sold over five million cassettes around the world.



Livin' in a Shoe has already been called one of the top 10 albums of 1997 by *Child* magazine. The album manages to capture the energy of a live performance in an audio recording. The music, which was recorded both live and in studio, engages the young listener's attention and is completely interactive.

The sound effects used in many of the tracks enhance the music and immediately appeal to the imagination. Monkeys, waves, trains and cars can be heard throughout the album. The sounds complement the strong lyrics and musical arrangements by adding à story-like element.

The songs on *Livin' in a Shoe* are completely original. *Sole Woman* is a song loosely based on a Mother Goose nursery rhyme and includes terrific saxophone solos.

Later that Same Night at the Hen House is a sequel to *Late One Night at the Hen House*, which was on Judy and David's first album. In the follow-up song, a group of chickens and a cat burst into song.

The creative and amusing lyrics in *Fish History* poke fun at the food chain. And, in a special appearance, Judy and David's son briefly appears in the soft and gentle *Lullaby*.

Livin' in a Shoe marks a turning point in Judy and David's work. They have moved from presenting primarily old favorites to recording an album in which they have creating their own children's songs.

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Guitarist highlights cultural diversity

By JOSEPH SERGE
Arts editor

Because historically, Jews have travelled through and settled into so many countries, their music can be as diverse as the different cultures they've been a part of.

Yet beneath all this diversity is a similarity that can be detected whether the song hails from Spain or the far reaches of Russia.

Toronto guitarist Simon Wynberg explores this rich heritage on his newest CD *Songs of my People* (Narada), a contemporary arrangement of "old age music."

"There is a definite way that the notes are assembled," Wynberg said trying to explain the subtle similarity of the songs, despite the obvious cultural differences.

"Underneath the melody is the sacred traditions that wherever Jews travelled filtered through the secular melodies."

Wynberg has taken a collection of traditional Jewish songs and given them an instrumental contemporary flavor. Accompanying Simon on acoustic guitar are 11 other musicians with various sounds including wind instruments, strings and percussion.

In discovering his Jewish roots, Wynberg (who's recorded about 12 albums with chamber orchestras, string quartets and concert orchestras) picked songs from all over the Jewish spectrum.

It isn't just Yiddish traditional tunes, or klezmer. There are chassidic melodies, Sephardi keys, shtetl music and songs from Russia and the Mediterranean.

Some are sorrowful like *Oyfin Pripetshik*, some are joyful like *Freylekhs* and others celebratory like *Scherele* (a "Jewish line dance).

"I knew Jewish musical tradition was very broad and there was a huge amount of material to choose from," he said. "I wanted the songs I recorded to be appealing and not be too much of the same thing."

Wynberg's background in musicology gave him the experience necessary to facilitate his research of Jewish music. After sifting through libraries of recorded and unrecorded music he finally settled on these 14 songs.

Holiday Gifts

Chanukah whodunnit a software treat

By BRAD LAKRITZ
Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

What do Mademoiselle Menorah, Crystal the fortune teller, the Latke Troll, Schlemiel the synagogue repairman and Groucho Cat have in common?

These sophisticated, full-color, claymation figures are all suspects in a daring make-believe Jewish caper.

One of them has stolen the actual jar of oil found by Judah Maccabee in the Temple after its destruction at the hands of the ancient Greeks.

Your job is to find out *Who Stole Hanukkah?!* This exciting new CD-ROM from Jerusalem Multimedia Productions runs on Windows and Macintosh formats and is out just in time for Chanukah 5758.

Players who celebrate Chanukah this year by clicking their way through this whodunit will learn many tidbits of Jewish history along the way.

The mystery begins as the world-famous historian Prof. Croak gazes at his prize archeological possession, the Temple oil jar, while sipping a cup of tea. Suddenly, the lights go out, loud noises blast the night air and when the lights come back on, the jar is missing.

Finding yourself out on the street in the dark winter night, you have only the trenchcoated Nerly, a hot-shot detective, to help you solve the crime in time to celebrate the Festival of Lights.

Nerly's namesake, ner, is Hebrew for candle – so the detective's hat sports a distinctive flame.

Nerly guides you through the clues and she presents information about each suspect. To discover the culprit, you must visit each of the suspects and examine the evidence linking them to the crime.

The street scene is your guide – or computer interface – to the game. The building facing you has eight windows that you can enter by clicking. Entering the building, you find yourself in a hallway with three doors. One of the doors takes you to Nerly's room, where she offers hints and helps you examine the evidence.

But you can't enter Nerly's room without a secret password and a golden key. In order to win these essentials, you'll have to go elsewhere first.

One room presents a dramatic scene from the time of the Maccabees.

In the scene, which North American Jews might find familiar because of its parallels with assimilation issues, a Hellenist family debates the virtues of Judaism versus Greek culture. The father is on his way to the bathhouse while the mother is making the Sabbath meal. The son quotes from the Torah, saying that Jews should have one God and no other, while his sister speaks up for trying out a few new ones.

In this scene, correctly answering a question about the Hellenistic period will secure for the player the secret password. Clicking again on the password icon will activate more questions for those who want to learn more about the history of Chanukah or just test their knowledge.

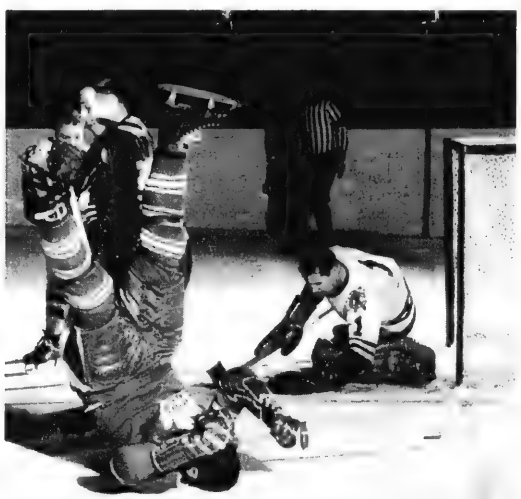
For players who don't know the answers to the questions, help is just a click away. Prof. Croak's study offers access to a rich set of resources on Chanukah, including a how-to guide for celebrating the holiday, as well as quotations from many of the Jewish sources that explain how and why we celebrate the holiday.

For example, we learn from the Babylonian Talmud about the edict of "publicizing the miracle" and explore arguments over lighting the menorah from right to left or vice versa, and whether to add or take away one candle each night during the holiday.

The CD operates in English, Hebrew, Russian, French and Spanish – a rarity in multimedia CDs.

With *Who Stole Hanukkah?!*, JeMM Productions – makers of The Interactive Haggadah – have produced a creative and educational game. It will provide hours of enjoyable Jewish learning for kids of all ages, but the game does require QuickTime 2.5 video software, and Indeor video system extensions (provided).

Who Stole Hanukkah?! is available from JeMM Productions for $19.95 (US), with bulk discounts to Jewish organizations. Information: JeMM, P. O. Box 1030, Manchester N.H. 03105-1030; or on the World Wide Web at [http://www.jemm.co.il].



PORTRAITS OF THE GAME

Portraits of the Game **by Andrew Podnieks (Doubleday) is a beautiful coffee table book highlighting pictures from classic Maple Leaf games of the '40s, '50s and early '60s.**

Pictured here, Leafs' number 11 Gerry James takes a wicked fall in a March 19, 1960 game against the Chicago Black Hawks.

The Leafs lost 1-0, showing that goals in the NHL aren't only scarce this year.

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Features

Synagogue Youth fundraising concert a hit

By SUSAN RUDOLPH
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — The National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY) recently held its 17th annual fundraising concert.

The performance at the Basset Theatre featured acts by the Nafshenu Orchestra, The Toronto Jewish Male Choir, Mendy Wald and Dedi.

"We filled up the hall with 1,400 people," said Rabbi Glenn Black, regional director of NCSY. "NCSY is an outreach organization, not a concert business. It shows you that people didn't come out [just] for the music; they came out for the kids."

NCSY, the youth arm of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, has regional offices throughout North America and Israel. It reaches out to Jewish youth with group events and publications, as well as maintaining and expanding extensive youth programs around the world.

The concert began with a medley of traditional songs from The Toronto Jewish Male Choir, which is comprised entirely of amateur singers whose love of music was evident in their performance. Clear, powerful solos were supported by strong background vocals.

Mendy, who performed after the men's choir, animated the audience with his energetic and upbeat melodies. He had the crowd clapping and singing along with him as he sang popular numbers like *Sameach*. One audience member was so enthused by Mendy's performance that he spontaneously ran onto the stage and began to dance with the star.

The applause was deafening when Dedi, a superstar in Jewish music, took the stage. His energetic performance, beautiful voice, charisma and clever stage antics had the audience captivated throughout his act. Everyone in the theatre was singing, clapping and laughing along with Dedi as he sang songs such as *Rotzoh* and *Lechah Eten*.

Throughout the evening, NCSY members spoke about their experiences with the organization. They described how NCSY has helped them to reaffirm and reconnect to their Jewish roots.

The NCSY concert managed to accomplish what many other performances do not. The show contained acts that appealed to all the generations present while it helped to fund a worthy cause.

מזל טוב Mazel Tov

We cannot guarantee the date a picture will appear. Please limit all greetings to 25 typewritten words. We reserve the right to edit all items and condense any that are longer than that.

Label the back of all photos and enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return. Send all your photos to *The CJN*, Mazel Tov, 1500 Don Mills Rd., Suite 205, North York, Ont., M3B 3K4.

Mazel tov Lisa & Louis Eisen on the birth of Marc. Grandparents are Paula Bernstein, Myriam & Jaime Eisen; great-grandfathers, Nathan Garnick and Abraham Bernstein.

Mazel tov to my dearest wife on our one-year anniversary. Love always and forever, your loving husband Moshe.

Donna Jacques, Marilyn Black & Sheldon Black announce the engagement of their children Michelle Anne & David Lorne. The wedding is planned for August.

Vivien & John Cohen, Brenda & Hirsh Kupinsky announce the engagement of Nicky & Jordan. Grandparents are Ilse Cahn, Flora Cohen, Sylvia & George Friedman.

Bernard, Shayla and Rahel Kay, Jack, Barb, Becca, Kira and Sean Goodman celebrated the 50th anniversary of their parents and grandparents, Harry & Phyllis Kay, Nov. 4.

Mazel tov to Irving & Marilyn Starkman on your 30th wedding anniversary. Best wishes for many more happy, healthy ones. Love, David & Shana.

Congratulations to Gert & Harry Zigelstein on your 60th anniversary. With love from Paula, Judi, Marvin and grandsons Aaron, David, Noah and Benjamin.

Happy 50th anniversary to the greatest parents, Sam & Ruth Gilbert. Love, the Gilbert and Weisbart families.

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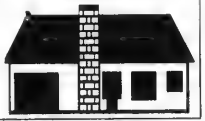

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Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Best wishes to Amos & Lola Grinate on their 25th Wedding Anniversary. From their children Melanie, Avi, Leor & mother Marie Fingerut & Amos's parents in Israel.

330 OBITUAIRES

KARDOS, Helen - on Nov. 24, 1997, late of 125-123 Braemar Ave.

ATHIAS, Marcel - on Nov. 28, 1997, late of 50 Bedle Ave.

WAGNER, Berl - on Nov. 29, 1997, late of 75 Goodview Rd., #16.

NISSEN, Masha - on Dec. 3, 1997, late of 3595 Keele St.

BOCKNEK, Beatrice - on Dec. 3, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.

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330 OBITUARIES

PECHEN, Benjamin Zion - on Dec. 1, 1997.
ROSEN, Clara - on Dec. 1, 1997, late of 282 St. Clair Ave. W.
CHRZAN, Zawek - on Dec. 2, 1997, late of 7460 Bathurst St.
CHOCRON, Perla - on Dec. 4, 1997.
GARTNER, Eva - on Dec. 5, 1997, late of 59 Neptune Dr.
MARKIN, Harry - on Dec. 5, 1997, late of 86 Brookview Dr.
DREBIN, Robert - on Dec. 6, 1997.
EISEN ABEL, Annie - on Dec. 6, 1997.
GREENBERG, Arie - on Dec. 6, 1997, late of 1 Arlstan Dr.
ROTSTEIN, Max - on Dec. 7, 1997, late of 194 Montclair Ave.
PEARLMAN, Murray B. - on Dec. 8, 1997.
VINER, Izya - on Dec. 8, 1997, late of 25 Cedarcroft Blvd.
HOFFERT, Solomon - on Dec. 9, 1997, late of 555 Sheppard Ave. W.
KATS, Bella - on Dec. 9, 1997, late of 40 Badessa Circle.
SALSBERG, Samuel - on Dec. 9, 1997.
FRYER, Bettie - on Dec. 10, 1997, late of 155 Marlee Ave.
HECKER, Sally- on Dec. 10, 1997, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
SCHNEIDER, Ruth - on Dec. 10, 1997, late of New York City.
KORF, Polina - on Dec. 11, 1997, late of 6250 Bathurst St.

LERMAN, Joe - on Nov. 30, 1997, late of 2 Buchan Crt.
WILKES, Bert - on Nov. 30, 1997, late of 3900 Yonge St., #716.
BERNSTEIN, George - on Dec. 2, 1997, late of 1 Hearthstone Cres.
GROSBEIN, Benjamin - on Dec. 2, 1997, late of 73 McMorran Cres.

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The Canadian Jewish news

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FOR THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

JANUARY 8th
Deadline
Tuesday, Dec. 30th, noon

The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days:
Thursday, December 25th
Friday, December 26th
Thursday, January 1st
Friday, January 2nd

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Wednesday December 31, 3pm

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Associated basketball rivalry boosts spirits

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — No one will mistake it for the Montreal-Toronto hockey rivalry, but emotions get pretty high when the Danilack Hawks of Associated Hebrew Schools tips off versus the Hurwich branch in interschool basketball competition.

Danilack gets its biggest spectator turnout of the year — more than 50 people — when the two schools lock horns, said Shawn Karry, head coach of the Hawks. It's a similar situation when USDS Bayview butts heads with USDS Bathurst, as the natural rivalries help boost school spirit and are a focal point for each team's season, he said.

The games are part of the interschool boys league, a regular feature of the junior high school year. The opening tip off was held in November and the season runs until February when it's the turn of the girls to take to the court. Their league runs until May.

In addition to the two Associated teams and the two branches of United Synagogue Day School (USDS), teams from Netivot Hatorah, Bialik and Leo Baeck round out the league.

The longstanding interschool league expanded to its current seven-team format three years ago, Karry said. "The focus of the league is sportsmanship, fair play and skill development within a competitive atmosphere," he added.

The popularity of the league is considerable, if Danilack is any indication. At the start of the season, open tryouts were announced and "I had 75 percent of the male population of the school try out, about 80 guys," he said.

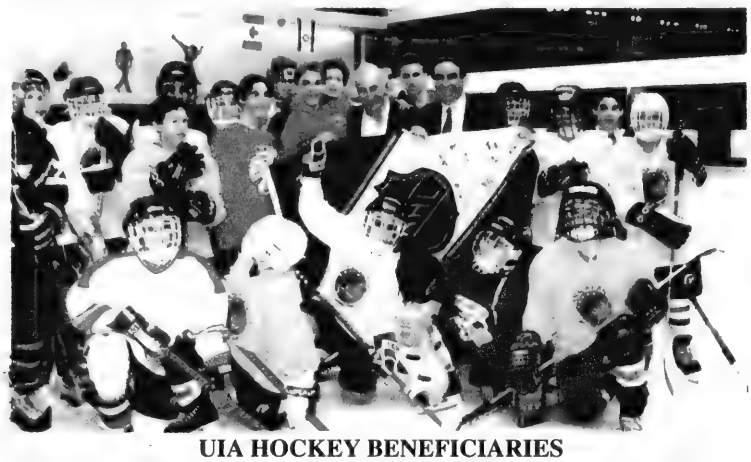
Only 10 players were selected to the rep team while the others get their hoops action in intramural games.

The rep teams play a 12 game schedule (six home, six away) before girding their loins for the playoffs. Last year, USDS Bayview recorded an undefeated season before beating Bialik in the championship game. The Bayview girls team won their championship as well.

Bayview boys looks to be a contender again this year, but not as dominant as last, needing overtime to beat Danilack in a game earlier this season, Karry said.

After the season ends in February, some of the schools participate in exhibition games against public and Roman Catholic schools. "The Jewish schools have done well...It's an opportunity to extend our season and get some games in. The kids always want more," Karry said.

The girls league is just as popular, he added, noting that the turnout for tryouts is comparable to the boys.



UIA HOCKEY BENEFICIARIES

An NHL flag signed by all participants in the first-ever Roger Neilson Hockey Camp, which took place in Metulla this past summer, was presented to UIA Canada past president Gerald Halbert by Israeli hockey players who have been beneficiaries of scholarship programs created through UIA at Metulla's Canada Centre. Metulla mayor Yossi Goldberg (left of Halbert) looks on.

Jewish Athletes to Hall of Fame

By TOM TUGEND
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

LOS ANGELES — Nine athletes from five countries were recently elected into the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

The 1998 honorees include four Americans: Marv Levy, who coached the National Football League's Buffalo Bills to four consecutive Super Bowls (1990-93); David Stern, commissioner of the National Basketball Association since 1984; Cpl. "Izzie" Schwartz, world flyweight boxing champion from 1927-29; and A.J. Liebling, celebrated author and *New Yorker* magazine boxing writer from the 1930s to the 1950s.

Passport to winter

TORONTO — The North York Ski Centre is offering free skiing and snowboarding to grade five students.

The Ski and Snowboard Passport entitles fifth-graders to three complimentary one-day lift tickets at 25 participating ski resorts in Ontario, including the North York Ski Centre. The passport is good until the end of the ski season, excluding Christmas and March breaks. Each child must be accompanied by a full-price paying adult, but each adult can bring up to two passport holders per visit.

Chanukah Continuity Campaign

As our way of helping to ensure the irreversibility of Jewish continuity, *The CJN* is launching a special continuity subscription campaign in time for Chanukah. We have decided to offer our readers a special, one-time opportunity to provide their children or their grandchildren with their own subscription to *The CJN*.

A gift subscription for your child or grandchild, **who does not already subscribe to *The CJN*,** will cost **$14.95** (taxes included) for one full year to anywhere in Canada.

Over the past few years, *The CJN* has grown and evolved into an award-winning national community newspaper widely read both here in Canada and abroad. We are extremely proud of this publication. Could there be a better gift at Chanukah for your child or grandchild than the opportunity to feel part of the Jewish community?

Sincerely,

Mordechai Bauman

The editor.

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LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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The Inside Back

ספרותנו

מאת: יעל זליגר

אין זו אגדה: הסיפור והמעשה מאת: יואל רפל, בהוצאת ידיעות אחרונות, ספרי חמד, 1997, הוא ספר, ספק אלבום, מרחיב עין ועשיר בתוכן.

בדברי הפתיחה מצטט המחבר את י.ח. ברנר כאשר ברנר הנציח את המוטו לחוברות "המעורר" שראו אור בראשית המאה, בלונדון; "כי לעוררך אני בא אחי. לעוררך לאמר: שאל, בן-אדם לנתיבות עולם, שאל אי הדרך, אי?..." ובדרך זו מסביר המחבר, יואל רפל, הוא מבקש לחקדיש את ספרו חיפה ליחידי חסגולה ששאלו, עוררו ובקשו את חדרך הציונית. 176 עמודים מעוטבים בחדר. כתבות מעוטרות בצילומים מרתקים ומקורות היסטוריים ראשוניים יקרי ערך.

שוב נרגשים אנו לנוכח עותק החזמנה לקונגרס הציוני הראשון, בשפה העברית, או לרשום "אם תרצו אין זו אגדה" בכתב-ידו של הרצל. משעשוע חן הכרזות לעידוד התיירות לארץ-ישראל משנות ה- 20, או כרזות התעמולה של חקרן הקיימת מאותם הימים, עמוד השער לספר חשנה של המגבית המאוחדת לארץ ישראל שיצא לאור ב- 1913, או פרסומת אמריקאית לחברת סיגריות על רקע דגל ישראל.

המחבר מלווה את רישומי הכרונולוגיה החיסטורית בדגמי קריקטורות מקורות הסיפור הציוני. למשל, תחת "עיכובים" (להגשמה הציונית) מובאת קריקטורה חמכונה "חקסס האפריקני" ובה רואים את הרצל רוקד עם ישראל זנגביל, מנהיג חציונות חטריטוריאליסטית וחנגנים ברקע הם מנהיגי הציונות שתמכו בתכנית אוגנדה.

כמה קטעים בספר עוסקים בחימנון הלאומי. תמונה נפלאה של נפתלי הרץ אימבר, מנונדב לפני חמצלמה מקשטת את הכתבה אודות חנוסח חראשוני ל"התקווה", שאימבר כתב בשנת בקר אצל סלומד יהודי בעיר יאסי שברומניה בשנת 1877.

וחניגון! האם חושאלה מנגינת "התקווה" מתוך "מולדבה" של סמטנה, או האם היתה זו חשאלה מלחן-עם רומני ממחוז מולדאביה? וכן ידוע שאנשי חעלייה חשנייה בקשו לאמץ את "ברכת עם" ("יתחזקנה") של ביאליק כחימנון הלאומי, והיו שבחרו ב"שיר המעלות" ואחרים שהעדיפו חימנון אחר, אך, בסופו של ענין, "התקווה" אומצה אף ש"עד היום מושרת "התקווה" בתוקף המסורת ולא מכוחו של חוק" מציין המחבר.

בספר פרק מצויין על קורות חדגל הישראלי. מי באמת היה הראשון שהציע את חדגל הכחול-לבן? האמנם יתכן שהיה זה המשורר היהודי-אוסטרי, לודוויג אוגוסט פרנקל שאחד משיריו משנת 1864 דיבר על "צבעי ארץ יהודה"; "...עומד הוא בתפילה ועטוף הוא/ גלימה לבנה מזוהירת/ שולי תגלימה חלבנה/ פסי תכלת רחבים יכתירו.../ צבעי הארץ האהובה הם./ תכלת-לבן הם גבולות יהודה..."

ועד חרבה אוצרות מצאתי בספרו של יואל רפל. למשל, תיעוד תכנית מקווה ישראל בנוסח המקורי של קרל נטר, או מכתב סתר ששלח ברל כצנלסון לפנחס רוטנברג בנושא עבודה ערבית בארץ ישראל, צילום כתב הרשאה לביסוס מעמדן של המושבות בארץ, פרוטוקול ישיבת מרכז המורים משנת 1914 בנושא "מלחמת חשפות" ועוד.

בספר גם תיעוד תופעות כאובות מזמן חיישוב כמו קריקטורות חמתארות בלעג די אכזרי את חעולים מגרמניה.

בסיום חספר מונחן ציוני, חפותח במונח "אמנסיפציה" ומסיים ב"שקל ציוני", "אינדקס מושגים ואישים מ"אוטואמנסיפציה" ו"אישיסקיץ" ועד "תוכניות למדינה יהודית" ו"שוחט, מניה".

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ZUCCHINI PARMESAN LATKES

2 lbs. zucchini	1 tsp chopped garlic	2 tsp sugar
1/2 lb. potatoes, peeled	3/4 cup chopped parsley	1/3 cup flour
1/2 tblsp lemon juice	1 tsp salt	2 medium eggs
1 cup chopped scallions	1/2 tblsp pepper	oil for frying
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese		

Grate zucchini and potatoes, drain well and toss in the lemon juice to prevent browning. It is important that you get almost all the moisture out of the vegetables. Add the scallions, cheese, garlic, 1/2 cup parsley, salt and pepper, sugar, flour, and eggs and toss to make sure that the ingredients are well mixed.

Heat a 1/2" of oil in a pan until hot and add silver dollar-size mounds of batter, frying over high heat until golden brown and crispy. When serving, sprinkle with a little more salt and the remaining chopped parsley. Yield: 24 pancakes.

About families

Dear Susan,

Our 14-year-old son has a peanut allergy. He is about to go on a weekend school trip, and my husband and I have a number of concerns. First of all, we worry about how he will control his food intake. We are also concerned how he will deal with the girls who will be going on the trip with him. If he decides to kiss a girl, he needs to know what she has eaten or this may trigger an attack, and we don't know how we can be sure he will do this. Help!

Sleepless

Dear Sleepless,

Being the parent of a 14-year-old is no easy task. They are at a stage in their lives when they tend to buck authority. They also tend to be more fearless than parents would like, since they consider themselves to be all-powerful. While these tendencies will test a parent at the best of times, the situation you present certainly poses a unique set of difficulties.

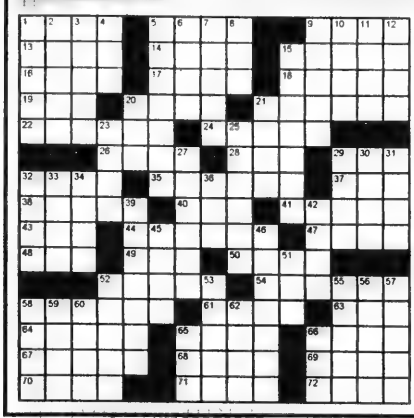
I assume that your son has lived with his peanut allergy for some time. I am sure that over the years he has learned to ask appropriate questions, and reject any food or food provider if he is concerned that the proper precautions have not been taken.

You can discuss the trip and the precautions he can take to protect himself. These can include making sure that he takes an adequate supply of EPI pens, identifying local hospitals and ensuring that he has ascertained the quickest route to available medical help. Your son should wear a Medic Alert bracelet or chain, as well as carry a health card with allergy information. Appealing to your son's sense of responsibility will elicit a more positive response.

Your second question deals with sexuality, which is also a dominant influence on your son's behavior. Your challenge is to encourage safe sex with an added twist that can be humorous but also extremely difficult and potentially embarrassing and dangerous. The fact is that few boys of his age have the capacity to slow down and not give in to the powerful urges inside them. You can suggest that your son's need to ensure that his date will not pose a threat to him can be addressed as a type of foreplay, part of getting acquainted. He will have to learn to ask the right questions in the right way, and to sensitize those girls he becomes involved with to be cognizant of what they eat so that they do not compromise his health.

Susan Leventhal is a family, marital and individual therapist, who has been practising for more than 18 years.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Meshuggehna bird
5. Few
9. Ark
13. Hitler and Haman
14. Ender
15. Tsahal
16. Amidah action
17. Nebbish (Eng)
18. False witnesses
19. Tay-Sachs carrier
20. Writer Ferber
21. Uzi ammo
22. Benjamin's boy
24. Lahr and Parks
26. Hebrew letter
28. 52
29. Pisk (Yid.)
32. Sukkot season
35. Uzis
37. Long before
38. Hitler
40. Prophesize
41. Nosh (Eng)
43. "__Kapital" Marx work
44. "Do unto __"
47. Tu B'Shevat plantings?
48. Mems (Eng.)
49. Actor Cobb
50. Jews
52. Shofar sound
54. Brokerage firm
58. Toast
61. Preserve from harm
63. Alias
64. Similar
65. Saks or Macy's event
66. 1,014
67. Four to a dreidel
68. Purim month
69. Tzedakah
70. Acted the Galeel
71. Minyans
72. Not on Yom Kippur

Down

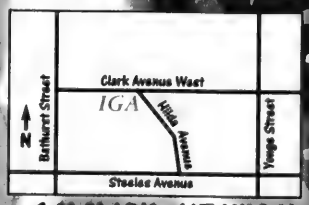
1. Actress Winger
2. Holocaust chambers
3. Simeon's sister
4. Methuselah
5. Actor Adam
6. Noah's rainbow
7. Saul's oldest daughter
8. Alenu
9. Plague
10. Talmud, __ Law
11. Town in Israel
12. Job's trouble
15. Herbie Mann
20. Wiggling tref fish
21. Not with meat!!
23. Equipment for Koufax
25. Mystery writer
27. Lox and Perch
29. Olympic medalist Arad
30. Artist Yaacov
31. __ and pans
32. Lighten
33. Sixth day creation
34. Reason for Shiva
36. Dues
39. Ziefeld dancers
42. Comes before shin
45. Koufax club
46. "Bilko" _ Phil
51. Daled (Eng.)
52. Made the matzoh
53. Hebrew letter
55. Boxer Rosenblum
56. Late-bloomin scholar
57. Pipek (Eng)
58. Benjamin to Jacob
59. 152
60. Jacob's disguise
62. Funt or Sherman
65. Used his tuches
66. Movie studio

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 50.)

IGA

Happy Chanukah!



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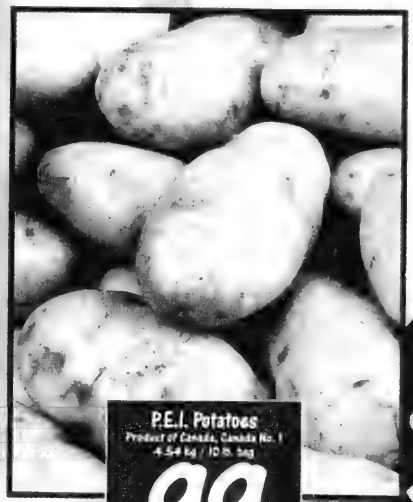

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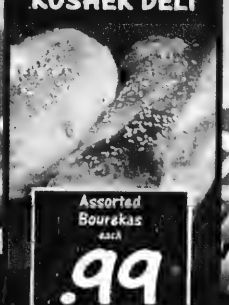

Assorted
Bourekas
each
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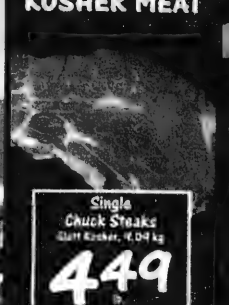
KOSHER MEAT



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The Canadian Jewish news

64 Pages | Thursday, December 25, 1997 | Kislev 26, 5758 | 75¢

This Week

Greater Toronto Area

Government names Windsor man as alleged Nazi war criminal. ***Page 5***

How celebrities celebrate the festival of lights. ***Page 6***

National

CJN* subscriber** Greg Harris lives in isolated hamlet in Pink Mountain, B.C. ***Page 27

International

Orthodox synagogue hires woman to work as rabbi – almost. ***Page 30***

On Campus

Observant Jew serves as music director on York U.'s CHRY radio station. ***Page 33***

Arts

Artist Orna Gang questions 'obsessive' feelings for Israel. ***Page 34***

Index

GTA 3
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
Coast to Coast 21
What's New 24
International 29
On Campus 32
Just Between us....33
Travel, Arts & Business 34
Health 37
Classified 39
Sports 42
Ask Lisa 43
Chanukah Greetings.... Section B

Shabbat: Mikketz
Candlelighting: 4:28
Kislev 27, 5758
Havdalah: 5:33

Jews targeted by hate mail

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) was stunned last week with what it called the biggest mass hate mailing in Canada in years.

CJC says nearly 100 people across the country – judges, academics, journalists, lawyers and CEOs – reported receiving a single-spaced, eight-page diatribe against Jews, mailed from Chicago.

"It's incredible," said CJC's Bernie Farber. "In my 14 years here, I've never seen anything like it. It's the most extensive hate mail campaign I've seen."

'I've never seen anything like it': Bernie Farber

A large number of non-Jews also received the mailing, Farber said. "There seems to be no rhyme or reason behind it."

Farber said he's familiar with the tract, dated October, 1995. Titled *Anti-Semitism — Found*, it's a hate-filled response to U.S. conservative commentator William Buckley's much-praised book *In Search of Anti-Semitism*.

The mailing contains standard anti-Jewish canards: that Jews control the United States media, monetary system, the entertainment business and are behind a plot to impose a "one world" order.

It also denies the Holocaust.

Farber agrees that not only is the missive not crude, like other anti-Semitic attacks, but it's lucidly written and organized.

CJC suspects the mailing is from the Chicago-based American Socialist Workers' Party, another name for the American Nazi Party. The tract arrived in a plain white envelope, with a 20 cent U.S. stamp. That made it more expensive to mail than it would have been had they used a postage meter, Farber noted, but a meter would have been traceable.

There's little that can be done about the mailings, CJC said, because they came from the United States and looked innocuous.

Congress has passed the material to the RCMP and to Metro Police's hate crimes unit. It's asking its regions across the country to

CELEBRATING CHANUKAH
Two-year-old Aaron celebrates the festival of Chanukah at preschool in Côte St. Luc, Que. ***[Marc Acoca photo]***

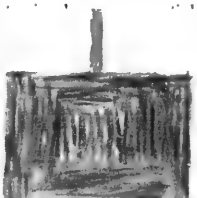
We clasp hands

Editorial

In ancient times, Chanukah was considered a "minor" holiday in that its origin was outside the Five Books of Moses. But this "minor" holiday evolved over the years into a major celebration. Like a burst of sunlight on an awakening grey morn, it inflamed the imaginations of succeeding generations with indescribable energy. The story of Matityahu, the old, brave man and his five brave sons, and of Hannah, the brave woman and her seven brave sons, helped to stir a people's soul and burnished for us our own armor of courage.

But it has been more than the jaw-dropping heroism of the Maccabees, more than the sheer force of the story and its lessons that explains the holiday's seismic pull upon our hearts.

Perhaps more than any of our holidays, major or minor, Chanukah speaks mo[illegible] to our children. Chan[illegible] There are the spinning games of the dreidels, the tasty treats that we eat, the chocolate coins we generously donate for non-charitable purposes,and the eight-day progression of light.



But as the accom[illegible] panying drawing cle[illegible] captures, it is clear th[illegible] of the truly compelling Chanukah speaks so[illegible] our children is because during Chanukah, we, their parents, "speak" directly to our children.

For eight days, we hold onto each other. We clasp hands. We [illegible]t the "old ways." We [illegible]estament of Matityahu. We offer blessings and in turn are ourselves blessed to be alive, able to see the candlelight dance and flicker in the eyes of our children, and privileged to live at a time when we can contribute to the building of a better [illegible]orld for them and for [illegible]ildren all over the [illegible]ld.

Happy Chanukah.

EARLY DEADLINES

There will be no issue Jan. 1, 1998. *The CJN* will return on Jan. 8, 1998. Display ad deadline for Jan. 8 issue is Wed., Dec. 31 at 10 a.m. and classified ad deadline is Tues., Dec. 30 at 4 p.m.

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Features

Halachah and fetal reduction

By RABBI CHAIM STEINMETZ

The birth of the McCaughey septuplets has made medical history and become a media sensation. After learning that they were expecting septuplets, the McCaugheys refused to abort some of the fetuses, because of their opposition to abortion. How would Jewish law view fetal reduction?

Comparative Law

This complex issue is discussed in two recent articles (*Multi-Fetal Pregnancy Reduction*, by Yitzchak Mehlman, *Journal of Halacha and Contemporary Society XXVII* (Spring 1994), and *Pregnancy Reduction* by J. David Bleich, *Tradition* (Spring 1995). Strong arguments can be made to either prohibit or permit fetal reduction. Essentially, the ethics of fetal reduction are based on two questions: Is abortion ethical? Is it acceptable to kill a few lives to save other lives?

Halachah is unequivocal that abortion for no compelling reason is prohibited (Sanhedrin 57b). It is equally unequivocal that an abortion must be performed when the pregnancy threatens the mother's life (Ohalot 7:6). In between, there is much debate about when abortion is permitted.

Some say that abortion is only allowed when the mother's life is threatened (Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, Iggrot Moshe, Even HaEzer 4:69-70). Others allow abortions in cases of great need, such as the abortion of a fetus conceived by adultery, or the abortion of a fetus with Tay-Sachs disease (see Rabbi Eliezer Waldenberg, Tzitz Eliezer 9:237).

According to this latter opinion, a septuplet pregnancy certainly constitutes great need. Even in the times of the Talmud, there was concern that fetuses may harm each other (Niddah 25b). Presently, studies show that a pregnancy larger than triplets poses a serious risk of miscarriage. This is sufficient cause to allow fetal reduction in large pregnancies.

However, many contemporary authorities follow the view that abortion is allowed only if it threatens the mother's life. If so, the important question is: Can you kill a few fetuses to save the others? This question is actually a rephrasing of the dilemma of lifeboat ethics: Can you kill one person to save the lives of many?

The Talmud Yerushalmi (Terumot 8:4) states that if a group of people are accosted by aggressors who say give us one of your party or we will kill all of you, the victims may not choose who to give over, even if this results in the entire group dying.

However, if the aggressors name a specific person, there is a disagreement. Rabbi Yochanan allows the group to hand over the specified person. Rabbi Shimon ben Lakish says this is allowed only if the specified person is guilty of a capital crime. Both agree that the victims may not choose one member of the group to be sacrificed, for it is ethically impossible to choose; no life is more important than another.

Based on this, one could argue that in the case of a multiple pregnancy, it is impossible to choose one fetus over another, and no fetal reduction is allowed.

However, other sources take a different approach to this dilemma. Some allow the group of victims to conduct a lottery to decide who to hand over (Pitchei Teshuvah 157:13). This was opposed by Chazon Ish (Sanhedrin 25). Another opinion (Tosefta Terumot 7:20, Rashi, Sanhedrin 72b, Yatza, Panim Meirot III:8), disputes the Yerushalmi, and allows the group, provided it is certain the entire group will die, to hand over an individual, even if no specification has occurred.

Based on these opinions, fetal reduction would be allowed if there is an assumption that the mother will probably miscarry. In addition, some argue that in a situation where the fetuses will probably not live, abortion would not be prohibited, because the prohibition applies only to the abortion of a viable fetus.

The question of fetal reduction touches on two controversial ethical questions. Although one could argue that fetal reduction is halachically prohibited, it appears that the majority of halachic opinions would allow fetal reduction to preserve the viability of a pregnancy.

Commission reverses position against tombstone manufacturer

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — Quebec's language police suddenly closed the file on a complaint against a Jewish tombstone manufacturer that a five-letter Hebrew word on his sign was too big in relation to the French translation.

Adverse media coverage and a comment from Louise Beaudoin, the minister responsible for the French language charter, apparently promoted the Commission de protection de la langue française to withdraw its demand that L. Berson & Fils, a St. Lawrence Boulevard landmark for 75 years, change a sign in which the word "mitzeivot" was deemed not the right size in relation to "monuments."

On the morning the story hit the news, owner Mendy Berson received a telephone call from the commission that the matter was over, without giving a reason why. A commission spokesperson confirmed that the case was indeed closed, but would not comment further.

Beaudoin said in the National Assembly that this was a case of civil servants enforcing the law too strictly and urged reconsideration.

Berson said he would only believe the affair was truly over when he received a confirmation in writing.

Berson received a notice last week from the commission that "monuments," the French translation of the Hebrew "mitzeivot," was not "clearly predominant," as the law stipulates.

Berson has two outdoor signs with the Hebrew word. The most prominent one does feature the characters of "mitzeivot" slightly larger than those of "monuments," which is both French and English, but it is at least 50 years old, Berson said. On the second sign, erected some 20 years ago, the two words are the same size. The corporate name, L. Berson & Fils Inc., appears in French only.

Berson said he would have changed the sign only if the commission could convince him that "five Hebrew letters really, really infringe on the French language.

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Vol. XXXVIII, No. 35 (2,881)

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Zundel's wife expresses fear for her safety

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — In a remarkable day of testimony that included bombshell after bombshell, Ernst Zundel's estranged wife said she feared for her life because of her testimony against her husband.

"In the last two months, I have been frightened and intimidated by Mr. Zundel and his associates," Irene Zundel said last week.

"Zundel got people to try to intimidate me and he wrote things that made me fear for the safety of me and my son," Irene Zundel said.

She was testifying before a Human Rights Commission tribunal that is looking into allegations that Ernst Zundel operated a computer Web site that distributed material likely to expose persons to hatred or contempt. Her initial testimony was given in mid-October and she has returned for cross-examination from her home in the United States.

Irene Zundel, who entered the courtroom accompanied by several plainclothes police officers, told the tribunal she felt she was testifying under duress because she was "threatened by my husband" and she felt "under threat of fear of my life."

The tribunal appeared to ignore her concerns, prompting several addresses from the witness box by Irene Zundel as the day's hearings concluded. She said she felt her concerns were not being addressed by the tribunal or by the numerous lawyers in the hearing room. She said she felt some questions by defence lawyer Doug Christie affected her rights. At the end of the day, the tribunal permitted commission counsel to direct her how to retain independent counsel.

But prior to that, Irene Zundel repeated the assertions she made in October, namely that Ernst Zundel controlled the content of the California-based Web site, known as Zundelsite, and that he instructed Marc Lemire in Toronto to post material to the site.

She also testified that Zundel was unfaithful during their marriage and she referred to Ingrid Rimland, the U.S.-based woman who ostensibly operates the Web site, as his "mattress cover."

She also told the tribunal that Zundel had decided to immigrate to the United States after all his legal cases in Canada were concluded. They planned to set up a "family Web site" and run it from their kitchen table. The site would have included a children's section, she said, but those plans were dashed when their marriage dissolved.

Irene Zundel's assertion that she feared for her life seemed to restrain Christie somewhat, who earlier in the week had adopted a contemptuous tone when questioning an Internet expert.

But at one point during cross-examination, Irene Zundel told Christie, "I don't particularly care for you to smirk about my concerns."

At another point, when Christie asked if he could approach the witness stand to show her a document, she said: "As long as you don't physically strike me."

Under cross-examination, Irene Zundel maintained that Lemire was paid by Zundel to post material to the Zundelsite. Asked by Christie how she knew he was paid for that, she said: "Five days a week, Marc shows up. Five days a week Zundel tells him what to do and the work gets done...and a cheque is left on Lemire's computer."

Under further questioning, Irene Zundel rattled off a list of five others on Zundel's payroll and named another person who assisted him as a volunteer.

In other testimony, Christie sparred with Ian Angus, president of Angus TeleManagement Group, on technical aspects of the Internet. Angus testified the Internet was a communications system that for the most part, used telephone lines to transmit information between computers.

Much of Christie's questioning centred on the definitions of "telephony" and "telephonic." Angus maintained that telephony included transmission of text data and other information, while Christie pointed to several dictionaries that defined it as transmission of sound.

The issue is key because the section of the Canadian Human Rights Act that Zundel is alleged to have breached makes it unlawful to promote hatred or contempt "telephonically" or "by means of the facilities of a telecommunication undertaking."

In other testimony, Toronto Mayor Barbara Hall said she viewed material from Zundelsite and concluded it could lead to violence and hostility.

The Toronto Mayor's Committee on Community and Race Relations, along with Holocaust survivor Sabina Citron, laid the initial human rights complaint against Zundel. The case is the first to apply human rights legislation to the Internet.

The week's activities began with applications from Paul Fromm, a former Peel-area school teacher who lost his job for associating with racists, and Lemire for intervener status. While Lemire's application was rejected, Fromm was permitted to participate in the hearing.

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Greater Toronto Area

A time to reminisce

Every Jewish holiday evokes memories of family and home. Chanukah, in particular, seems to inspire reminiscences of grandmother.

The following story, which was published in Viewpoints *in the late 80's, describes a visit with my grandmother that took place more than a decade ago.*

It is through the interplay of life's opposites that we gain insight into ourselves.

We are moved by this reflection because in the silence of still moments we understand very clearly that this is the truth of the human condition.

With my young children I recently went to visit my grandmother, a lovely woman, an old woman, a woman of ninety. Unlike the opposites of nature, there was no subtlety to the juxtaposition of opposites in this instance. My daughters, in the very dawn of their lives, their senses, their energy, their vitality awakening daily to unlimited possibilities. My grandmother, in the same room, struggling with dusk, depleted of physical essence, her lifeforce receding. For her, no possibilities are left. The real pathos of growing old is losing faith in one's possibilities. The day that she entered the nursing home is the day that she lost that faith.

As a rule, it is difficult to engraft the obligations of one's own heart upon the hearts of one's children. After all, one person's loves may be another person's chores. This is ever more so the case when the parent's heart is deeply obliged to an enfeebled, blind, old woman whose very appearance, simply, is unsettling to the youngsters. And yet, this old woman is *my* grandmother, the mother of my mother, the woman whose home was my home, whose arms were my arms, whose laughter was my laughter, whose love was my love. But she will never be to my children what she was to me; nor can I make it so. Knowing this, I ache.

When we arrive at the nursing home, the children cling to each other and to me. They are frightened, frankly, by the faces, the sounds, the gestures, the misshapen postures of so many of the people, who, from their wheelchairs, greet them with curiosity in the main lobby.

All eyes focus upon the four young, little curly-tops who have entered their building, their home. This merely quickens the pace of the girls. We go directly to the elevator. It smells faintly, though unmistakably, of dried urine. The girls look at each other, then at me, in silent acknowledgement of the fact.

The same faces, the same sounds, the same gestures, the same postures, though of different persons, await us in a hollow congregation of wheelchairs and walkers as we emerge from the elevator.

The girls still hold fast to each other's hands.

We enter my grandmother's room, her home. She is standing slightly bent over, holding onto her walker. She is inclined toward the doorway, but she is not walking. Her look is toward the doorway, but she does not see.

I call her name. I announce my arrival loudly, affectionately. Like a strong, reviving breeze into a limp sail, the sound of my voice immediately straightens her up. More to herself than to me, in whisper, she says my name twice.

"I have the girls with me. They came to see you. They wanted to come."

I walk quickly, directly to her. I kiss her on her forehead, in her hair. I hold her face in my hands caressing her cheeks, tracing with my fingers the gaunt shape and the leathery texture of her face. Her eyes close as I touch her. She places a hand over mine as it passes across her cheek. She is still standing. And the children are carefully watching my love for her.

She can see only the shapes of the four young visitors, who are now standing in a tiny cluster at her side. She cannot see their faces. She gropes for them, asking me to identify for her each child as she feels for their bodies.

Each child steps forward without hesitation to embrace and to be embraced by this very old woman, to kiss her and offer up the sound of their voices and the touch and the smell of their bodies to her. They have left their fear in the hallway and for this I am truly grateful.

I guide my grandmother to the largest chair in her one-room home. I sit down beside her. I do not let go of her hand. The girls hover around us, close enough to my grandmother that she is constantly touching them, and staring at them, and even laughing.

The conversation does not matter, although it is unceasing. There are no silent moments because silence is her normal companion. For now, this very short time being, I, her grandson, and my four children, are her companions.

Inevitably, our visit must end. I whisper to my grandmother that it is time for me to take the girls home. I cannot hide my melancholy. She senses this.

"Bring the little girls forward, so that I may bless them."

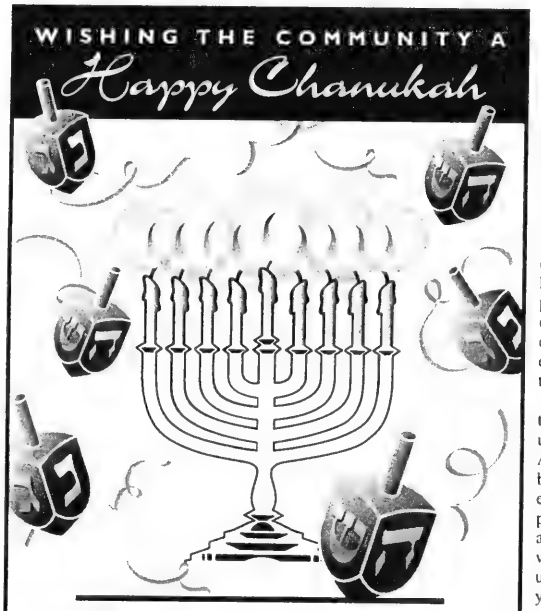
Like Joseph at his father's final bedside, I present each of the girls, one at a time for the invocation of my grandmother's blessing. Each in her turn, I bring a child near to her.

She kisses them and embraces them. She carefully speaks individually to each girl her words of promise and of possibility.

The tears are in my eyes alone.

Outside, as we leave the building, my grandmother's home, the girls run and skip to the car. I walk slowly, now with my fear. And the person for whom I fear, I have just left behind.

My grandmother died ten years ago on January 10, 1988, a short time after the visit. —*MBD*



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BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS

At the Leo Baeck Day School, the Canadian Children's Book Week was celebrated in many ways. To filfill the mitzvah of tzedakah, loonies and toonies were collected for Mevessaret Zion, the nursery school in Jerusalem that was burned down before the High Holy Days. Seen here (from left) Jessica Pollock, Steven Treger and Adam Goldberg with the loony bucket for Mevessaret Zion Nursery.

Greater Toronto Area

Ottawa names Windsor man as alleged Nazi war criminal

By RON CSILLAG
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — The federal government last week made good on its promise to name another alleged Nazi war criminal targeted for deportation.

Ottawa accused Windsor resident Michael Baumgartner, 73, of lying about his wartime past to enter Canada in the early 1950s, and later when he became a citizen.

The charges against Baumgartner allege he was a guard at two Nazi concentration camps, Sachsenhausen and Stutthof.

The Justice Department says Baumgartner failed to disclose "his collaboration with German authorities while engaged in activities associated with forced labor and concentration camps" in 1942 and 1943.

The charges, filed in the Federal Court of Canada, also allege that Baumgartner concealed his membership in the Waffen SS when he entered Canada.

Baumgartner is the 14th alleged Nazi war criminal targeted for stripping of citizenship and deportation since Ottawa shifted its policy away from criminal trials in 1995.

The charges against him come just a week after the government announced it will pursue denaturalization and deportation proceedings against Wasyl Odynsky, 73, of Scarborough.

Became citizen in 1959

He's alleged to have been a guard at labor and concentration camps in Poland in 1943 and 1944 [*CJN*, Dec. 18].

Earlier this month, Paul Vickery, chief prosecutor in the Justice Department's war crimes unit, assured Jewish leaders that Ottawa would move against two more suspects – the 13th and 14th – "in the near future."

Baumgartner is a native of Sokunda, Hungary, and became a citizen in 1959.

The *Encyclopedia Judaica* says 100,000 people died at Sachsenhausen, near Berlin. Jews rounded up on Kristallnacht in 1938 were shipped there.

At Stutthof, near Danzig in Nazi-occupied Poland, 52,000 Jewish prisoners were interned. Only about 3,000 of them survived.

Baumgartner maintained his innocence last week, saying he was not a soldier at the time.

His lawyer, Steve Harvey, was quoted as saying that "most" of the allegations against his client are comprised of personal interviews conducted by the RCMP "with counsel present and without [Baumgartner] corroborating the information."

Denaturalization and deportation proceedings against four other alleged Nazi war criminals are to begin within the next eight months.

The trial of suspected war criminal Vladimir Katriuk, 76, began in Montreal earlier this month [*CJN*, Dec. 11], while judgment in the case against Wasily Bogutin of Toronto is expected next month.

Earlier this year, the Supreme Court of Canada reinstated charges against three other alleged Nazi criminals, Erichs Tobiass, Helmut Oberlander and Johann Dueck. Preliminary motions in those cases continue.

Two other suspects have died since 1995, while one, Ladislaus Csizsik-Csatary, 82, voluntarily left Canada after the federal cabinet stripped him of his citizenship in August.

In a statement, Irving Abella, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress's war crimes committee, said there's "increasing evidence" that Ottawa is committed to bringing Nazi war criminals to justice.

CORRECTION

An article in last week's *CJN* on Russian immigrant Arkadi Kogan having been cheated out of his life savings stated that a company he invested in prior to leaving Moscow was Russian. In fact, the firm, Israsov, was advertised as an Israeli company.

VILLAGE SHUL GROUNDBREAKING
Ground was turned last week for the new $6 million Village Shul, at Eglinton Avenue and Old Park Road, expected to open next September. The 24,000-square foot synagogue will house a Hebrew school, rooftop playground, social hall and a Jewish learning library. The 100-family Village Shul has been located in a nearby storefront for the last seven years. On hand for the groundbreaking were the project's three main benefactors, from left, Allen Berg, Peter Friedmann and Leslie Dan. [Barry Shainbaum Photography]

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Palestinian doctor urges unity among Jews, Arabs

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Jews and Arabs are "cousins" and should resist all attempts to divide them, a Palestinian Arab doctor from Gaza said here recently in a heart to heart talk.

At the same time, Dr. Anton Shuhaibar said Jerusalem must be the capital of both Israel and Palestine, and acknowledged that fewer Palestinians believe in peace now than in 1993.

When he trained at an English hospital, Shuhaibar said he and a fellow trainee, an Egyptian Jewish doctor, agreed that if they ended up on opposite sides in a war they would rush to embrace, rather than fire a gun in anger.

He was appointed to the English hospital in the first place by a Jewish chief of staff.

"I feel the same way today," the otolaryngologist-in-chief at Shifa General Hospital, Gaza, told the Israel Affairs Committee at a breakfast meeting. "The Israeli doctors are our friends and are ready to help us."

There is an urgent need for upgrading the skills of Palestinian doctors and for the expertise of specialists at Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, and of hospitals in Israel.

This will be provided immediately, *The CJN* was told by Dr. Arnold Noyek, executive director, of the Toronto-based Isabel Silverman CISEPO program (Canada-International Scientific Exchange).

Four other CISEPO visiting-scholars from Gaza; Amman, Jordan; and Israel were introduced by Noyek as well as Rashad Saleh, Palestine House Canada chair, and Ziad Malawi, Canadian Arab Network president.

The union between Jews and Arabs is like a Catholic marriage and there can be no divorce, Shuhaibar said.

Asked if there was as much intense feeling for peace among Palestinians as among Israelis, he did not answer the question directly, but said the mood of Palestinians depends on day to day political events.

He believes that all doctors are healers, that medicine is above politics, and he now has a strong feeling that CISEPO is helping to achieve peace.

Security regulations imposed on Gaza under the Oslo peace treaty make it frustrating to have Israeli doctors come to his hospital, Shuhaibar said, and he called for an end to the isolation of Gaza.

"Between 1948 and the '60s, Palestinians who wanted peace were considered traitors, and now Israeli people who talk peace are considered traitors," he commented, sadly.

Shuhaibar built the ENT department at Shifa Hospital, which, among other things, treats infants and children for hearing loss, Noyek said.

That hospital now offers medical services to a million people in the Gaza strip, he said.

Trained at the medical school of the University of Cairo, Shuhaibar served as a doctor in the Gaza refugee camps and is a board member of the Greek Christian Church.

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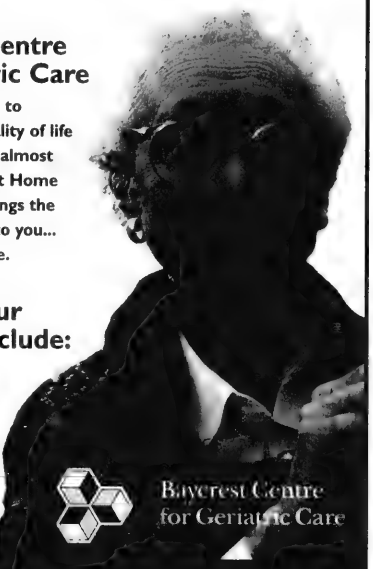

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How others celebrate the miracle of lights

By JOYCE SINGER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — It's that zany time of year again. Time to whip up heaping plates of crispy golden latkes; get dressed up in our party best; fire up the Chanukiah; play spin the dreidel; and present holiday gifts and gelt to everyone in the house too young to vote. All this for eight entire days! And how do the luminaries celebrate Chanukah, the miracle of lights?

'Honest' Ed and Anne Mirvish sometimes find that travel commitments keep them away from home at Chanukah.

But this year, Ed happily reports, they will be home and able to celebrate with son David and his family.

"In our family, gifts are coming and going all the time. Chanukah is really a time for children and for a party. In recent years, the Chanukahs haven't been like the old days – regrettably," he says.

As a boy, he had a Jewish school upstairs from their grocery store. And they had a shul around the corner, where he had to say daily prayers.

"So we were brought up very Orthodox, but now I belong to the Orthodox, the Conservative and the Reform Temple. We don't take any chances, we're tuned in on *all* channels!"

Denny O'Neil (CHFI's Bob Magee) and **Jeanne Beker** (Fashion Television) celebrate most religious holidays where gift-giving is featured, kibbitzes O'Neil.

Married for nearly 12 years, with daughters Becky, 10, and Joey, 8, they celebrate the season with "the Chanukiah cookin', Santa Claus and all the traditions that were part of my childhood (Anglican) and Jeanne's (Jewish)."

This year they are planning to retreat to their country place in the Muskokas, with Bekker's mom Bronia and the children.

"Since we're both in the media, it's nice to have a quiet, family time. The kids get Chanukah gelt, and they play with the dreidel. Both kids really get into the lighting of the candles and Becky knows the prayers," O'Neil says.

Avinoam Silverman is a promising young dancer with the National Ballet Company of Canada. He is distinguishing himself in *The Nutcracker* this season, as an icicle attendant to the Snow Queen.

"When I was at the ballet school, the chef would make latkes for Chanukah," he remembers.

Silverman has been living here for the past four years, as practically the only Jewish member of the troupe, and certainly the only Israeli.

"My father was an American who made aliyah, and we were religious till I was about 11, when we became a secular family," Silverman says. "We still maintain some of the customs, like [saying] kiddush, but not all the 613 rules."

Is he homesick? "Of course, especially at holiday time, because it's a time for family. I also get homesick for Israel, because my roots are in that country."

Entertainer **Michael Danso** says that he and his wife Cyrel will be going up to BAYT, the Beth Avraham Yoseph Synagogue, to celebrate with friends.

"Afterwards," says Danso, "around midnight, we'll call Israel, to speak with our oldest son Adam, 28, our daughter-in-law and our two grandchildren."

Daughter Kim, 25, lives in Connecticut; son Jason, 22, is in Toronto. There will be gift-giving, and good friends invited for dinner.

"When you get together with family and friends and share a meal, you cement the family bonds and the feelings of kinship. That's what Chanukah really is for us."

Greater Toronto Area

Leading guitar maker receives Bronfman Award

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Canada's foremost guitar maker, William "Grit" Laskin, was recently presented with the annual $20,000 Saidye Bronfman Award, one of the largest individual arts prize in Canada, in a ceremony at the Art Gallery of Ontario.

This is the first time in the Saidye Bronfman Award's 21-year history that it has been given to a musical instrument maker. Previous recipients have included potters, fibre artists, glass artists, wood carvers and other artisans.

The award, established by the Samuel and Saidye Bronfman Family Foundation in honor of the late Saidye Bronfman's 80th birthday, recognizes the excellent work of an individual who has made a significant contribution to the development of crafts in Canada. It is presented by the Canada Council for the Arts and the Canadian Museum of Civilization. In addition to the cash award, works by the recipients are acquired by the museum for its permanent collection.

"Laskin has contributed to the centuries-old tradition of guitar making, not only by preserving time-honored techniques, but by adding to them with innovative solutions to technical challenges. He endows his instruments with a powerful visual presence imbued with wit and drama," the award statement noted.

William "Grit" Laskin

Laskin, who resides and maintains a studio in Toronto, has been building guitars for more than 26 years. He says that every guitar is different because each musician is different. He meets and talks extensively with his clients, and tailors the instruments to their individual needs.

His classical, flamenco and steel-string guitars are in demand throughout the world, and his waiting list of commissions extends to the year 2002. Players of his instruments include k.d. lang, Tom Chapin, Garnet Rogers and a host of other musicians. He also receives commissions from guitar making colleagues across Canada and the United States.

A many-faceted-artist, Laskin has used his engraved inlay art to take the tradition of musical instrument decoration beyond the purely decorative. For Laskin, the inlay medium has become a tool for communication, not merely embellishment.

In 1988, he co-founded and was twice president of the Association of Stringed Instrument Artisans (ASIA), the international organization for professional builders and repairers of musical instruments.

In 1995, he authored the first code of ethics for luthiers (makers of stringed musical instruments). The author of several books, his first novel, *Angel Could Smell the Fire*, was published in 1996.

Laskin is also an acclaimed musician/song writer/singer with three CDs and many live performances to his credit. He plays the guitar, mandolin, Northumbrian smallpipes and concertina.

In 1996, he launched the Borealis Recording Co. with three partners, in order to extend Canadian folk music to a wider public.

Laskin, who believes that of all the arts, music is the most direct and powerful route to our deepest emotions, says, "The very least I can do, as I spend my life nudging the guitar another small step closer to its apex, is to pass on to others what I am learning.

"The quest for sound is sweet and irresistible and never ending."

Memorial fund aids Jewish poor families

TORONTO — The Jewish community has a significant number of poor Jewish families that often get overlooked because of the misconception that Jews are rich, according to Gordon Wolfe, executive director of Jewish Family & Child Services (JF&CS).

Wolfe says approximately 12 percent of the Jewish population in Toronto is poor, a number comparable to that in the general population.

"Stereotypes can be a dangerous thing because many people assume the Jewish community is wealthy. Those who are poor often feel more ostracized from society than a non-Jewish counterpart would."

In 1985, Ruth Wattenberg Auslander died at age 54. Her husband Norman proposed to JF&CS that a new fund to help the poor be established in her name.

"Ruth was a mentsh – a genuine human being," says Norman Auslander. "She herself grew up in the poor Jewish 'ghettos' of Montreal, and always reached out to the poor in any way she could.

"Her untimely death was a devastating loss to her family and the community as a whole, and this was the one way felt I could keep her generosity and spirit alive."

Twelve years later, the Ruth Wattenberg Auslander Emergency Fund (RWAEF) continues to help poor Jewish families.

"The JF&CS receives funding to help subsidize the regular services provided by the agency, such as financial aid, counselling and more. The RWAEF is literally for the emergency needs of our clients that our regular funding can't cover, whether it be clothing, health care or courses for children with special requirements," says Wolfe.

In 1993, the Auslander family held a Fantasy Auction to raise money for the fund.

"It was an unconventional venture for the JF&CS to support," says Auslander. "Usually the agency is responsible for allocation of resources, but in this case, they allowed us to do our own fundraising event."

The family raised nearly $23,000 that evening, which helped the fund continue through the '90s.

Under the auspices of the JF&CS, the fund has been able to continue to grow slowly, but the agency must be very selective in its allocations.

"If more people knew about what this fund can do, I'm sure we'd receive donations from more than those who knew Ruth, although she did touch an unbelievable number of people," Wolfe says. "To truly fulfil the vision upon which the RWAEF was founded, we need more community support."

For more information, call Florence Weinberg, JF&CS, 416-638-7800.

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THE REAL MIRACLE OF CHANUKKAH
...IS NOT THAT THE LIGHT LASTED FOR EIGHT NIGHTS.
THE REAL MIRACLE IS THAT THE LIGHT HAS LASTED
FOR MORE THAN TWO THOUSAND YEARS!

Always on the edge

In Jerusalem, where this editorial is being written, the air crackles with an unceasing cacophonous staccato of sounds and sighs, myriad affirmations and reminders of life lived here intensely, vigorously, almost always "on the edge" of emotional drama.

Ubiquitous on any of the city's main streets are the pounding of jackhammers, the revving engines of large diesel buses, loud volumes of radios from the rolled-down windows of cars driving by, vendors at full voice hawking their goods, the frequent chirping of cellular phones, and the constant impatient, intemperate honking of every conceivable car horn.

Perhaps because it is winter, and it is chilly and rain is falling, people literally run their lives here at fast, aggressive paces.

Each day brings a number of news stories, any one of which, in "slower-paced" places, would halt traffic. But not here. Here, traffic zooms. In Jerusalem, these stories are part of the electricity charging the air.

For example, a sampling of only one day's stories in the middle of last week, brought forth the following three items:

• Minister of Defence Yitzhak Mordechai submitted a West Bank redeployment map based on his views of Israel's "security interests." In it, 42 out of 144 Jewish settlements in the West Bank are omitted from Israeli sovereignty. Not surprisingly, it has become a major issue of debate.

• Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani reported that so far this year, 43,371 cars had been stolen in Israel. This figure is up 25 percent from the entire total last year of 34,600 cars reported stolen.

• A poll of 1,180 Palestinians, conducted last month by the Jerusalem Media and Communications Centre, showed that 17.3 percent of those polled supported Hamas, compared to 11.3 percent in July.

But people here do not "run" fast because of the news alone. They do so, in part, because of the urgency to live, which is so much more apparent in Jerusalem.

On the very same day as these stories appeared in print, so too did the following three items of news.

• At the end of an unprecedented meeting in Cairo with the Ashkenazi chief rabbi of Israel, Yisrael Lau, one of the most important Sunni Muslim leaders in the Arab world, Sheikh Mohammed Al Tantawi "fiercely condemned terrorism that targets innocent people."

• Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Labor leader Ehud Barak and other public figures signed a social policy pact called Peace in Israel. The pact was initiated by the newly opened Nachshon Heritage, Tolerance and Understanding Centre, named after Nachshon Wachsman, the young IDF soldier kidnapped and killed by Palestinian terrorists.

• In the same poll conducted by the Jerusalem Media and Communications Centre, 74.2 percent of Palestinians polled supported the peace process, as opposed to 58.7 percent in July.

It is not a Pollyanna exercise to put the latter three reports alongside the former. Rather it is an exercise in drawing a fuller, richer truth about the air at the "edges" of life where people live in Jerusalem in December 1997.

As this is the last editorial of 1997, it is important that we know.

Latimer decision to end life was arrogant

Your editorial condemning the inappropriate sentence meted out to Robert Latimer is right on. (*CJN*, Dec. 11)

As the father of a disabled daughter, I am troubled by the decision of Mr. Justice G.E. (Ted) Noble. Upon his appointment, Noble took an oath to uphold the laws of Canada – not to respond to public opinion nor to groups and organizations with their own agenda. If mercy killings are to be permitted in our society, that is for Parliament to enact. A judge's role is to interpret and apply the law, but not to make it.

While one can sympathize with the anguish of the Latimer family in raising a severely disabled child, there can be no moral nor legal justification for Latimer's vigilante form of justice. There are in this country many agencies willing and able to care for children like Tracy Latimer. Again, as happens all too frequently, little or no regard is given to the rights of the victim. It is arrogance in the ultimate degree for those of us blessed with no mental nor physical disabilities to purport to determine the worth and value of a life of someone less fortunate than we are. We have no right to assume that if the quality of life of a disabled person is less than our standard, then we have some God given right to terminate that being.

Noble concluded that a mandatory sentence with prolonged imprisonment would have caused hardship for Latimer's family. Is that not the case for any convicted murder with a wife and children?

We live in a copycat society and one can only hope that an appellant court will right this wrong and send out a message that all Canadians, whether disabled or not, are judged by the same standard of justice.

Bert Raphael
Toronto

Rabbi Stern drives wedge between community members

Rabbi Stern's letter (*CJN*, Dec. 4) condemning Reform Jewish practices and the controversy surrounding the conversion bill is both inaccurate and misinformed. I find the rabbi's innuendoes to be damaging and not in the interest of unity. Although Rabbi Stern preaches unity and brotherhood among all Jews to his congregation, he contradicts himself in his letter to the Jewish community in *The CJN*. His contempt of liberal Jewish policies is very evident and I find his comments to be self-serving at best. This only places a deeper wedge between us than the one that already exists. I would argue with the rabbi that it will not only be the Orthodox who will mend the world, but rather that tikkun olam can only result from the unity that must be found throughout the entire Jewish community.

It is time to put aside our individual prejudices and concentrate on the real issue at hand. The conversion bill has nothing to do with who is a Jew but rather with who is a rabbi. This digs deep into the heart and soul of our being as practising Jews. I have been taught not to judge how others choose to pray; however, it seems to be the incessant criticism from the right that stands in judgment of all others. The vast majority of North American Jews have chosen to adopt a liberal method of practice. This is not abandoning tradition, but rather it is embracing it in the context of modern day thinking. We must be left to consider our own sense of spirituality and not have it dictated to us from the right. It has been said that the problems in Israel will not be solved there, but rather in the Diaspora. To this I agree; however, if we continue to fight as undisciplined siblings, not only will these disagreements not go away, I fear that the future of the Jewish community will prove to be a very trying one. To Rabbi Stern I simply say, try to accept all Jews as they are and stop passing judgment.

Bob K. Hundert
Toronto

Soap made from Shoah victims

We're much disturbed by Sol Littman and Prof. Jacques Kornberg's statement (*CJN*, Oct. 9) that there is no proof that human remains were used by Nazis to make soap. The undersigned persons are living witnesses of the opposite.

In Theresienstadt/Terezin concentration camp, in February 1945, our group asked for soap and we received it. They looked like ordinary soap bars of a yellowish appearance, about 7.5 cm x 5 cm. The letters RJF and 5 or 6 digits were on them, meaning *Reine Juden Fett* (pure Jewish fat). They didn't give the usual suds. Later, realizing what these were, we gave them back.

I remember the Hungarian fascists' expression in 1943: "You will be nice soap," when they saw a fat Jewish person. *So they knew about it.*

Persons who served the Hungarian army as Jewish slave workers had the same experience in Russia.

F. Kertesz
A. Flesch
Montreal

CJN was delivered, despite mail strike

I would like to commend your circulation department and staff for the splendid job you did in delivering *The CJN* to your subscribers during the mail strike. Although I did not receive one letter, your paper was delivered to me on time.

Bernie Parl
Toronto

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

Perspectives

Chanukah lights symbolize Jewish miracles

By SORIN FINCHELSTEIN

"How does this night differ from any other night?" is the question that Jews have asked on every seder night for hundreds of generations. However, for millions of Jews born and raised within what was once known as the Pale of Settlement, there is another day that holds an equally major significance – the day they left their native land and were thus again "freed from bondage," this time on an individual basis.

The moment of those people's second delivery, however joyful, saw many of them undergoing a thorough and sometimes painful scrutiny with regard to their identity as Jews. For if, a century ago east European Jewry could be regarded as a fairly homogenous entity, that assertion gradually lost its validity, as major historical events such as the Russian revolution, the Holocaust and the birth of the Jewish state came to shatter its contention. Since the geographical area to which we refer was, for more than four decades, ruled by authoritarian Communist regimes, the latter played a consequential role in the way their Jewish subjects perceived and defined themselves.

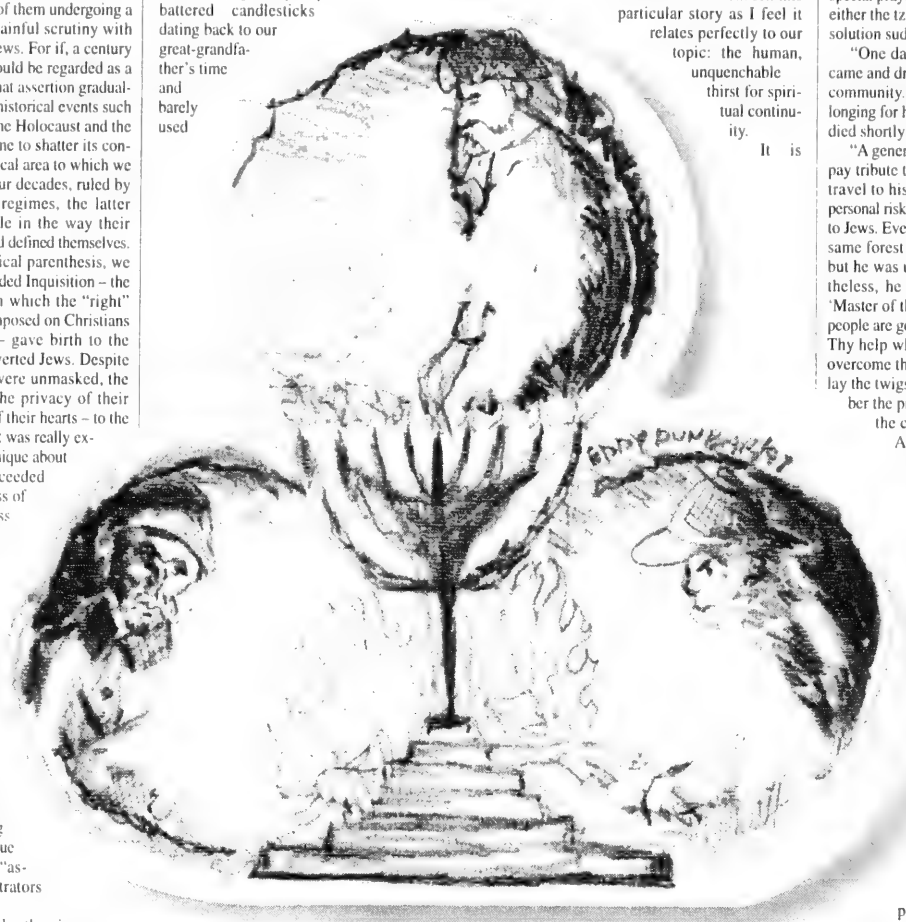
To venture into a historical parenthesis, we may remember that the dreaded Inquisition – the bloody instrument through which the "right" blend of Christianity was imposed on Christians and non-Christians alike – gave birth to the Marranos, the forcibly converted Jews. Despite of the capital risk if they were unmasked, the Marranos stuck – within the privacy of their families and in the bottom of their hearts – to the faith of their ancestors. What was really extraordinary and absolutely unique about them was the way they succeeded in preserving their awareness of being Jewish, an awareness which was quietly transmitted from generation, to generation, for hundreds of years.

Five centuries later, by alternating brutal policies with more subtle means, Communist regimes in eastern Europe were more successful in this regard, as they needed only a few decades to alienate from Judaism a sizeable segment of their Jewish subjects. The code word used by watchdog groups to describe the technique and the policy involved is "assimilation," while its perpetrators settled for "integration."

We must admit that, under the circumstances, there were indeed Jewish people who, for idealistic or practical reasons, did believe in the necessity of becoming "integrated" and consequently, were willing to shed their "ethnic ballast."

Ironically, the major obstacle in achieving integration proved not to lie with those Jews but ultimately with the very environment which allegedly was to absorb them. For the process of so-called "integration," while depriving the targeted people of their spiritual roots, did not prevent them from being still persecuted as Jews. The subjects of this failed social experiment affecting two, three, or sometimes four consecutive generations were thus left alone in an emotional no-man's land, to be continuously haunted by a painful sentiment of spiritual void.

These lines are aimed precisely at those of you who have known for years that you were Jewish, yet, aside from the feeling of being different and the clear perception of your being treated in a different way, were never really able to identify or to pinpoint that difference. Consequently, your awareness of being Jewish did not come from within, but developed mainly as a reaction to the way you were regarded from without. I, personally, can relate to you, for I also belonged to this particular group of spiritually uprooted Jews. We are indeed a quaint lot who – sometimes despite our wishes, sometimes unbeknown to us – grew up as *apikorskim*, not through our own fault, but rather by default. For many of us, being Jewish amounted to no more than a family name gentiles saw as being funny; a pair of battered candlesticks dating back to our great-grandfather's time and barely used since; and a frail, once-white, now-yellowish antique prayer shawl disintegrating at the bottom of a seldom opened drawer.



By an unfortunate concurrence of certain historical developments, we were denied for decades true access to our Jewish spiritual inheritance, this loss being definitely etched in our inner structure. Miraculously, we now have the opportunity to put the past behind us. What we all should be aware of is that, along with this opportunity, we also have an important privilege, as we can finally reach out towards, and draw strength from, the everlasting fountain of Judaism.

In this regard, I urge you to see Judaism, not as a petrified set of rules and regulations, but as a most vivid and colorful rainbow of choices which present themselves to you. As a Jew, you are the follower of a faith and a life philosophy, which, as one of our sages put it, does not extol perfection but perfectibility. This distinction, however subtle it might seem, emphasizes the fact that, regardless of the religious, philosophical or political beliefs we might hold, we are first and foremost human beings. This quality demands our engaging in a permanent quest to improve ourselves at both an individual and a community level.

It may be the first time you celebrate Chanukah, the Festival of Lights. Traditionally, every Chanukah night should be concluded with a meaningful story. In keeping with the tradition, I would like to share with you a short but exquisite tale, a veritable jewel pertaining to the immensely rich Jewish lore. I have chosen this particular story as I feel it relates perfectly to our topic: the human, unquenchable thirst for spiritual continuity.

It is said that once upon a time, an old Jew came to see the wise Breslauer Rabbi. "Rebbe," the man said, "all my life, I have worked hard to provide for my family, I have prayed to our God, kept the holy Shabbat and lived according to what the Holy Book teaches us. Now, as I'm nearing the end of my earthly wandering, I'm asking you only one thing: You who are so learned and so righteous, can you perform a miracle, so I can see it? I'm not asking for a great miracle, like the parting of the sea or manna falling from heaven, but for only a small one, just enough to convince me that my life was worth living."

The wise rabbi looked at him, nodded his head, caressed his beard, and taking a deep sigh, said, "I'm going to tell you a story that my grandfather – may he rest in peace – told me as a child. It is a story which will hopefully satisfy your request. A very long, long time ago, not far away from here, but not close either, at the edge of the majestic Russian forest, there lived a very old and most revered Jew, by the name of Yankel. People from far away would come to seek his advice or just to marvel at his wisdom. For Yankel had devoted his whole life to studying the holy Torah and passing his knowledge to the young. Aside from that, the venerable patriarch enjoyed taking long walks through the forest of which he was so fond. It is said that whenever he was faced with a problem going beyond his powers and thus into the Almighty's, Yankel would head towards a certain clearing in the woods; light a fire, arranging the twigs in a certain pattern; and utter a special prayer. And the miracle always happened: either the tzuris went away by themselves or the solution suddenly became apparent.

"One day, though, the soldiers of the Czar came and drove him away, along with his whole community. Deeply saddened and sickened, and longing for his beloved forest, the embittered man died shortly after.

"A generation later, Yankel's son, wanting to pay tribute to his father's memory, undertook to travel to his native village. He did it at a great personal risk, since that area was by then off-limits to Jews. Eventually, Yankel's son entered the very same forest and wandered through it for hours, but he was unable to find the old glade. Nevertheless, he ardently called on the Almighty: 'Master of the Universe, please do hear me! My people are going through hard times and it is only Thy help which may give them the strength to overcome this hardship! I, myself, know how to lay the twigs and how to light the fire; I remember the prayer by heart, yet I just cannot spot the clearing my father used to pray in.' And the miracle…the miracle happened again.

"In his turn, another generation later and in similar circumstances, Yankel's grandson would not even attempt to travel to the old village, but he pleaded, 'Oh, God of Israel, Thou must help me! For neither am I able to reach that place in the forest, nor do I know how to light the fire; yet, I still remember the prayer.' And even then, the miracle happened.

"By the time Yankel's great-grandson had become the most respected elder of his village, they had been forced to move to yet another place. One day, he learned that a terrible thing was in the making, a thing of which his people were unaware and for which they were completely unprepared. Therefore, Yankel's great-grandson turned towards the Almighty to seek help. 'Lord of the Universe,' he uttered, 'it is with great hope that I pray to Thee, but also with great humility! For lost is all the means my ancestors used to reach Thee. I cannot light the fire, as I do not know how to lay the twigs. My great-grandfather's place in the forest is hundreds of miles away and impossible for me to find. Further still, I don't remember the all-powerful prayer. The only thing I do remember is the story!'

"For our Lord, in his immense kindness, this was enough and the miracle happened again. For the glade in the forest and the fire and the prayer and, of course, the story, one carries them all in one's soul. And this is, in itself, a true miracle!"

Upon lighting your first Chanukah candle, I would like you to remember that miracles do happen and that you can indeed be part of them.

Opinions

National service — a national obligation

The recent proposal by Israeli opposition leader Ehud Barak for compulsory national service for all Israelis has reopened a public debate on a festering social problem. Barak was referring to Israeli Arabs and haredi yeshivah students – two groups exempt from compulsory military service.

By Shira Herzog in Toronto

In the case of the Arabs, the exemption is both voluntary and forced. Historically, there has been a concern that Arabs serving in the army may pose a security threat. The Arabs, in turn, did not want to serve in the army for fear that in the event of war, they might find themselves taking up arms against their blood relatives on the other side of the border. In spite of this, the Druze and the Bedouin have accepted the responsibility of military service, and they are among the bravest fighters in the IDF.

The case of the Orthodox yeshivah students dates back to the early years of the state. In the aftermath of the decimation of centres of Jewish learning in Europe during the Holocaust, David Ben-Gurion agreed to the request of the Agudat Yisrael party to exempt yeshivah students from military service. At the time, they numbered only a few hundred, and the stated goal was to allow for the development of a new generation of Torah scholars.

Ben-Gurion had no way of knowing how this story would unfold. The reluctance to serve today has little to do with any religious prohibition to fight in the army. On the contrary, the obligation to defend one's people is a religious commandment. Thousands of religious soldiers serve in the IDF in all capacities, and many combine yeshivah studies with service in elite combat units. For those who request the exemption, it represents another effort to distance themselves from the mainstream of Israeli society and its influences. Their numbers have swelled, and the estimates of those currently exempted from service range close to 200,000.

There is an additional, insidious effect of this phenomenon. Virtually all of these students are on the Israeli equivalent of welfare. As long as they are studying in yeshivah, they cannot be drafted. If they step out into the workplace, they will be eligible for the draft. Many of them have large families living, in effect, below the poverty line, at a huge cost to the state.

In a country where military service is still a necessary fact of life, the exemption for able-bodied young men en masse has resulted in a deep-seated resentment of their special status. When approximately seven percent of eligible recruits from an identifiable group request the exemption in any given year, the numbers are too large to be ignored.

Any attempts to open a debate on the question have been quashed by the haredi parties. They seem to prefer their constituency under their influence, dependent on the dole and on the state allocations that they can control. Over the last few weeks, two new proposals have been made. Finance Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman, himself observant, proposed a "workfare" program for the yeshivah students, without any impact on their military exemption. His concern is the cost to the state of the subsidies to these students and their families.

More recently, Barak proposed compulsory national service for all Israeli citizens, in their own community. In this way, Barak seeks to neutralize the social objection to service, since the Orthodox students can serve "at home," without actually being conscripted. In the Knesset, Yossi Beilin of the Labor party is drafting a private member's bill in support of the Barak initiative.

To date, the haredi politicians have been unanimous in their opposition to these initiatives. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has also stated his opposition – obviously for reasons of political expediency and coalition politics. But the issue will not go away. As long as Israel has a compulsory draft, the inequity of the current system and the growing numbers affected will keep it alive. National service for yeshivah students and Arabs would level the playing field and would also make it easier for members of these groups to qualify for the benefits available to Israeli veterans. It would remove the sting from one of the most acute divides and points of tension in Israel's social fabric and would make it impossible to argue that the national burden is unevenly shouldered.

At the same time, in an important development in the "demilitarization" of Israeli society, it would give the same weight to service to the community in a civilian capacity as it does to active military service. This is an idea whose time has come. It deserves a serious debate on its merits.

Florida, a visitor's diary

Five November days in sunny Florida – a family occasion and a lecture – caused me to fill my mental diary with things both familiar and different.

By Rabbi Gunther Plaut in Toronto

First, the weather. When I add up all the sunny periods, they amount to a total of about one hour. The rest was rain, clouds, warm temperatures and humidity of 99 percent, while television brought me news of snow back home.

The shul we went to was Conservative, the crowd large and the rabbi's drashah very good indeed. It was the Torah portion Chayye Sarah, which deals with the death and burial of our matriarch, Sarah. The rabbi spoke about the way in which we comfort mourners. He was critical of many people's attempt to make the mourners "forget" their troubles. True comfort, he emphasized, lies in letting them know how much we cherished the deceased, how much we feel for and with the mourners, and how gratefully we remember the dead.

Even the speech of one young lady who celebrated her bat mitzvah was memorable. In essence, she said that she would try to do her part in securing the survival of Judaism and therefore would look for a Jewish husband so that her family could be brought up in the traditional way. I have heard a few speeches from 13-year-old scholars in my life, but this was the first time I ever heard anyone say that her/his marriage partner would have to be Jewish. Young people quite obviously can think very grown-up thoughts.

I left the synagogue briefly between the Torah service and Musaf. I noticed that in faraway Florida they have faithfully imitated the northern custom (or is it the other way around?) that causes young people to leave the sanctuary as soon as their friend has finished his/her "performance;" they then skip the rest of the service, talking or running around and waiting for the time when they can return to the real thing, the reception.

Toronto synagogues are not immune to this disheartening display that makes it all too clear that these young people's attendance at the service has nothing whatsoever to do with religion.

But I was happy to find that even in the southern fairyland, there are serious attempts to bring up a new and duty-conscious generation. Jewish day schools are proliferating and so are adult study groups – a heartening phenomenon.

This trip had also an important personal meaning for me: the young lady who spoke about the desire to obtain a Jewish husband at some time in the future, was the child of a cousin. And at the synagogue, where I gave a lecture, a woman came to me and informed me that her mother, who lived in Florida, had known me as a child back in Berlin. I subsequently phoned the mother and she was indeed someone I remember. She had been in the orphanage of which my dad and my mother were directors. She is my age and I had not thought of her for all these years – and this discontinuity of memory is another aspect of the scourge the Nazis wrought.

It is quite obvious that a trip south may cause one to encounter the strange and the familiar. Happy Chanukah!

Jews, culturally sensitive services and Israel

Metropolis is the name of an ambitious joint venture of Citizenship and Immigration Canada and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. In cooperation with Canadian universities, it has created four Centres of Excellence in Canada dealing with research on the issue of immigrant integration, from an urban perspective.

By Morton Weinfeld in Montreal

One of the major concerns of current research on immigrant and minority communities, as seen in the program of the Metropolis centres, is the provision of culturally sensitive health and social services. It is generally accepted that cultural communities have some needs that are best served using a combination or selection of ethnospecific institutions, same-group professionals and/or culturally appropriate approaches.

Jewish communities were pioneers in this area, well before it became fashionable. The Jewish Diaspora tradition of self-government and communal welfare obligations played a role. So did anti-Semitism. The "Jewish" hospitals are a case in point. Initially they were founded in response to discrimination or insensitivity to Jewish doctors and patients. But they also were places of obvious cultural familiarity for Jewish patients. Kosher food is just one of many elements.

Different culures bring to the issues of health and social adjustment a wide variety of concerns. Language plays a part. But so do basic cultural values, attitudes, rituals and customs. These can have an impact on things like the accuracy of diagnoses, optimal treatments, patient compliance and doctor-patient relations. When people are vulnerable they find particular comfort in the familiar and the non-threatening.

Just about any area of medicine needs to be concerned with cultural sensitivity. Even seemingly routine health problems can be rendered complex by cultural variables. This is even more the case for issues like terminal illnesses; or mental health, psychological and psychiatric problems, especially those involving families. Many immigrant and ethnic communities in Canada would love to have the same range of resources available to meet their health and social service needs, as does the Jewish community. From day-care to geriatric facilities, Jewish needs are met in culturally sensitive ways.

There is another way in which the Metropolis Project has a Jewish angle. Apart from the work of the four Centres of Excellence and a national research effort, there is an international component to Metropolis involving at least 14 countries. For some time, Canada has been seen as a leader in inter-group relations, with our multiculturalism recognized as an efficient, fair and civil approach to dealing with diversity. At the same time, many countries recognized that immigration was becoming an international phenomenon and cities were facing similar problems of immigrant integration.

I was fortunate to be able to help the Canadian founders of the international project include Israel as an indispensable partner country. If there is one policy area in which Israelis have a long track record and significant expertise, it is the integration of immigrants. Israel has been involved in Metropolis from the start. Moreover, the third international Metropolis conference is scheduled for Jerusalem next year.

Israel's recent task of integrating hundreds of thousands of Russian immigrants in a few years is one of the most amazing feats of recent immigration history. While far from perfect, the challenge and the creativity of the exercise have been enormous.

It is always difficult to know how one country or society or group can borrow from the success of another to solve its problems. It is true for minority groups in North America seeking to access culturally sensitive services and build ethno-specific institutions as Jewish communities did. It is true for European countries seeking to emulate elements of Canadian multicultural policy. And it would also be true of nations seeking to copy lessons on immigrant absorption from the Israeli experience.

Making a carbon copy will rarely work. Ideally, studying and learning from the experiences of others can give us new insights, new approaches, which we can graft to our own particular problems. In the area of immigrant services and immigrant absorption, both Jewish communities and Israel have a great deal to offer.

The Kirshner File

A cornucopia of books...

With the holiday season here, publishers have been busy churning out a cornucopia of books for every

By Sheldon Kirshner

taste and occasion...

Jerusalem has always been a source of strife. British historian Martin Gilbert elucidates on this theme in *Jerusalem in the Twentieth Century* (Random House), a fastidious portrait of a politically and religiously divided city.

Karen Armstrong's complementary volume, *Jerusalem, One City, Three Faiths* (Ballantine Books), plumbs the roots of the disputes which have riven Jerusalem since antiquity.

This past year marked the centenary of the first Zionist Congress in Basel. In *The Zionist Ideology* (University Press of New England), Israeli scholar Gideon Shimoni masterfully traces the origins of Zionism in all its multifaceted forms.

Since the late 1980s, a group of revisionist historians, led by Benny Morris and Avi Shlaim, have debunked the standard Zionist narrative. Efraim Karsh sharply disagrees with their iconoclastic views, and in *Fabricating Israeli History* (Frank Cass), he sets out his case. As you can imagine, the sparks fly.

Amos Elon, a distinguished Israeli journalist, has covered the Middle East for more than three decades, impressing readers with his erudition and evenhandedness. These qualities are abundantly present in *A Blood-Dimmed Tide* (Columbia University Press), an anthology of his dispatches anchored by an incisive introductory essay.

The politics of the Middle East are notoriously convoluted. *Guide to the Middle East* (HarperCollins), put out by the *Times* of London, helps place the issues in their proper perspective.

Bernard Lewis' book, *The Middle East* (Scribner), is magisterial in scope. Writing with authoritative ease, he lucidly looks back at 2,000 years of turbulent history.

Israel celebrates its 50th anniversary next year, and *Dawn of the Promised Land* (Stoddart), by Ben Wicks, movingly chronicles the founding of the state through the triumphs and disappointments of the first Jewish immigrants.

The rapprochement between Israel and the PLO, culminating with the Oslo accords, is the subject of David Makovsky's *Making Peace with the PLO* (Westview Press), a work combining dogged reporting, rigorous analysis and psychological insights.

As Israel's third chief justice, Shimon Agranat, born and raised in the United States, played an integral role in its social, political and religious controversies. In *Judgment in Jerusalem* (University of California Press), Pnina Lahav provides a sober profile of an upstanding man and a balanced assessment of his contributions to Israeli jurisprudence.

If you're seriously considering aliyah, consult *The Pocket Book Shaliach* (Gefen) before you plunge ahead. Ephraim Bluth's sensible, user-friendly guide steers prospective olim in the right directions.

Prism of 26 nostalgic essays

Jews from eastern Europe changed the complexion and tone of Canada's modern Jewish community. *Growing up Jewish* (McClelland & Stewart) charts this metamorphosis through the prism of 26 nostalgic essays written by the descendants of these immigrants.

Decades after his death, the power of A.M. Klein's poetry still resonates, as you will see by reading *Selected Poems* (University of Toronto Press).

More than 500,000 Jews left the Soviet Union between 1967 and 1990. The majority were able to emigrate thanks to Holland's assistance. This mass movement is rigorously examined by Petrus Buwalda, Holland's former ambassador in Moscow. His book, *They Did Not Dwell Alone* (Wood Wilson Centre Press and John Hopkins University Press), sheds new light on the exodus.

The Slepak family personifies the struggle of Soviet Jewry. In the paperback edition of *The Gates of November* (Alfred Knopf), American novelist Chaim Potok turns to non-fiction to produce a stirring account of one family's battle to assert their Jewishness and their right to emigrate in the face of Communist opposition.

Russian intellectuals who reached the United States between the 1880s and the 1920s enriched the country. Among them were Abraham Cahan, the editor of *The Jewish Daily Forward*, and Chaim Zhitlovsky, the Yiddishist. *To the Other Shore* (Princeton University Press), by Steven Cassedy, perceptively assesses their ideas and contributions.

Hank Rubin, a 22-year-old Jewish pre-med student from Los Angeles, volunteered for the Republican side as a medic during the Spanish civil war. His vivid memoir, *Spain's Cause Was Mine* (Southern Illinois University Press), is a microcosm of the fervor which fired the passions of the idealists who joined the fabled Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

The saga of American Jewry unfolds in several fine books. *Tradition Transformed* (Johns Hopkins University Press), by Gerald Sorin, postulates the theory that acculturation, not assimilation, best describes the Jewish experience in America. *Everything You Need To Know About America's Jews* (Penguin), by Roy Rosenberg, is a good introduction to the subject.

Beth Wenger's *New York Jews and the Great Depression* (Yale University Press) skilfully focuses on the crisis of faith which gripped and shaped a community. Howard Markel's *Quarantine! East European Jewish Immigrants and the New York City Epidemic of 1892* (Johns Hopkins University Press) extracts a contemporary message from a long-forgotten event. Kenneth Silverman's biography, *Houdini!!!* (HarperCollins), illuminates the life and times of Ehrich Weiss, the legendary illusionist and son of a rabbi.

Bronfman writes sequel

About a year ago, Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress and chair of the Seagram Company, wrote *The Making of a Jew*. Now he is back again with another revealing and high-spirited sequel, *Good Spirits: The Making of a Businessman* (Putnam), in which he portrays his achievements as a tycoon.

In *Science, Jews and Secular Culture* (Princeton University Press), David Hollinger demonstrates, albeit in turgid fashion, how Jews broke the anti-Semitic barriers which had kept them from fully participating in American intellectual pursuits.

How did science affect Jews from the 18th century to the present? The answers may be found in the essays in *The Interaction of Scientific and Jewish Cultures in Modern Times* (Edwin Mellen Press), edited by Yakov Rabkin and Ira Robinson.

Allen Ginsberg: Selected Poems 1947-1995 (HarperCollins) showcases the late, great Jewish poet.

Yehuda Amichai, arguably, is Israel's most eminent living poet, and in *The Selected Poetry of Yehuda Amichai* (University of California Press) his prowess shines.

For a country its size, Israel has produced a disproportionate number of internationally renowned writers, from Aharon Appelfeld and David Grossman to Amos Oz and A.B. Yehoshua. *The Oxford Book of Hebrew Short Stories* (Oxford University Press), edited by Glenda Abramson, celebrates their talents.

Yiddish culture is filled with parables and allegories, all rooted in Eastern Europe. They're conveniently collected in *Yiddish Folktales* (Random House), edited by Beatrice Silverman Weinreich.

War has scarred the universe. Charles Messenger's *The Century of Warfare* (HarperCollins) lists every armed conflict of the past 100 years, including the wars in the Middle East.

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Jewish Life

BBYO BEAUHEART BALL

The BBYO Greater Toronto Area Council held their Beauheart Ball on Dec. 6 at the Beth Emeth Synagogue where the youth crowned the new Beau and Sweetheart. It was attended by over 180 youth from Toronto, Buffalo, Kingston and Ottawa. Seen here are Aryeh Altman, from Chapter No Ma'am and Talia Spetter from Chapter Ain B'aya.

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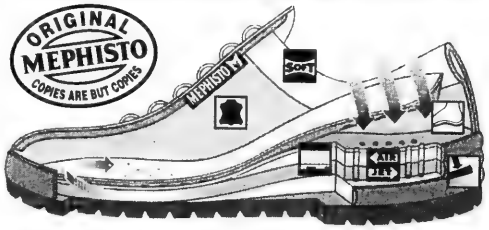

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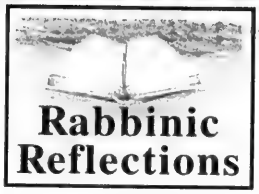

Rabbinic Reflections

Light of Chanukah is life's compass

By RABBI AARON FLANZRAICH

I remember when I lived in Israel, I went to Jerusalem for Shavuot. As many know, it is an age-old custom to stay up all night and study as our ancestors did many thousands of years ago at the foot of Mount Sinai. So I pushed myself away from the dinner table and went outside to make my way towards the Old City.

Up I went on the legendary Rechov HaTzanchanim – the path Israeli paratroopers took in their conquest of Jerusalem. The road took a strange turn and as I walked, everything seemed pitch black. There were no stars, no moon, no lights or cars. Just complete and total blackness.

For a moment I stepped back and looked at the darkness. I took a deep breath of the cold, damp Jerusalem air. Then I walked a few more steps and saw the warm, bright glow of the ancient city's walls. I felt as if I had come home. The light entered me and carried me to where I wanted to go.

The menorah of Chanukah is no different. It is a great compass to find our way through life. When we look at the menorah, we see the branches and remember the miracle. But the shammas, the light that lights the other candles, was never on the Temple's menorah. It was never on the earliest menorahs. It was only with time, and deep thought, that a shammas became the ninth and final member of the menorah family. The question is: Why do we have it?

In rabbinic fashion, I'll answer with another question: What's more important on Chanukah, lighting the menorah or having the light? As we observe the festival of Chanukah, is it the lighting of the menorah or the burning of its lights that is most significant?

Before I start to answer, let me remind you this is not just about Chanukah and a menorah. This is also about life, about seeing the light, carrying the torch and not just setting fires.

Many years ago, a gentleman came to the late Lubavitcher Rebbe, who knew the man because he was a longtime teacher in one of the chassidic cheders. The man was sad and depressed and he came to the Rebbe for help: "Rebbe, I can no longer teach the children."

"Oh, why is that?" the Rebbe asked.

"As you know, I am a survivor of the Holocaust. Every day when I get up, I cannot stop thinking about the lives of all the children who never had the opportunities and happiness that these children here have. I think about all of the lost lives and horror, and I cannot go on. It hurts far too much."

The Rebbe listened patiently, hearing this man's dark pain. "You may be right, my friend. But remember that we are workers of light, and our job is to push away the darkness in our lives and the world. It is your teaching that brings light to the world."

The man returned to his job and never left it.

Light is an eternal reminder of the good and the pure. Light is a symbol of strength; it is an icon that teaches us that the bad can be pushed back. Light teaches that we can win the war against the darkness to make this world a less confusing place. I believe that the most significant part of Chanukah is seeing the light, not merely lighting the candles.

This year, as Chanukah falls at the end of December, there is a clear danger in its message. The growing temptation is to see Chanukah as the Jewish alternative to other winter holidays. But Chanukah is precisely about defeating those temptations and proudly carrying forth a Jewish message to life.

That is what the shammas does; it gives the light that others draw from.

Yet, if all we do is light the candles and don't become any different, then the light was not bright enough, nor did it do enough. What we are really doing on Chanukah is not merely lighting the candles; that was done thousands of years ago by our Maccabean brothers. What we are doing now is carrying their light.

Rabbi Flanzraich is the spiritual leader at Pride of Israel Synagogue in Toronto.

Biz & Halachah

Overcharging not allowed

By RABBI JAY KELMAN

In a pure free-market economy, prices are determined solely by supply and demand. Business charges what the market will bear, which will in turn be determined by the consumers' willingness to pay. What constraints, if any, does Jewish law (Halachah) place on the free market mechanism to determine price?

It is clear that Halachah does not allow one to take monetary advantage of anyone, even though that person is willing to pay above-market prices. This is seen in the ruling in the Talmud regarding a fleeing fugitive who agrees to pay an exorbitant price to a ferryman to take him across the river. While there is no doubt that the fugitive would pay any amount, his claim that he had no alternative is heeded and a refund of the excess fee is granted.

Jewish law also allows for redress, even when the overpricing is not exorbitant. The laws of *Ona'ah* (price fraud) allow a defrauded party to nullify the transaction if the price diverges from the established market norm by more than one-sixth. Even signing a general waiver form does not preclude an *Ona'ah* claim, unless the waiver specifies the actual market price and the amount of the overcharge.

It is not easy, especially in our sophisticated economy, to determine one actual price. In fact, the market price may be a range of values. People are willing to pay for such factors as convenience, service, product display and decor. Thus, it is reasonable to expect that the same item can sell in two different stores at different prices. Therefore, no legal redress is available when the *Ona'ah* is less than one-sixth.

The above notwithstanding, many authorities rule that when a single market price is readily determined, such as for basic food commodities, one may not charge an amount that differs *at all* from the prevailing norm.

With certain items, market price is not fixed, but is determined by the negotiations of the parties involved. Often it is the subjective value that one places on the object, rather than objective criteria, which determine the price. Hence, artwork, a patent invention or even Maftir Yonah can be sold to the highest bidder. The highest bid then determines market value.

Real estate transactions seem to offer a combination of objective and subjective factors in determining price. On the one hand, the house is worth what you can get for it and buyers will often pay extra for a house they want. On the other hand, prices for a typical house of a certain size are routinely published in the newspaper and those prices would represent the market norm. Because of the difficulty in assessing the proper *Ona'ah* claim, coupled with the fact that the buyer receives land, which is enduring in nature, the Halachah states that claims of *Ona'ah* are not actionable for a real estate transaction though it may be morally wrong to enter into such a transaction.

In the area of basic necessities such as food and rent, rabbinical law established a (net) profit limitation of one-sixth. This limitation notwithstanding, vendors are allowed to sell at current market prices. In reality today, the profit margin at most supermarkets is much less than one-sixth. As economic conditions change, the Jewish court has the authority to regulate prices at different levels of profit to ensure the efficiency of the economy as a whole, while striking a balance between costs to the consumer and a fair profit for the business person.

Underlying the laws of the *Ona'ah* is the communal responsibility to make available to the public information regarding market norms, so that business can be conducted on a level playing field.

Rabbi Kelman is associate rabbi at Beth Jacob V'anshe Drildz in Toronto.

Jewish Life

Books

By Bernard Baskin

A most curious personality

Two Gun Cohen: **A Biography by Daniel S. Levy (St. Martin's Press, $37.99).**

When I was a teenager growing up in Brooklyn, N.Y., I heard mention of a colorful personality called Two-Gun Cohen, a general in the Chinese army. In my youthful imagination, I conjured up a romantic image of an intrepid adventure in an exotic land.

Daniel Levy's biography reveals that Morris Abraham Cohen was even more astonishing in his exploits and many-sided life than I had imagined.

Born in the east end of London in 1887 — a place of squalor, dirt and oppression — the youthful Cohen soon turned into a tough brawler and petty criminal. When he was 16, his parents decided to send their wayward son to Canada. "It was seen as a country where faithful men and pious women turned the wilderness into a land of milk and honey." From 1886 to 1925, over 80,000 children were sent from England to Canada.

Cohen wandered from Manitoba to British Columbia making a living as a ranch-hand, peddler, gambler and real estate speculator. Ultimately he drifted to Edmonton, Alta., where he became a ward boss in the Chinese quarter of the city. He lobbied successfully in 1913 in the provincial legislature for the repeal of the head tax clause in the Chinese Immigration Act.

He regularly played poker at a Chinese gambling hole in Saskatoon and one evening stumbled into the middle of an armed robbery. He did what came naturally to him, but what was unheard of at the time. He came to the defence of a Chinese man and knocked the burglar out. This selfless act enhanced his reputation with the Chinese community and brought him to the attention of Sun Yat-Sen, the Chinese nationalist leader, then in exile.

After a stint in the Canadian army during World War I, which included action in Belgium and France, he set out for China seeking both opportunity and adventure.

In 1922, he became an aide to Sun Yat-Sen, and later an advisor to his successor, Chaing Kai-Shek. He helped to organize the Kuomintang Army and was awarded the rank of general. From 1926 to 1927, he functioned in all but name as the Nationalist war minister. He took part in military campaigns against both Communist rebels and the Japanese, and carried out several secret missions to Europe to purchase arms and organize support for the Nationalist forces.

As a part-time gun runner and arms purchased, he was considered a valuable assset by the government. Always sporting two guns, he became a freelance public relations agent and a self-styled expert on China — without ever learning how to speak the language properly.

A prime virtue of this well researched and entertaining book is the author's vivid and knowledgeable depictions of the varied backgrounds that were part of Cohen's life. All in all this is a fascinating story about a most curious personality.

More Chanukah sites

By MARK MIETKIEWICZ

Today, the second half of my Top Eight List of reasons to travel the Jewish Highway this Chanukah.

Reason No. 5 – The Crafts and Games

OK, the kids have made their dreidels, dreidels, dreidels out of clay. And now they're bored. No problem. There are plenty of Chanukah craft suggestions and games they can play on the Jewish Highway.

Start off at Virtual Jerusalem's Chanukah Megasite **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/chanukah/]**. Play Jumping Jigsaws and put together an on-screen holiday puzzle.

Chanukah Match is a Concentration-type game in which you have to match pairs of pictures of menorahs and related holiday symbols. There's even a countdown clock and clapping sound effects. And in Mad Libs Anonymous, the computer asks you for a list of words and then uses them to assemble a nonsensical but hilarious rendition of the Chanukah story.

(To play some of these games, you will need to install Macromedia's Shockwave into your browser. Click on the link to download.)

As for crafts, try your hand at window sparklers and home-made gift wrap **[http://jewishfamily.com/Holidays/lightup.htm]**. There's a Chanukah coloring book you can print out at **[http://www.shemayisrael.co.il/chanukah/more/coloring.htm]** and more Chanukah activities at **[http://www.shemayisrael.co.il/chanukah/more/activity.htm]**.

And what Jewish home can't use another menorah, especially if it's home-made? **[http://jewishfamily.com/Holidays/makemenorah.htm]**.

Reason No. 6 – The Menorah

Speaking of menorahs, if you've forgotten how many candles to light, take a peek at the On-Line Menorah **[http://www.torah.org/chanukah.html]**.

If you've forgotten the instructions for candlelighting, you'll find a very clear guide at **[http://www.jcn18.com/holiday/hanukkah/how-to.htm]**.

Chanukiyot have been made from almost every substance imaginable. But just when you think you've seen it all, you stumble on the Lego Menorah **[http://world.std.com/~ohl/hanuka.html]**.

Reason No. 7 – The Music

All your favorites are out there. So if you've forgotten the lyrics to *Sevivon, Sov Sov, Sov!*, you'll find it and others at **[http://www.shamash.org/reform/uahc/congs/cd/cd001/chansong.html]**. If you'd like to sing along with your computer, go to **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/chanukah/chantunes.htm]** and for much more try **[http://www.613.org/chanuka.html]** and **[http://www.ou.org/audio/channuka.html]**.

Reason No. 8 – The History

You can get a painless history lesson of the Maccabees and their victory at Morphing Greeks **[http://www.virtual.co.il/city_services/holidays/chanukah/morphin.htm]**.

But for a more comprehensive history, see Rabbi Irving Greenberg's History of Hanukkah **[gopher://shamash.org:70/00/places/boston/bakol/hanukkah/clalhanu]**.

One of the central themes of Chanukah is that it is *not* simply an ancient holiday, but that it has resonance today "bayamim hahem, bazman hazeh." In 1942, Moshe Flinker was a 16 year-old trying to observe Chanukah in Nazi-occupied Belgium **[gopher://www.shamash.org:70/00/places/boston/bakol/hanukkah/yngmoshe]**.

It is particulary moving to read the teenager's diary when he quotes the lyrics of Maoz Tzur in light of the anguish he was facing: "Banish the foe, destroy the shadow of his image/ Provide us with a guiding light." Moshe Flinker died two years later in Auschwitz.

My favorite contemporary Chanukah story is Light in Montana: How One Town Said No to Hate **[http://www.utne.com/lens/bms/11bmsmontana.html]**. In 1993 in Billings, Mont., a brick was thrown through 5-year-old Isaac Schnitzer's window. The provocation: Isaac's window had been stencilled with a menorah.

After the investigating officer advised Isaac's mother to remove the religious symbol, the local newspaper published a drawing of a menorah.

By the end of the week, Billings, a town with several dozen Jewish families, had at least 6,000 homes decorated with menorahs. One sign read: "Not in Our Town! No Hate. No violence. Peace on Earth."

Have a very happy Chanukah!

* * *

Mark Mietkiewicz is a television producer in Toronto with an interest in the Internet. He can be reached at [mdm@inforamp.net].

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Resnick was leader at CJC, TJC

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Samuel Resnick, a communal leader who headed many projects at the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and Toronto Jewish Congress (TJC), died Nov. 22 at his home in Netanya. He was 75.

After making aliyah in 1988, Resnick devoted his time to volunteer activities and served as editor of the Netanya region magazine of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel (AACI).

Born in Quebec City, Resnick grew up in Brantford, Ont. He joined the Canadian Armed Forces during World War II and served with the Argylle and Sutherland Highlanders in Holland and Belgium.

On his return to Canada after the war, he entered McMaster University and received a law degree. At law school, he met and married Ruth Cornfield and they settled in Toronto.

In the early 1970s, he accepted a professional position with the TJC and CJC as a program coordinator overseeing numerous committees.

Genya Intrator, the chair of the

Sam Resnick

Canadian committee for Soviet Jewry of the CJC, worked with Resnick for many years, seeking the rescue of Soviet Jews from the Soviet Union.

"For this work, one needed a great deal of compassion as well as an understanding of the Soviet system and its merciless anti-Semitic regime, Intrator said.

"One had to always be one step ahead of the KGB. Sam Resnick possessed those qualities. He was very compassionate, he felt the pain and suffering of the Refuseniks and Prisoners of Zion, and he possessed a depth of intelligence that stood us in good stead."

"Sam Resnick was devoted to his family and his community and his loss is widely mourned by his friends and colleagues here and in Israel," said communal leader Sydney Harris.

In 1995, AACI honored Resnick as Volunteer of the Year for his dedication to the organization.

"Is there enough thanks to offer someone whose professionalism and humanity have gone a long way to make all of us the better for having worked with Sam and for knowing him," noted the AACI in their tribute.

The Resnicks were members of Toronto's Beth Tzedec Congregation and Beth Israel in Netanya.

Funeral services and shivah were held in Israel. Resnick leaves his wife Ruth; his children, Andy and Nira Resnick of Gedera, Israel; Julea and Robert Gasner of Toronto; Eddy and Suzanne Resnick of Ginot Shomron, Israel; nine grandchildren; and sister Rose Halpert of Toronto.

A community shloshim memorial service will take place on Dec. 24 at 8 p.m. at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Avenue.

For more information, call 787-6413.

JF &CS honorary president Goodman was a pioneer child welfare advocate

TORONTO — Henry Goodman, for 60 years a tireless volunteer and pioneer child welfare advocate in the Jewish community, died Dec. 14, following a brief illness. He was 90.

Goodman was most closely associated with Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS), of which he was honorary president. Despite his advancing years, he made a point of attending every JF&CS annual meeting, and taking a small bow to acknowledge the applause after being introduced.

Social policy and the welfare of children in need were his main interests. He served as president of the United Jewish Welfare Fund – predecessor to the current UJA Federation – and was a founding member of the fund's social planning committee, which he chaired for eight years.

He was also active in the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, the Jewish Community Centre, Holy Blossom Temple and Toronto Jewish Congress.

Outside the Jewish community, he served on the board of the Metropolitan Toronto Children's Aid Society and on the executive of the social planning council of Metro Toronto.

Goodman was born in New York City to parents who had escaped pogroms in Russia. Three years later, the family moved to Toronto, where Henry stayed for the rest of his life.

He graduated from Osgoode

Henry Goodman

Hall law school in 1931 and set up a law practice, until the pull of business lured him away. With a group of friends, he began investing in industrial real estate, and went on to establish a property management company, which he ran well into his later years.

He married his beloved Jenne in 1932. This past June, the couple celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary.

Goodman began his volunteer service in 1937 as legal aid representative to the Jewish Big Brothers, a group that was later folded into JF&CS.

Ineligible for service, Goodman volunteered during World War II to train air cadets.

He rose to the presidency of JF&CS in the late 1960s and served two terms. He also served as the agency's honorary legal counsel and was the only person to hold the position of honorary past president.

In 1972, he and five other presidents of family agencies founded the Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies, which brings together Jewish family agencies through the United States and Canada.

In 1984, when JF&CS wanted to honor him, Goodman declined and instead urged the agency to set up its "Friends of JF&CS" campaign. Over the years, he raised hundreds of thousands of dollars through the Friends drive for several projects. One of them was the purchase of a foster home for developmentally handicapped children. In 1985, the home was named the Henry G. Goodman Group Foster Home.

"Children are our future," Goodman once remarked. "JF&CS was my first love because they take care of people from birth to death, and that's what being Jewish is about."

To mark Goodman's 90th birthday last January, JF&CS established the Henry and Jenne Goodman Scholarship Fund to enable Crown wards to pursue post-secondary education.

"He knew the meaning of mitzvah," said Gordon Wolfe, executive director of JF&CS. "He was a doer. He made sure things happened. He was a *nudge*, but in the best sense of the word."

Goodman leaves his wife Jenne; daughters Lesley Miller and Rhoda Lipton di Zitti; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Greater Toronto Area

Prien orphans to hold reunion

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — After half a dozen reunions spanning 30 years, Mickey Zworth and Moniek Lewkowitz have had enough. At their age, pulling the strings together to arrange a reunion for upwards of 100 people is getting a little too demanding.

So, on the weekend of July 4, the orphans of the Prien displaced persons camp will gather for what could be the last time, to celebrate a 50th anniversary reunion.

Zworth and Lewkowitz expect from 60 to 100 survivors and their spouses to travel to Toronto from locations across Canada and the United States for one last big get-together. The last reunion, held five years ago on board the SS Norway during a Caribbean cruise, attracted 130 people, including orphans and their spouses.

The get-togethers are emotional times for the Holocaust survivors, who lost their parents to the Nazi killing machine. Brought together after the war in Prien, near Munich in southern Germany, the orphans found new families in the other young people who experienced similar tragic circumstances.

"We have a lot in common," said Lewkowitz, whose parents were killed in Treblinka. "We grew up together. We were all orphans. If you didn't have family, you needed friends. We were closer than family."

For Lewkowitz, those ties still bind. He, along with Prien orphans Al Mucher and Sam and Jack Ganz have been getting together every Wednesday for the past 45 years to eat dinner and reminisce about old times.

Talking about old times is a big part of the reunions, Zworth and Lewkowitz said. At one get-together at the Concord Hotel in the Catskills, two widows who were sharing a room startled the other Prien orphans by their shouting. It turned out the two had shared a room back in Prien, but they didn't recognize each other until they began to talk over old times.

Zworth says he urges all participants to wear name tags and carry old photos from their days in Prien. "We all walk around with these buttons on and they say, 'Oh my God, you're Mickey.'"

For the estimated 3,000 youngsters who stayed at Prien from 1946 to '49, the camp marked a turning point in their lives, away from the horrors of the Holocaust towards new, more normal lives. The camp was run by UNRA, a United Nations agency, and it brought together orphans from across Europe for eventual resettlement.

Zworth, a native of Oradia-Mare in Romania, went from Prien to Winnipeg under the auspices of Canadian Jewish Congress, which helped with the orphans' resettlement in communities across Canada. Zworth was placed with the Mazo family on Selkirk Avenue, the heart of the city's post-war Jewish community.

From there, he moved to the remote mining town of Atikokan in northwestern Ontario, where he was able to apply a mechanics license he earned at the ORT school in Prien. After a short time, he moved to Port Arthur-Fort William, now Thunder Bay, where he got a job working in the furniture store owned by the Laskin family. Zworth remembers helping the family deliver Passover food to the small Jewish community. One of the two Laskin boys, Bora, went on to become chief justice of the Supreme Court.

From the lakehead, Zworth moved to Toronto where he continued in the furniture business. He became partners in a Los Angeles store with the spouse of another Prien orphan.

Lewkowitz, a native of Rajcyouw, Poland, survived the war in a labor camp. After liberation by Russian forces, he made his way to Munich with his cousin and eventually was brought to Prien by UNRA. He spent about seven months in the camp before moving to Canada in June 1948. He met his eventual wife, Faye, in Prien, and they were reunited in Toronto after she was relocated to South America in the late '40s.

Zworth and Lewkowitz organized the first Prien reunion in the mid-1960s and have held them on and off since then.

For more information, Zworth can be reached at 905-731-0175. Lewkowitz can be reached at 905-738-0028.

Book to name Jewish war dead

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

Sam Ross (left) and Oscar Adler. [Ron Csillag photo]

TORONTO — Oscar Adler, a veteran of World War II, has a gnawing fear that the memory of the 422 Canadian Jews who died in the wars of this century will not be honored "because time is against us."

For this reason, he has helped form a group which hopes to publish the *Canadian Jewish Book of Remembrance,* which will list the names of all the 422 Canadians. The book will include hand-painted illustrations for the copies slated for the war archives, Ottawa; the Canadian Jewish Congress war archives, Montreal; and the archives of Canadian Jewish War Veterans.

In addition copies, without the hand-painting, would go to all synagogues and Jewish libraries in Canada.

The book would also include the names of about 17,000 Canadian Jews who served in the Armed Forces in World War I and II, and in Korea.

The project is being undertaken apart from the Royal Canadian Legion and its Jewish branches, explained Adler who is president, Canadian Jewish War Memorial Association. Other officers are Sam Ross, secretary/vice-president, and Meyer Shear, treasurer/vice-president. It has 95 members.

A little known fact, said Adler, is that 26 Jews from the United States served in the Canadian Armed Forces. Another fact is that 2,000 Canadian Jews enlisted before 1941, when news of the Holocaust started to leak out.

The inspiration for the *Jewish Book of Remembrance* came to Adler in 1991 when he met a woman who lost two brothers in World War II. They were Zavey Brown, killed in action with the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry after 52 days overseas, and Sydney Brown, shot down over Europe in an RCAF bomber aircraft.

"Who will remember my brothers after my death," Adler recalls the woman saying.

He estimates about $70,000 will be needed to do the research and publish the *Book of Remembrance* and to this end the association has obtained a registration number so that donations will qualify for income tax exemption.

The address of the association is 640 Sheppard Ave., E., #602, North York, Ont., M2K 1B8, 416-225-1276

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WILLIAM B. HELMREICH
Co-ordinator of City College Conflict Resolution Centre, New York
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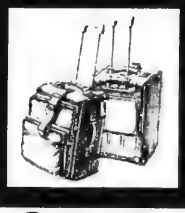

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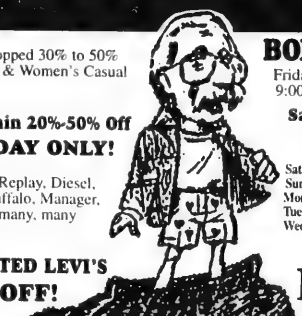

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Greater Toronto Area

Teachers urged to create positive learning experience

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It is up to a teacher to do whatever is possible to give students a positive academic experience and prepare them for a healthy emotional future.

If a teacher can't create a classroom environment that can accomplish those goals, nothing they do will be effective, asserts education consultant Pamela Sims.

Having taught primary school and special education for some 20 years, Sims knows whereof she speaks. Besides, she told *The CJN* candidly, "I want schools to be better than when I was a kid. I hated school."

Sims has put her philosophy into an aptly named book, *Awakening Brilliance; How to inspire children to become successful learners*, (Bayhampton Publications, 1997).

She is firm in her belief that "if teachers don't create supportive, emotionally caring relationships with their students, it doesn't matter what they teach them. They won't be able to reach them.

"Curriculum becomes obsolete as we create it, but how students feel about themselves stays with them forever."

Many children, she said, don't do well, simply "because we don't expect them to do well."

Sims decried teachers who use humiliation, insults or sarcasm in the classroom.

If teachers create the proper environment, it is easy to teach, she believes.

"We must show each person that they are important. We must give them permission to make mistakes. That way, students will see that it is OK to try new things."

This attitude does not only apply to the good student, she said – it is also valid for the slow or learning disabled learner.

The teacher should connect personally with each child, Sims said. She recommends greeting a child at the door, and commenting on something about him – a new pair of shoes, or a funky shirt, for instance.

"It may sound cheesy, but it works. It makes the child glad to be there, and that makes them willing to give you the opportunity to teach."

It is important to remember that children learn in different ways, Sims said, adding that a school program needs to take into account all those learning styles, so children can develop all their skills.

Some students, for instance, need to move around a lot to learn. But because classrooms are not set up for that, they get into trouble, and are made to feel like failures, she said. She suggested that rather than straight lecture-style teaching, students might benefit from being able to get up and walk around from time to time, or do projects rather than written assignments.

'Kids are our future'

Teachers must also be aware of problems children might be having in their home life. If their parents are going through a divorce, for instance, children will not be emotionally ready to learn.

She acknowledged that it is often difficult for teachers to have the energy to do their jobs as well as they might want to, what with the "bad press" they often get, and the constant financial cutbacks.

Everyone, parents, schools and governments, have to remember, she said, that "kids are our future.

Pamela Sims

We are not selling computers [in our schools]. Our product is children.

She had harsh words for the tendency to label children. If a child is identified as learning disabled in Grade 1, for instance, they have to live with that label for some two years, until the remediation process can get to them.

"We know what the child needs – he needs help right away," she said, urging remediation in the classroom.

Gifted children shouldn't be left to flounder either, she said. It is wrong to assume that a gifted child will be able to cope with anything. They need programs geared to their special talents just as much as the weaker students, so they too can reach their full potential.

Awakening Brilliance is written from the point of view of a new school principal, determined to improve the atmosphere and the learning environment in her school by working on improving her staff's communication and teaching skills. Many examples in the book are taken from Sim's own experiences.

An extensive appendix includes ways to boost a child's self-esteem, how to organize a classroom to maximize learning, setting goals and ways to address different learning styles.

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Greater Toronto Area

Cohen helps to create Jewish centre in Dharmsala

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — There are many individuals and organizations reaching out to unaffiliated and disaffected Jews in North America. Azriel Cohen, however, has turned his attention elsewhere – to India.

Cohen, a Torontonian working as a freelance computer artist, is embarking on a fundraising trip throughout North America with a small group of friends, to establish a centre in Dharmsala, the headquarters of the Dalai Lama, for Jewish tourists to meet, socialize and rediscover the beauty of their own heritage.

"Many of these Jews [the ones in India] felt a great anger towards their roots," Cohen said. "They needed healing.

"Just as they had an opportunity in an open way to learn about eastern religions, they should have the same kind of chance to learn about Judaism. Many of them felt that the Jewish environment was shutting them down, while the eastern religions opened them up," Cohen explained.

The whole adventure started when Cohen, who had been studying alternative dispute resolution, decided to travel to get more experience in the technique. "I was interested in how we communicate with each other and in how conflict occurs," he said.

While working and studying in New York, he had arranged meetings between Jewish artists. "It was a way to bring religious and secular Jews together."

He was advised by an Israeli working in the same field, to try to make contact with secular Israelis, to see how they view the world. Since many of them had been to India, Cohen said, he decided to go there too.

After helping with a Chabad seder in Nepal, he went, videocamera and microcassette in hand, on a fact-finding tour. "I spoke to every Jew I could find," he reported enthusiastically.

Eventually he teamed up with four Americans who had opened a restaurant-cum-meeting house for Jewish tourists, who, Cohen said, comprised eight out of 10 non-Indians in the town.

Cohen helped run Friday night dinners and Shabbat programs. On his next visit last fall, he helped build a sukkah on the roof of the restaurant.

Together with Michi Yosefi ("Who would expect to find a guy with a beard and payes in India?"), he arranged a three-week program for the Jewish High Holy Days.

"I came back to to India with only the clothes I was wearing, a knapsack filled with shofars and books and cassettes to start a library."

The program included services, meals and classes. "Michi ran the services and I ran the classes. I tried to make them meaningful and appropriate to the people there; so I taught about things like reincarnation, the concept of prophesy and enlightenment, and meditation."

Close to 200 people came for Rosh Hashanah, Cohen said, and over 70 for Sukkot.

Sukkot was an impressive experience for the 32-year-old Thornhiller. "We left one side of the sukkah open, so you could see the valley. We had meals on the floor on mats, with candles all around."

None of the rituals were carried out without explaining the meaning, Cohen said. "People were crying over what they were experiencing. For the first time, they saw that they were getting something that could enrich their lives."

Yosefi, together with his wife and child, has gone to Goa, in southern India, to set up a similar program to that in Dharmsala.

Plans are underway to celebrate Pesach in Dharmsala next year, and Cohen and Yosefi are trying to find a teacher for a program that will run after a major speech the Dalai Lama is giving next March.

Cohen and some of the Dharmsala organizers are taking a slide show across the United States to show people what they are doing, and to try to raise funds to continue. Cohen will show his slides at Beth Avraham Yoseph in Thornhill on Jan. 26.

For more information about the organization call The Tree of Life at 1-800-MEANING (1-800-632-6464).

Michi Yosefi recites kiddush in Dharmsala [Azriel Cohen photo]

A Sukkot meal in Dharmsala, India. [Azriel Cohen photo]

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UTT leader urges parents to monitor kids' TV time

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Too many parents ignore the influence that television has on their children says the vice-president of the Union for Traditional Judaism (UTJ).

"Surveys have shown that children spend about two minutes each day in meaningful conversation with their parents, and about four hours daily in front of the television or computer. In terms of volume, that is significant," says Rabbi Ronald Price, also dean of the Institute of Traditional Judaism.

Rabbi Price, who spent a recent weekend as scholar-in-residence at Beth Sholom Synagogue, said that a major challenge facing parents is equipping young people to decipher what they are watching on television.

"We want to be able to throw a switch and open kids' minds as they watch. They are absorbing values we may or may not like," he said.

UTJ spent two years, he said, in trying to come up with a response to this challenge. "Some parents just turn off the television. Others have a computer chip that is used to block out certain programs. Parents can use this chip, but kids will watch want they want elsewhere. The hard road is to confront the material and teach kids how to respond appropriately."

Censorship, said Rabbi Price, does not work. "Instead, we must give our children the tools they need to see TV critically, with Jewish eyes."

The MTV Challenge (Media and Torah values) was developed, he said, "as a result of this challenge. We had a group including a psychiatrist, a rabbi and a Jewish educator view 150 hours of the worst and best that television had to offer on basic cable. The images were often troubling and vulgar, as well as humorous and entertaining."

From these tapes, he said, "we divided 13 trigger tapes, which range in length from 30 seconds to eight minutes. When we ran these tapes for students, we talked about the values portrayed in the clip and studied classical Jewish texts that discussed these values."

The seeds for MTV were planted, said Rabbi Price, after his daughter asked him to study with her and he waited to help her until his favorite television show ended.

"This was the first time I thought that maybe I was addicted to this material."

MTV, which was completed three months ago, is now in 150 schools in the United States. "It is the first of its kind in any religion. There is nothing like it – nothing that brings media in its raw state and talks about values."

Rabbi Price said that after viewing a Beavis & Butthead clip that involved the pair cutting down a tree, and fighting with each other, students discussed how important it is to have proper respect for our world. "They also talked about solving differences without punching someone in the nose."

After seeing a music tape that had someone using and controlling another person, students studied a passage from Pirkei Avot that says "all love which depends on a thing will pass away as soon as that thing disappears. If love doesn't depend on a thing, it will never disappear."

The response to MTV, said Rabbi Price "has been heartwarming. These kids have made Torah part of their lives."

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From coast to coast

Winnipeg kosher suppliers closing

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG — Jewish Winnipeggers are flocking to Weidman Foods Inc., Western Canada's largest kosher products wholesaler, to cash in on one of the largest liquidation sales of this kind of product that the city has ever seen.

Several hundred thousand dollars worth of dry goods are being sold off in case lots for as much as 60 percent off.

Weidman Foods was one of the oldest wholesale food suppliers in the city. Although company president Donald Weidman is refusing comment, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reported in an article on Dec. 9 that the company was forced to close after the Manischewitz Co., one of its largest suppliers, terminated its agreement with Weidman on short notice.

Also closing is Acme Produce Co. (1969) Ltd., the last kosher poultry-killing plant in Winnipeg (and in Western Canada). The poultry killing plant is closing its doors at the end of the year due to a lack of business.

Operated business since 1969

"We feel bad about closing," says Morris Brown, who co-owns the company with his brother, Harvey, "but there is not enough business throughout the year to keep going. We are not getting the support from the community. We can't even find a buyer for the company."

The Brown Family has operated the business since 1969. Business started to drop off in earnest about five or six years ago, Morris Brown says.

Except for Pesach, Chanukah and High Holy Day times, there is no longer much demand for fresh kosher chicken here, he reports.

Local kosher retailers regret the closings but downplay the impact on their own businesses or the availability of kosher products here.

"We are feeling a short-term effect from Weidman's closing out sale," says Bathurst Street Market's Jack Kravetsky. "People are buying case lots there. But business is slow this time of year anyway."

Kravetsky reports that Bathurst has been able to find new suppliers for virtually all the kosher lines that Weidman carried.

"It is taking us a little longer with Marvid Chickens," he says. "We have never dealt with them directly before so it is a matter of establishing a relationship."

For Bathurst, the closing of Weidman Foods is an issue of convenience more than anything else. Products will have to be ordered a week in advance as compared to having it delivered the next day.

"We are just going to have to be on the ball about placing orders a little earlier," says Alan Rappaport, the owner of Omnitsky Kosher Foods. "Acme was closed for three months last winter and there was no effect. We brought in fresh chickens from Toronto and we will do the same thing now."

Tuxedo Quality Foods has arranged to bring in its kosher chickens from Montreal. "It is unfortunate that Weidman and Acme are closing," says store manager Ian McDonald. But "we have already made arrangements with other suppliers."

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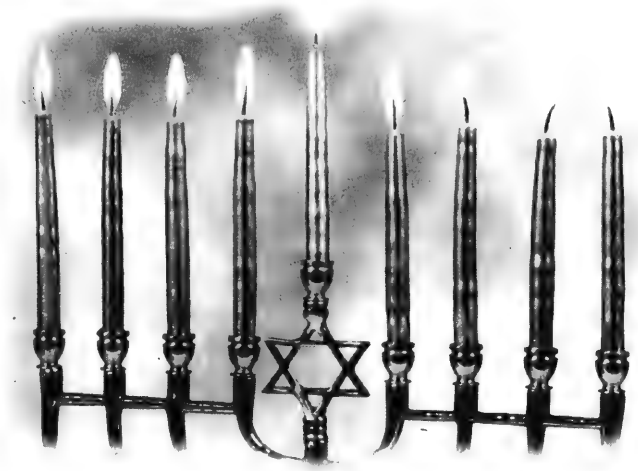

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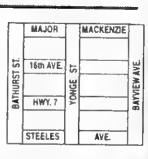

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WZPS photo by Sammy Avnisan

For whom we sing

One of the chief ways human beings celebrate is through song. Rabbi Nahman of Bratzlav once told his disciples that "all melodies come from the source of sanctity." Song and melody convey certain inner truths because, as Rabbi Nahman suggested, they are expressions of the things that are inexplicable that lie within the human heart.

Chanukah is renowned for its many celebratory melodies. We sing songs of thanksgiving, of heroism, of miracles, of candle-lighting and of culinary delights. The melodies are upbeat; our emotions leap in festive air; no sadness intrudes.

And for whom do we sing? We sing for our children. We want to instil into their hearts the transformative "magic" of our holiday, and in the process, of our traditions and values.

The photo that appears on the cover of this supplement attests so poignantly to our purpose.

Two sweet and adorable young Israeli children, each with a Chanukah candle lighting a path to their own possibilities, are clapping their tiny hands in rhythmic response to a melody we cannot hear. But, following Rabbi Nahman's advice, we know its source.

One of Chanukah's most familiar songs is *Maoz Tsur*. It's third verse however, is little sung, and thus little known. We reproduce it and imagine in our mind's ear that the two youngsters pictured above are keeping time to its age-old beat.

The translation is our adaptation of that of Gustav Gottheil and M. Jastrow.

O children of our people,
Whether free or fettered,
Wake the echoes of your songs,
Wherever you may be scattered.
Yours should be the message,
cheering,
The time is surely nearing
When we will see
All people free
And tyrants disappearing.

Reminding us of who we are

Editorial

It is no coincidence that in Hebrew, there is one word, shir, for poem and for song. The word is interchangeably used for both because a song is, after all, a poem of the heart.

This year, *The CJN* received more than 400 poems of the heart in response to our annual Chanukah poetry contest, each singing a personal, sometimes playful, sometimes sharply insightful, song about Chanukah. The number of poems has increased steadily over the three years that we have invited our readers to submit Chanukah poetry. The figure is even more remarkable this year when one considers the intervention of the recently resolved postal strike.

As I have written in years past, it cannot be said in any meaningful way that in publishing some of the poems, we are choosing "winners" from among the many we received. If indeed a "winner" has emerged from so pleasant a poetic exercise it is *The CJN*. We have reaped the greatest reward, for we have had the rare opportunity of reading the hundreds of unique poems and of "singing" the songs that call out from the hearts of our readers.

We have decided to publish eight poems as preeminent poems, for lack of a better term. They are the "winners;" four are from poets under 12 years of age, two from poets aged 12 and 13, and two from poets who are older than 18. They appear on pages 10 and 11 of the supplement.

We have also published a number of other poems throughout the supplement as a further way of highlighting for our readers the flare and artistry that stoke the imagination of some of our readers.

The Chanukah-related poetry forms the centrepiece of our supplement. But we have also published a variety of articles about Israel and the Jewish world, including an in-depth look at Haifa written by our Israel correspondent Edgar Asher, a description of an attempt in Israel at cross-ethnic education, a view of Chanukah in Moscow, and a selection of tasty Chanukah recipes compiled by staff writer Leila Speisman.

We hope our readers will be entertained and stimulated by the offerings in this supplement. In leafing through its pages, however, we ask you to take special notice of the poems. We ask you to raise high your antennae, as it were, to receive and even to "sing" the songs and the melodies from the many hearts that have been opened on our pages.

Readers will find poems with familiar imagery, familiar color and familiar messages, each with a unique nuance, each a celebration in its own right, of the holiday of Chanukah. Ten-year old Shoshana Binder may have expressed the meaning of the poems and the meaning of Chanukah most poignantly when she wrote:

Eight little fires
for all of us to see
reminding us of who we are
and who we ought to be.

Dry Bones

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Happy Chanukah

Couple works to change cultural attitudes

By LISA SAMIN
WZPS

She was born in Siberia, on the Mongolian border, to a family of high-ranking Jewish Polish officers. He was born in Hebron, to an agricultural family. Her family was executed and she fled to Israel via Europe in 1948. He was a Fatah activist on the streets of Hebron. She served in the Israeli army in the early years of the state. He was jailed by the Israeli authorities for inciting riots.

Today, Dr. Ruth Firer, who has a PhD in education from Hebrew University, and Dr. Sami Adwan, who has a PhD in education from San Francisco University and now teaches at Bethlehem University, are working together to "change cultural attitudes of 100 years of animosity and conflict," between the Israeli and Palestinian people.

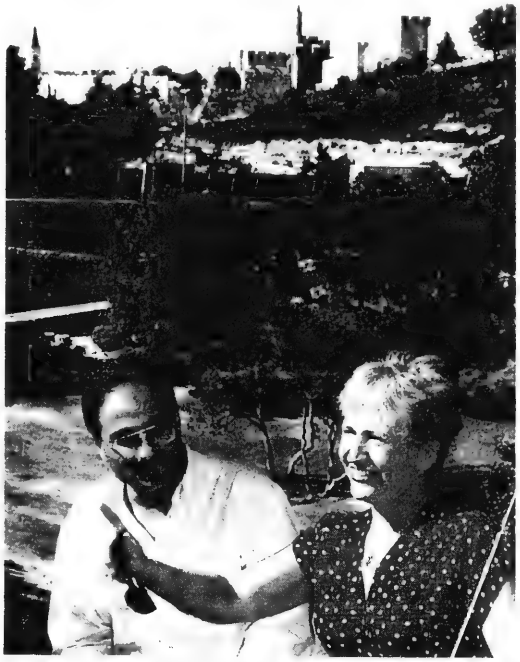
Firer and Adwan met in East Jerusalem in 1993 at a meeting between faculty members of the Hebrew University's Harry S Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace and the Palestinian Consultancy Group (PCG), which deals with Palestinian international cultural and educational issues.

"We are both educators who believe that the politicians cannot be counted on to bring real peace. This must come from the grassroots educational level. They can sign peace – they cannot build it," says Firer, a stately woman with a quick smile.

"Education has power in forming identity. We realize that if we truly want peace between our peoples, it must begin with learning about and understanding each other," adds Adwan, a quiet man with a courtly manner.

Their project, Peace Education – A joint Israeli-Palestinian Initiative, aims to give formal and informal educators, from elementary school through to university level and adult education, points of reference, resources and tools to infuse

[Cont'd. on page B 4]



Drs. Ruth Firer and Sami Adwan meet to discuss their project, Peace Education – A joint Israeli-Palestinian initiative. [WZPS photo]

Chanukah

I spin dreidels
I eat latkes
I like getting presents
I like going to people's houses
I like Chanukah

by Justin Klumak

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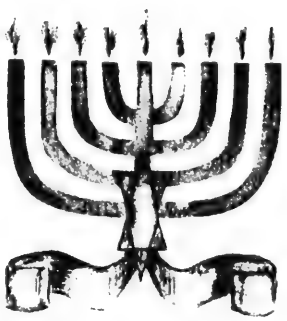

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Happy Chanukah

Program analyzes Palestinian, Israeli texts

[Cont'd. from page B 3]

the message of peace into their lessons, to involve Israeli and Palestinian scholars and at a later stage, Arab scholars from Egypt and Jordan.

The program is intended primarily for implementation in Israel and in Arab and Muslim countries, but can also be used in countries with a high concentration of Jews, Arabs and Muslims, such as the United States and parts of Europe.

The first stage in the project is to analyze the current textbooks being used for Israelis and Palestinians and assess what needs to be revised in this new era of peace. The comparison deals with differences in the textbooks, with regard to structure, terminology, choice of facts emphasized and interpretations. Topics that cannot be compared because they are missing in one of the two sets of texts are mentioned as well.

"We are not attempting to minimize differences and conflicts," says Adwan. "Rather we are putting them in the context of the ongoing relationship between Arabs and Jews throughout history to the present, and helping to create a greater appreciation for both similarities and differences."

"Our first recommendations," says Firer, "were made with great caution because of the sensitive Israeli-Palestinian situation."

Areas of recommendation included: the legitimacy of differences in presenting historical stories, attitudes, and beliefs; the mutual need to uproot stereotypes, prejudice and hatred; the need to include in textbooks missing historical, cultural and religious information; the need to improve pedagogical methods in the spirit of international tolerance and education; and the need to use methods of conflict resolution recently developed in the free world.

Firer and Adwan have received international recognition from the European Union, support from the United Nations Peace Education Program and UNICEF. Recently, the United States Institute of Peace gave a modest grant for support of the project.

"What they're doing is essential to laying the ground for peace. It is very similar to what was done after World War II between France and Germany, Poland and Germany and more recently, between the United States and Japan: building an understanding for peace at the classroom level," said Dr. Reinhard Yoav Freiberg, former director of UNICEF in Europe and senior researcher at the Truman Institute.

However, not everyone agrees with Firer and Adwan's direction. Esther Wachsman, an American-born Israeli high school teacher and mother of soldier Nachshon Wachsman who was slain by Hamas terrorists, writes in a compelling article, *Daily Life – the Real Classroom*, in the *Jerusalem Post* of June 26: "I grew up in the most democratic country in the world, and yet we did not study democracy in school. We inhaled a culture of democracy, we were born into it, it was as unconscious and natural as breathing.

"Unless values are internalized and accepted unconditionally," she continued, "no amount of teaching and testing will work."

Firer and Adwan believe that these attitudes can become internalized through classroom learning and grassroots activism for democratic learning. Thus, for the second stage of their program they have devised a fill-in package for textbooks and history textbooks to distribute to Israeli and Palestinian teachers.

"We do not want to burden teachers and students with extra work," says Firer. "We want to give teachers selected pieces of information to incorporate into their lessons, like a drop of water, a bit at a time, until the glass is full."

Now at the pilot stage, the packages will be distributed to some Israeli state-run and Palestinian private schools.

At the same time, Firer and Adwan have started working with the Israeli and Palestinian scout (youth) groups to build fill-in packages for their informal educational activities. The scouts on both sides, who serve youth ages 12 to 15, are interested in teaching peace to a new generation of young people.

Adwan, who has six children ranging from four months to 14 years says, "Our two cultures are built on negating each other. We want to put education prospects into the politicians' agenda and ensure that our children will live a normal lifestyle without guns, jails, shooting and explosions. We need to build respect for each other's existence and independent identity. From there we can achieve lasting peace."

Chanukah

Conservative, Orthodox or Reform.
Having faith meant salvation, as did uniti.
And the menorah's flame became Judaism's Northern Star.
Nights despairing turned into days rejoicing in a new era.
U-turn, the year nineteen ninety-seven, so many egocentric.
Knew trouble would persist, but so much internal?
As we light each candle, remember our flame.
Hate destroys!

by David Tepper

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Happy Chanukah

Chanukah in Moscow

By LEV KRICHEVSKY
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

Just before Chanukah last year, Faye Siegel wanted to set up a holiday party for other American Jews living in Moscow, but she didn't know many – so she called the U.S. Embassy.

"Tell me, please, do you have any Jews out there in the embassy who might be interested in celebrating Chanukah," she asked a marine guard at the embassy switchboard.

"I'm Jewish, madam, and I'm interested," he answered.

In the end, some 40 Jewish expatriates gathered in a private home to celebrate Chanukah.

That event marked the founding of Jewish in Moscow (JIM), a group that aims to provide a feeling of community – especially during holidays – for Jewish expatriates.

What started as a small number of enthusiasts has turned into a vibrant Jewish group with participants who come to celebrate holidays (140 people attended a Passover seder at the U.S. Embassy) and a steering committee to plan future activities.

"My entire life has been part of the Jewish community," said Siegel, who heads JIM.

For a number of years, she was in charge of the Women's Division at the Atlanta Jewish Federation.

Last year, she came to Moscow after her husband was transferred by the accounting firm Deloitte and Touche.

Today, JIM involves 160 people, most of them Americans working in a wide range of businesses, including fast food restaurants, travel agencies, banks and law firms.

Eugene Weiner, who has been behind much of the expatriate Jewish activity in Moscow and hosted last year's Chanukah party, estimates that some 300 to 400 American Jews are working in the Russian capital.

"Most of them are in their late 20s or early 30s," said Weiner, who immigrated to Israel from New York 25 years ago. "They tend to be single and very entrepreneurial."

Usually, Americans come to work here for two or three years, but many stay longer.

"They are very inclined to be interested in joining the Jewish community," said Weiner who came to Russia last year as head of special projects for the Moscow office of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

"None of the expatriates is interested in settling here, but they are interested in maintaining their Jewish identity while they are here," Weiner said.

Just a few years ago, Avi Aliman had what was then a typical Jewish expatriate experience in Moscow.

Aliman, the general director of the Moscow-based company Travel House, recalled how he invited his friends to a Passover seder at what was then the city's only restaurant that advertised itself as Jewish.

"We came and what we first found on our table was vodka and bread," said Aliman, 25, a member of the JIM steering committee who came here from Los Angeles five years ago.

Now that holiday events have already become a tradition, the group wants to expand its activities by having regular Shabbat dinners at members' homes, starting a newsletter, organizing classes to study classical Jewish texts and even establishing a Jewish school for their children.

But Aliman, like other JIM leaders, believes that the group's activities should not be restricted to expatriates.

"We are interested in connecting up with Moscow Jews, in participating in the community here," said Aliman.

Siegel said her dream is to establish a place in Moscow that "we can call our community centre, where the expatriates and Russian Jews can come to study, to learn, to celebrate together."

Moscow's Chief Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt said expatriate Jews in Moscow can contribute significantly to the city's native community.

"They think they don't know much, but they know much more than most Jews here," said Rabbi Goldschmidt, who is probably the longest-term Jewish expatriate in Moscow.

Born in Switzerland, Rabbi Goldschmidt lived and studied in Israel and the United States before coming here in 1989 and taking his rabbinical post the following year.

"I would like to see more Jewish expatriates coming out of the closet," he said.

Chanukah

Alexander the Great conquered many lands
He made many nations bow down on their hands
But Alexander had a soft spot for the Jews,
And let them keep their religion,
While the Greeks drank their booze.
When Alexander died King Antiochus came to power
He made it tougher for the Jews each passing hour.
He took the temple away,
And went out to say:
No Jews should bow down to their God, their God is invisible. From now I shall be your
God and you shall bow down to my idols.
The Jew Matityahu and his five sons,
Went out to war against the Greek bums.
The Maccabees fought until they defeated the Greeks,
They saved their temple after battling for weeks.
They cleaned the temple all around,
This way, that way, up and down
The menorah was set
But oil they still needed to get
They found oil but just a touch,
And thought it would not last too much
The oil lasted for eight long days
For which they were happy in lots of ways.
We celebrate Chanukah for many reasons,
Least of all that Jews will be here as long as there are seasons.
So may we all celebrate the miracle of lights,
For eight peaceful and happy nights.

by Andrew Dubrofsky, 11 years old

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Haifa: a city in change

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

Part 1

Haifa, Israel's third largest city, is undergoing a significant transformation as it enters the third millennium.

The transformation is not only physical; it is also a transformation of ideas and attitudes, spearheaded by the city's energetic mayor, Amram Mitzna, a true son of Haifa.

Mitzna grew up and went to school in the city and graduated from Haifa University. In 1963, at age 18, Mitzna joined the IDF and spent most of his military service in the armored corps. In 1986, he was made a major-general and subsequently served as assistant chief of staff for operations, head of central region command and head of the IDF planning division. He retired from the army in March 1993 after 30 years of distinguished service, and was elected mayor of Haifa in November 1993.

Mitzna is not universally praised by all of Haifa's citizens and business community, but by and large, he is a popular and respected man who has the unenviable task of steering this large and diverse city towards new horizons, with the aim of fully developing the tourist potential of the city while emphasizing its place at the hub of the country's leading industrial and high-tech companies.

The city, which has a population of 247,000, is built on three topographical levels. The lower city, established on land partly recovered from the sea, is the commercial centre and harbor. The middle level is an older residential area. The top level is comprised of rapidly expanding modern neighborhoods, parks and pine woods. It is from the top level that one can see magnificent views of the city and the port below, day and night.

The origins of Haifa are obscure, although the name does appear in third century CE talmudic literature. The derivation of the name "Haifa" is itself subject to controversy. One scholar has suggested that the name was a contraction of the Hebrew words *Hof Yafa* – beautiful coast.

In the Middle Ages, under Arab domination, Haifa was a town of some importance, but it was destroyed in 1100 CE by the Crusaders, under the command of Tancred, prince of Galilee. From that time, the importance of the city waned and its northern neighbor Akko became the most important town in the region. By the time of the conquest of the Ottoman Turks at the end of 1516, Haifa was an insignificant village decaying and in ruins.

From the Ottoman conquest until the establishment of the State of Israel, the fortunes of the city ebbed

[Cont'd. on page B 7]

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Burning Light

We pulled the
Curtains down
So no one
Could see

We got out
The candles
And were thankful
To be free.

The Chanukiah
Was lit
Each candle
Grew bright

We held hands
Together
The light removed
Our fright.

And then it happened
It seemed
So long
Ago

A knocking
And kicking down the door
The candles
We couldn't blow...

The Germans
Were there
To take us
Away

It was
Chanukah
We begged
We wanted to stay.

I look back
Now
To that Chanukah
Night

When we were
All taken
Except for our
Burning Light.

by Sandra Giddens

Happy Chanukah

Haifa was a key port

[Cont'd. from page B 6]

and flowed like the sea around it. By 1944, the city had a population of 128,000, 52 percent of whom were Jews.

Following the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, the Jewish population grew rapidly. Haifa was the country's most important port and new immigrants who reached Israel through Haifa were happy to settle in the city, as they had a quarter of a century earlier.

From 1951 until his death in 1969, the mayor of the city was Abba Khoushi. During his incumbency, Haifa underwent sweeping changes in its commercial and residential development. Although the city was changed beyond recognition, the alterations also created a developer's nightmare if the city was to modernize and become attractive in its own right as the capital of the north.

"The problem with Haifa today is that the city, a port city, is physically separated from the sea. We aim to change that," says Mitzna, speaking at City Hall in a room full of maps, diagrams and computer-enhanced photographs that describe what the city will look like in the next century.

Hotels

"Already some of the sites are realities or in an advanced development stage," he says. "We intend to connect the city to the port. Due to its development over the years, the port and its industrial zone to the east remain isolated. Our plans are to move the existing container port eastward and open up the central area of the port to the general public.

"There will be hotel facilities and a marina. All this will be connected to a new garden complex that will begin high up at the Baha'i Gardens and sweep down through the German Colony towards the sea 1.25 kilometres away.

"We are going to continue to invest in our transportation infrastructure," the mayor explains, pointing to a development map of the whole bay area. "The residential parts of the bay area are to be connected to existing rail links and terminals to provide a quick and efficient transport service. Already we have new rolling stock from Denmark, which is being used on existing portions. The central bus station in Bat Galim is to be demolished and moved south to the entrance of the city, which is also an area for extensive commercial development.

"We haven't forgotten the road infrastructure. We intend to improve existing roads and build new ring

[Cont'd. on page B 8]

Haifa Mayor Amram Mitznah in front of artist's impression of the new Hilton Hotel. [Edgar Asher photo]

The Flame of Hope

We are shadows,
Without any spark of life.
We are ghosts,
Void of any hope, of any feeling.
We are dust,
Waiting to be swept up into nothing.
We are hostages of evil.
And yet, in all of this darkness
A single flame leaps up.
Representing courage,
Reminding us that there is hope.
Dark forms gather around the candle,
The flame is passed around
And kindles the light that is in all of us
The light of life.

by Ilana Ludwin, 11 years old

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Happy Chanukah

Plans set to make Haifa more accessible

[Cont'd. from page B 7]

roads to relieve congestion in the city centre."

Mitzna then points on the map to the city's airport along the coast at Haifa Bay. "We also plan to extend the existing runway of Haifa's airport by another 1,200 metres. This is very practical and environmentally good, because the position of the existing runway allows aircraft to land and take off in the direction of the sea, thus causing little or no local noise pollution."

The extension will allow bigger and quieter passenger jets to come directly to Haifa from European destinations.

The proposed infrastructure changes are all intended to be part of the master plan to make the city more accessible to both tourists and businesspeople. Today few tourists come to Haifa, and those that do only stay in the city for a day or two, even though the city is ideally suited as a base to tour northern Israel.

Another attraction is the excellence of the city's community relations. In Haifa, Arabs and Jews really do live and work together. This is not a new phenomenon, as the growth of the city itself and the historical influences of its varied rulers have brought people together. Today, Jews represent 89.6 percent of the city's population; Christians 6.7 percent, Muslims 3.5 percent, Druze and others 0.2 percent. Within the ethnic groups can be found unique, small, yet influential communities, such as the Ahmadis and Baha'is.

The special relationship between religious and ethnic communities can best be seen at the Beit Hagefen Arab-Jewish Centre, which was established in 1963 to promote coexistence and understanding between Arab and Jew. Such is its success that similar centres following the style and programs of Beit Hagefen have been established in other mixed communities, such as Jaffa and Acre.

"One of the most important things that enables Beit Hagefen to continue its work is the support we get from the Municipality of Haifa and the Ministry of Education, who between them contribute 90 percent of our budget," says Hani Elfar the deputy director of the centre.

"The centre is an independent non-political organization. By means of cultural and educational activities it fosters better relations between all religions and communities. We have programs for both adults and school children. We hold about 20 art exhibitions every year in which both Jewish and Arab artists show their works together. We have a public library that contains over 50,000 books in Hebrew, Arabic and English. We hold courses in sports, languages and hobbies. A very important part of our work is the organization of cross cultural visits to Arab and Jewish schools."

Elfar, a Christian Arab, mentions that the immediate past chairman of the advisory board of Beit Hagefen was a religious Jew, who is now the head of Haifa's Religious Council.

"Yitzhak Getz held the position of chairman of our advisory board for six years until he stood down a year ago. He worked untiringly to promote our work and ideals, and it was his efforts that persuaded many religious Jews to support and help us. I am happy to say that Yitzhak Getz is still a very active board member."

Haifa is also the home of the Carmelites. When the Carmelites first came to the country in the mid-17th century, they settled near Elijah's cave, not far from the sea at the southern approach of the city. They soon encountered opposition from the Muslims, who also regarded the cave as being religiously significant, and were subsequently forced to move up the

[Cont'd. on page B 9]

The Essence of Chanukah

The essence of Chanukah
Cannot be compressed
To candles and latkes
And tops.

For material objects
Have not soul nor spirit
To show the true essence
Of Chanukah.

For Chanukah is
About bravery and faith
About miracles and wars
And God.

About hearts filled with joy
And families united
And pride in being
A Jew.

by Elana Steingart, 13 years old

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Happy Chanukah

Home to two young religions

[Cont'd. from page B 8]

mountain to establish a new monastery known today as Stella Maris.

Stella Maris has had a violent history. The original monastery was blown up by Abdulla, ruler of Akko, in 1821. The present building dates from 1836 and was designed as a fortress, as the monks intended to defend themselves if they were attacked again. Inside the building is a beautiful church built around another cave that the Carmelites associate with the prophet Elijah, who is also their patron.

Opposite the monastery, on a promontory which commands a spectacular view of Haifa Bay, is a house known as The Lighthouse. Built by Abdulla after he destroyed the monastery in 1821, the house became known as Abdulla's Palace. Later the Carmelites enlarged the building and built a hostel on the site. The Spanish consul at the time donated a lighthouse that was erected on the roof of the hostel. He also gave the name Stella Maris to the site and the adjoining area.

During World War II, the building was requisitioned by the British, who used it to monitor all vessels trying to enter the port, as well as illegal immigrant ships carrying Jews escaping from Nazi controlled Europe. Today it is still a military base.

A cable car connects Stella Maris with Bat Galim on the seashore.

Elijah's Cave, near the site where the Carmelites originally settled, is at a walking distance from Bat Galim. The cave, which has religious significance for Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Druze, is the most sacred Jewish site in Haifa. Pilgrims come all year round, believing that to pray in the cave will heal the sick and assist barren women to bear children.

In keeping with its religious diversity, Haifa is the home of two of the world's youngest religions, the Ahmadis and the Baha'is.

The Ahmadis, a sect found only in Haifa, are Muslims who settled in the city at the turn of the century. They believe that they have the role of changing Islam by peaceful means only and they totally reject the concept of jihad (holy war).

The five million adherents of the Baha'i faith have their world centre in Haifa. The golden domed mausoleum that contains the remains of the Bab, one of the two founders of the religion, dominates the Haifa skyline. The Bab was executed by Armenian soldiers in Tabriz in 1850.

"The shrine was designed in 1950 by the Canadian architect William Sutherland Maxwell," says Ann Boyles, a Canadian Baha'i who is spending some years at the world centre.

"What we see here is the administrative centre of our faith. The reason the centre is established here is because Baha'u'llah, the prophet-founder of our faith, decreed just before his death near Acre in 1892, that Haifa should be the worldwide administrative centre. He also decreed that the Bab, his martyred forerunner, should be buried here. This was done in 1909. Baha'u'llah is buried in nearby Acre, which is the most holy place on earth for the Baha'i."

The Baha'i shrine and all the administrative buildings are connected together by a unique set of exquisite gardens which have no equal in Israel. At the moment, a three-kilometre long landscape project is under construction. It will consist of terraced gardens that will stretch from the top of the Carmel, through the existing Baha'i gardens, to the sea below. The project is being carefully coordinated with the municipality so that the final result is harmoniously integrated. The completion of this project in a few years will be another incentive for tourists to come to Haifa.

The newly completed Haifa Convention Centre has facilities for up to 3,000 people. [Edgar Asher photo]

Chanukah

Je regarde dehors par la fenêtre
Et je vois la lumière

Je sens la chaleur
Et je sens le bonheur

Je me souviens de l'histoire de Chanukah
Et je me rappelle de la beauté de la menorah

Je m'aperçois que nous sommes le vingt-cinq kislev
Et je constate que ce n'est pas un rêve

Je chante la prière de l'allumage
Et je murmure un voeu pour mon peuple au large

Je sens la friture à la cuisine
Et je mange les beignes qui me donnent bonne mine

Nous, tous ensemble les jeunes et les vieux
Célébrons le miracle de Dieu

Guila Benyayer, 14 ans

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Poetry Contest winners & Honorable Mentions

The Canadian Jewish news

The Canadian Jewish news

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Abisror, Nathalie
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Abramovitch, Elana
Abramowitz, Daniel
Abramowitz, Mark
Agar, Laura
Albert, Rachel
Anafi, Ma'ayan
Antman, Sari
Appleton, Jenna
Avertick, Shoshana
Bacal, Vanessa
Balinsky Baker, Liana
Balter, Jessica
Banner, Brandon
Batist, Kira
Ben-Israel, Jonathan
Benhaim, Jessie
Benhaim, Michelle
Benisty, Carly
Benyayer, Guila
Benyayer, Yael
Bercuson, Laura
Berger, Samantha
Berish, Mark
Berkofsky, Jason
Bernick, Joshua
Bernstein, Elissa
Bernstein, Judy
Bernstein, Matthew
Bernstein, Rachel
Berzen, Daniel
Bibas, Gabrielle
Binder, Shoshana
Birenbaum, Noah
Blauer, Aaron
Bonder, Daniel
Bondarenko, Helen
Bonnie-Sue and Sharin
Bowman, Brenda
Brasgold, Ashley
Brett
Brick, Erin
Bronfman, Alexandra
Brown, Evan
Brownstein, Ryan
Brottes, Claire
Budd, Laura
Burbela, Marni
Burnett, Andrew
Burstein, Rebecca
Campbell, Erin
Cantor, Arielle
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Cassoff, Jayme
Chanowitz, Kayla
Chernoff, Peter
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Chusid, Jamie
Cipin, Dina
Cogan, Derek
Cohen, Chana
Cohen, Jory
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Diamond, Leah
Diroky, Philip
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Raizell
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Ganz, Rachel M.
Gelman, Michelle
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Glazer, Emily
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Goldban, David
Goldberg, Carly
Goldberg, Chloe
Goldberg, Sara
Goldfarb, Jeremy
Goldstein, David
Goldwater, Dorothy
Gonsenhausen, Daniel
Goodman, Ilana
Goodman, Joey
Gordon, Jonathan
Gordon, Josh
Gordon, Lynne
Gordon, Michelle Sarah
Gordon, Talia
Gottlieb, Monique
Granner, Tamara
Gray, Michael
Green, Jessica
Greenberg, Jessica
Greenberg, Lorne
Greenwald, Daniella
Greenwald, Tammy
Grossman, Stacy
Gruber, David
Gruber, Jory
Grunstein, Erin
Gurman Sochaczevski, Elissa
Guttman, Dahlia
Guttman, Matthew
Haim, Dan
Handelsman, Rachel
Har-Gil, Or
Harris, Kyle
Harris, Matt
Hennick, Bradley
Hershon, Ashley
Hochfelder, Gaby
Hoffman, Joel
Hofman, The Girls
Isaacman, David
Isaacman, Josh
Jackson, Daphne
Jackson, Elana
Jackson, Matthew
Jacob, Resa
Joseph, Ashley
Josepovici, Janina
Karpen Shapir, Sarah
Kastner, Derek
Kastner, Jaime
Katz, Ariel
Katz, Rebecca Jennifer
Kesselman, Harley
Kestelman, Renee
Kestenbaum, Menashe
Kestenbaum, Uri
Kirsh, Hy
Kitner, Erica
Klar, Brahm
Klein, Kyle
Kligman, Stephanie
Kligman, Stephanie
Klumak, Justin
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Kochman, Noah
Kogan, Nathalie
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Kramer, Eliazar
Krieser, Shawn
Krol, Stepahnie
Kupfer, Cheryl
Lambersky, Michael
Leibner, Ariana
Lenetsky, Shelby
Lerner, Josh
Lesniak, Michael
Levenstadt, Brent
Levi, Tamar
Levin, Naomi
Levine, Sarah
Levy, Gaby
Lewkowict, Leonard
Licht, Laura
Lichtman, Kimberly
Lichtman, Kyle
Lieberman, Michael
Lindzon, Matt
Lippman, Shelley Debra
Lipton, Jordan
Lubelsky, Ali
Lubelsky, Lauren

[Cont'd on next page]

The Little Dreidels

One dreidel short and sweet,
another dreidel stuffed with meat.
Another dreidel named Shaun,
another dreidel named Mom.
Mom and Shaun went to a party
and met a friend named Smarty.
Smarty is a candy round and sweet,
he was very good to eat,
But then Smarty rolled out the door,
he rolled and rolled
till I could not see him no more.

by Laura Agar, 9 years old

Chanukah

Chanukah is a holiday of light
It really is a beautiful sight
Seeing the dreidels spin
Happy as I am I get goosebumps on my skin
I also love those huge smiles
They go up to miles and miles
But the best part of all is that chanukiah
I put it outside the window of my sister Leah
The candle lasts all night long
But I stay up singing all sorts of Chanukah songs
Happy Chanukah to everyone
I hope you have a great one!

by Sophie Saragosti, 10 years old

Eight Little Fires

Eight little fires
glowing in flame
from door to door you'll find them
a miracle they proclaim

Eight little fires
Whose story you'll tell
while spinning round your dreidel
and latkes frying you do smell

Eight little fires
standing tall and bright
filling us with hope
in the darkness of the night

Eight little fires
for all of us to see
reminding us of who we are
and who we ought to be.

by Shoshana Binder, 10 years old

Eight Days a Year

Chanukah is the holiday of light.
Every year it zooms by like a rocket in the sky.
I take Chanukah differently,
I take it gradually,

I want to enjoy and remember,
Every breathtaking sight and scent during Chanukah.
There are many different sights.
Each is exquisite and dazzling in its own way.

My favorite part of Chanukah is,
Seeing my family around the table.
They all have astronomical sized smiles on their faces.
Their faces all gleam in the light of the chanukiah.

The shamash stands tall.
It's alone but it's in the centre.
The flicker of the shamash
Sparkles in all of our eyes.

I can't explain in words,
This extraordinary and remarkable holiday.
Chanukah is more than just stories games and presents,
It's the time of light, happiness, joy and family for all
Jews who walk on earth.

by Lauren Rotman, 11 years old

Happy Chanukah

[Cont'd. from previous page]

Ludman, Shelley
Ludwin, Ilana
Luftig, Kayley and Jonathan
Lukacs, Vicki
Lupovici, Alli
Lydynia, Ali
Mackenzie, Jonathan
Maclin, Lawrence
Malach, Jessica
Maldoff, Gabriel
Marcovitch, Amanda
Marcus, Max
Marcus, Nicole
Maron, Shawna
Matarasso, Danielle
Matlow, Naomi
Mayers, Lindsay
Mechanic, Susan
Meltzer, Daniel
Mendelson, Dana
Merkur, Lianne
Mikelberg, Alissa
Milech, Dahlia
Milech, Karina
Milech, Michael
Miller, Mitchell
Mintz, Rebecca
Minuk, Ashley
Moyal, Samuel
Moyse, Jarett
Mrs. Grubstajzn's Grade Two Class
Mrs. Slavin's grade three class
Nadler, Samantha Leah
Naginsky, Lev
Naiberg, Jilian
Nashen, Blair
Neuberger, Sarah
Neumark, Jonah
Nosanchuk, Lauren
Noyek, Adam
Orenstein, Schachar
Ostrega, Elana
Ostroff, Shawna
Ostrow, Edith
Ozier, Jeremy
Pancer, Jill
Pantel, Noah
Pearl, Jackie
Pearson, Joey
Pelc, Jordan
Phillips, Zack
Phillips-Sheldon, Francine
Pinsky, Marian
Pinsky, Ryan
Rabinowitz, Shari
Raisin, Nicole
Rashkovan, Lorne
Rebner, Jordana
Richman, Matthew
Richter, Bobby
Rimock, David
Rodak, Jillian
Rodak, Michael
Romano, Stacey
Ronis, Sara
Rosenberg, Elana
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Ross, Alana
Ross, Leytal
Roth, Aviva
Roth, Chani
Roth, Jared
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Rotman, Robin
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Saban, Pearl
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Saks, Samantha
Sandor, Michelle
Saragosti, Sophie
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Sasportas, Michal
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Schwartz, Candice
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Seligman, Corbin
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Strolovitch, Amanda
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Sussman, Yechiel
Swieca, Arianne
Syne, Davida
Szuf, Chana
Talia
Taylor, Angela
Taylor, Jessica
Teichman, Emily
Teichman, Jen
Teitel, Ezra
Teller, David
Temple, Kevin
Tepper, David
Thon, Elsa
Topper, Jared
Turk, Gregory
Vale, Kayla
Vineberg, Jessica
Vineberg, Somer
Waisgrus, Joshua
Waitzer, Sara
Wallach, Rachel
Waller, David Ray
Wardinger, Jaimie
Warshafsky, Chelsie
Warshafsky, Daniel
Waserman, Daniel
Weinstein, Lauren
Weissman, Adam
Weitzner, Jessica
Wise, Erin
Wise, Rebecca
Wiseblatt, Lorne
Wolfond, Serena
Worshell, Liana
Wrock, Michael
Yunger, Perry Steven
Yurman, Karen
Zaltzman, Alana
Zatzman, Samahra
Zefrani, Joey
Zelsman, Melissa
Zenklusen, Vanessa
Zimmerman, Joshua
Zohar, Sean
Zubran, Lisa
Zucker, Eva
Zur, Jordana

Chanukah

Chanukah...
What does it mean?
It is a miracle I wish I could have seen,
The Jews found a container of oil for one day to burn,
How could it last? was their concern,
And yet for eight days the flame did glow,
This was a way to show,
For all the Jews and nations to know,
That God brings light and can take it away,
According to how much we beseech and pray,
And that's why thousands were beaten by a few,
And that was a miracle of Chanukah too!
If only we had the everlasting light,
To bring peace in the world without friction or fight,
Where each man would love one another,
Like parents, cousins, sister or brother,
The peace of light that shines from our hearts,
Would bring the glow of love spreading to the world in all parts,
And the miracle of Chanukah would rekindle once more,
And the light of love of mankind would open every closed door.

by *Menashe Kestenbaum, 13 years old*

On the Meaning of Chanukah

In the age of the Maccabees
a single day's worth of oil
burned in the Temple for eight whole days,
read the teacher to his students

The oil couldn't have sustained the light and heat
for so many consecutive hours,
a student argued

Can a man's hope and faith be measured with any accuracy?
probed the teacher

No. But a man's faith can be shaken
like the apple on a branch of a tree,
declared the student

And is yours so easily shaken?
the teacher asked compassionately

It has been, as is true for most of us,
the student responded, undefeated

The teacher then lit a match and invited the student to imagine
that its flame signified some untangible immeasurable good
he could aspire to

The student watched intently
as the flame bonfired
receded
and went out

Having witnessed the predictability of science
he was not yet convinced
of the meaning of his teacher's lesson

But sometime later
the student remembered the flame
and the buoyant belief he had invested in its brief light

A belief he had stored
in the Ark of his soul
to secure there as a covenant

It was then he decided

That the flame was a symbol he could understand
by Carol Lipszyc

The Chanukah Menorah: A Light Unto The Nations

In a world where lust for wealth
Determines what is done
Where human rights are nuisances
When contracts must be won

Where governments are blind
To suffering that abounds
Shaking hands with despots
For oil that's in the ground

But Chanukah is different
When the menorah shines
It beams a light of freedom
And hope for all mankind

It makes us all remember
The miracle long ago
When no oil could be found
To keep the lamp aglow

But the lamp kept on burning
Eight long days and nights
Just like the human spirit
In darkness there is light

Each night the menorah's lit
We honor all mankind
And show those evil rulers
Its flame will always shine

by Michael Eskin

Faith Till The End

A struggle, a long hard fight
a fight to survive,
to stand up for what we believe.
Not to be put down,
not to be pushed around
because of our religion, race
or appearance
but to live a life we deserve.
We earned the right to live in peace
and capture beautiful
sights you and I can cherish,
cherish in our hearts
where no one can take it away.
For them to dream and us to relive
for us to do and
not to say or wish, but to act upon
what and how you want things to be.
That's what made us.
That's what brought us here now.
To relive and pass down
memories to our youngsters
about how we managed,
fought and accomplished
things for them, our children.
To live a secure, happy life
where they can be safe
and not worry about
what others will think.
So they can grow up strong and powerful
so they can protect their families
from what this world is coming to.
Without the worries we grew up with.

That's what Chanukah means to me
in my own way
in my own opinion
in my own words.

by *Vanessa Zenklusen, 12 years old*

Happy Chanukah

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עדיין זאת ניתן לשאת.
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מתנוסס בראש חוצות
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מחזה מקובל במקומנו!
ובהם מציגים לראוה תאוות-בשרם
סונדים להדרו
נתבייש היהודי שבתוכו, הוכפשו פניו
הגביר צעדו אל בית -מדרשו
לשאוב מתעצומות כחו.

by Sara Peerless, 13 years old

חנוכה

נרות חנוכה דולקים ומבהיקים
מחממים את הבית.
ומזכירים לנו נסים גדולים
שקרו ליהודים בימי המקבים
המכבים נצחו את היוונים הרשעים
ה' נתן רבים בידי המעטים
נקו את בית המקדש- היקל ה'
פך שמן קטן השפיק לשמונה ימים
ובזכותו אנו שמחים וחוגגים
בחוץ קר, שלג לבן נופל
בבית חם, נרות דולקים
ומזכירים לנו נסים גדולים.

by Esther Feldman, 12 years old

חנוכה,

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באותו רגע
דיכאון ירד עלי
הלואי ויכולתי
לחגוג חנוכה עם ילדי
אולי נתראה עוד
אולי יבוא היום
על קידוש השם הם נהרגו
מעטים היו ורבים נצחו.

by Esther Cohen, 14 years old

המכבים

חנוכה חג של חרות.
חג של עצמאות
המכבים התמודדו,
ונלחמו עד שהצליחו.
לא היה קל לעמוד על דעתם,
עבדו את ה' כדי להיות עם.
מעטים נגד רבים.
גיבורים ומאמינים.
נלחמו בחכמה,
התפללו ב"כוונה".
עם אחד בלב אחד.
עמדו ביחד כדי להחזיר את האור לישראל
נס גדול היה שם.

by Chaviva Lanton, 14 years old

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Happy Chanukah

Technion overlooks Haifa

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

Part 2

If one asks the average Israeli to name an institute in Haifa that enjoys an international reputation, the chances are that he will answer, the Technion.

The Israel Institute of Technology – The Technion – is one of two main centres of higher education in northern Israel. Established in Haifa in 1924, it was the first institute of higher learning to be opened in the country. It has faculties for engineering, architecture, town planning, medicine and life sciences. Seventy-five percent of engineers working in Israel today are graduates of the Technion as are the CEOs of many of Israel's leading high-tech companies.

The student population now stands at over 10,000 with almost 2,400 students graduating each year from 19 faculties.

"Today we cannot keep pace with the demand for engineers," says Emanuel Shimoni, the director of public affairs of the institute. "The rapid expansion in science-based industries has meant that we have to expand all the time to provide graduates to this most successful sector of Israel's economy.

"We also established in 1991 'centres of excellence,' to support Israel's future technological and scientific development. The centres are flexible associations of scientists who come together from a varied background and experience to solve complex scientific problems."

The institute currently has nine centres dealing with such subjects as biotechnology, superconductivity, software technology, protein engineering and molecular medicine.

In 1923, after visiting the original Technion campus, Albert Einstein returned to Germany to found the world's first Technion society. Today there are 13 Technion societies around the world providing both financial and academic help to the institute. The societies are also instrumental in making their local communities aware of developments at the Technion.

The Canadian Technion Society has always been in the forefront of the institute's 'Friends.' There are society chapters in Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

Because the Canadian Friends of the Technion has been so active, the institution recently opened the new Art Eggleton Canadian Centre for Molecular Medicine Research, which is headed by Canadian scientist, Dr. Karl Skorecki.

On leaving the Technion, one can see from many vantage points the panorama of Haifa Port below. At present, due to security considerations and the danger of injury, one cannot just enter the harbor area and wander about to view the day to day activities that are part of any busy port. However, this will slowly change in the future, as the city and the sea are reunified and part of the port area is given over to sea recreation and general tourism.

"Over the next 20 years a total of 80 acres of land will be reclaimed from the sea to the eastern side of the present harbor complex," says Joseph Rosenthal the spokesperson for the Haifa Peace Port, as it is officially known.

"In the first stage, over the next few years, the central part of the port will be opened to tourist development and a marina will be built immediately below the German Colony, thus allowing visitors to walk through a complex of gardens from the Louis Promenade, high up on the Carmel, to the edge of the sea, some two kilometres away."

There is opposition to the plans to build the marina, as some experts say the reclamation of land will stop the natural flow of the sea in the area and there will be silting. This theory is rejected by the developers of the project, who say that not only will the marina be built on solid bedrock, but that tests carried out at National Physical Laboratory in Teddington, England, show that there will be no degradation of the shore line.

All the infrastructure changes have to be made without interfering with the port's daily activities. Today Haifa handles 13 million tons of cargo annually, with a steady

[Cont'd. on page B 14]

We remember

As we look into the candles burning and bright
We remember the Jews, their victory and might.
The menorah was okay but the oil would not last
They needed some olives and they needed them fast.
At that moment a glistening miracle flew by
It said good luck, you can do it and goodbye.
The Jews sat and prayed when the lighting was done
They soon realized that it was they who had won.
The candles remained lit for the next eight days
The Jews rejoiced in many different ways.
At last the Jews were happy and free
And guess what?
One of those Jews was me.

by Erin Campbell, 12 years old

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The interior of Elijah's Cave. [Edgar Asher photo]

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Museums of interest

[Cont'd. from page B 13]

annual growth of between five and 10 percent. Ashdod Port handles a little more each year than Haifa in total tonnage, but Haifa exceeds Ashdod as far as container traffic is concerned. In fact, Haifa's container port is one of the biggest in the Mediterranean. In 1996, 386,000 containers were processed in the port, more than double the quantity of containers handled 10 years earlier.

Nine hundred and fifty people are employed at the port and as a result of mechanization and modern cargo handling, the productivity per worker has significantly increased. In 1996, 35 percent of cargo at the port was container traffic, 17 percent was bulk grain and 14 percent oil.

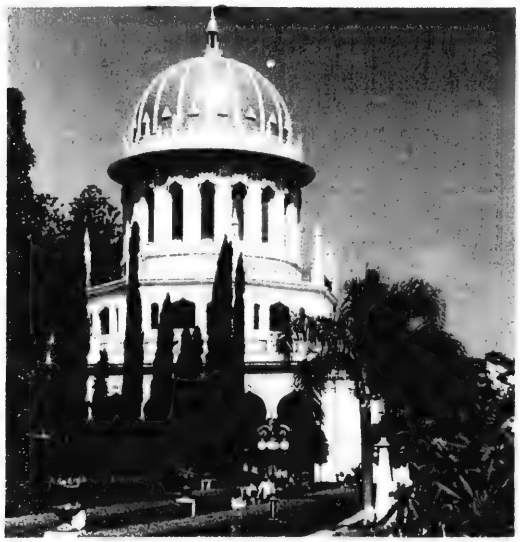
"Although the port is increasing its cargo turnover, we had hoped for an even bigger increase as a result of business from Jordan following the peace accord," says Rosenthal rather wistfully. "Unfortunately, for a variety of political reasons, the expected increase did not materialize. However, it is quite clear to see that our port is in a perfect position to deal with Jordanian exports and imports from Europe and North America. I believe in time this will come about."

The history and development of shipping is an integral part of the history of the western world. It was from this region that ships of the Pharaohs, Canaanites and Phoenicians plied the Mediterranean. Two Haifa museums reflect two distinct views of Israel's history. One deals with the foundation of the modern state, seen from a maritime perspective, while the other goes back to the earliest example of maritime history.

The Clandestine Immigration and Naval Museum is near the western end of the Bat Galim Promenade. The major part of the museum is located in the hull of the appropriately named vessel *Af Al Pi Hen* – In Spite Of. Within its hull is told the story of how vessels, like the *Af Al Pi Hen* broke the British blockade of the Jews fleeing Nazi persecution. It also tells the story of

[Cont'd. on page B 15]

Happy Chanukah



The Baha'i Shrine. [Edgar Asher photo]

Maritime Museum founded in 1953

[Cont'd. from page B 14]

the Israel Navy, of which Haifa is an integral part.

The second museum, the National Maritime Museum, was founded in 1953 and located some two hundred metres from the Clandestine Immigration museum. The museum was founded by Lt.-Cmdr. Arie Ben Eli, who was also, until his death in 1980, the first director of the museum.

"The original basis of the museum was Ben Eli's own private collection," explains curator Esther Joseph. "We added important pieces to our collection from donations as well as from maritime archaeological excavations on the sea shore and under the sea. We cover over 5,000 years of maritime history with special emphasis on the Eastern Mediterranean."

Joseph points out with some pride a remarkably preserved and rare fourth-century BCE, 465-kilo bronze battering ram that came from a Phoenician warship. The unique ram was found in 1980 in the Bay of Atlit, just south of Haifa.

The museum also has on view three Egyptian funerary boats from about 2000 BCE and there is a fine collection of model boats constructed mainly in the museum's own workshop from contemporary drawings and coin inscriptions. The earliest model is based on a seagoing Egyptian vessel from the reign of Pharaoh Sahure who reigned about 2500 BCE.

Haifa has nine other museums in addition to the two described above. They include modern and ancient art museums, a prehistory museum, a train museum, a Japanese art museum, a railway museum, a grain museum and an edible oil museum. The city also has one of the most attractive zoological gardens in Israel.

In keeping with the city's plan to open up and develop the beaches, the municipality has started to develop the Dado, Zamir and Ha-Carmel beaches at the southern entry of the city. For local people with cars, the beaches are first class. But tourists face the problem of the present lack of hotel accommodation in the immediate area of the beaches, as all the higher standard hotels are located on the Carmel, and between them they offer just over 1,000 rooms. New hotels are being built including a Holiday Inn and a Hilton. A manager of one of Haifa's larger hotels has said, "I don't believe tourists bring hotels, I believe hotels bring tourists."

Already built and operating, adjoining the site of the new proposed Hilton Hotel at the southern entrance to the city, is a state-of-the-art convention and exhibition centre that has facilities for up to 3,000 people. Within a few months, one of Israel's largest indoor shopping complexes is due to open in the same area.

Work is also scheduled to start to rebuild the rail terminal and bus station within walking distance of the convention centre and shopping complex. From this complex can be seen some of Israel's best known high-tech companies, such as Elbit, Fibronic, Elsint, IBM and Intel. They are all found in the Centre for Scientific Industries, known in Hebrew as Matam.

Haifa is clearly getting its act together. The elements needed to encourage tourism are all in place. Coordination and development are now the order of the day. Within a 60- kilometre radius of the city is some of Israel's most beautiful countryside, including the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee). Haifa is trying to project itself into the next millennium to become the city that is a 'must' to visit. There are many problems, but as in the past, Haifa will come through on top.

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Chanukah

In one corner, an array of colored wax
Cyan, iridescent white and magenta
Dripping elegantly down the menorah's
Golden, sturdy and everlasting body.

In the corner opposite
Children playing without care
Colors twirling joyfully
On the four-sided top.

Symbols of our past
Standing in shining glory
Like Maccabees after VICTORY
Golden Menorah and Bright Green Dreidel.

Scents of oil invading the humid air
From the room next door
Inside, a woman
Frying hot brown latkes

The blazing red inferno
Giving heat to the Teflon pan –
As the Jewish faith
Gave strength to the Maccabees

Upstairs an old bearded man,
Telling one of his million tales
To young faces
Anxious and awaiting

Glimmering metal and blinding colors,
Sizzling latkes and stories galore
Chanukah is present –
With the love it brings.

by Nat Stigler, 14 years old

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Chanukah traditions, recipes vary around the world

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Did you know that on Chanukah, Moroccan Jews eat couscous with deep-fried chicken; that Russian Jews put a lump of sugar in a spoon, pour brandy over it, then set it alight and drop it in a glass of tea; and that North African Jews eat cabbage soup?

Those are just some of the fascinating tidbits you can pick up in Claudia Roden's *The Book of Jewish Food* (Knopf, 1997). The book is subtitled *An odyssey from Samarkand to New York*, and that is just what it is: customs, recipes and folklore from wherever Jews have settled over the centuries.

Ashkenazi, Sephardi, European gourmet and Indian dainties, all the way to China and the New World, this cookbook-cum-history-cum-sociology-cum-folklore book would be a wonderful present for anyone who loves food. And who doesn't?

POLLO FRITTO

This Tuscan way of cooking small pieces of chicken has become a Chanukah specialty in Italy.

8 small pieces of chicken, cut from the leg or breast
Juice of 1 lemon
salt and pepper
flour
1 egg, lightly beaten
light vegetable oil for frying, about 1 inch deep

Marinate the chicken pieces for 1 hour in the lemon juice, a little salt and pepper. Just before you are ready to eat, roll them all in flour, then in beaten egg (prepare a soup plate of each and the chicken pieces can all be in at the same time). Heat the oil in a heavy pot and deep-fry the chicken till golden. If the oil is too hot, the batter will burn before the chicken is done.

[Cont'd. on page B 17]

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Happy Chanukah

Tunisian style chicken a Chanukah specialty

[Cont'd. from page B 16]

If you want to make a large quantity, you may reheat in the oven. Serves 2-4.

Variations:

The Tunisian "Livornese" version – poulet en beignets – is a chicken cut in small pieces marinated in a mixture of 3 tbsp. of extra-virgin olive oil, the juice of 1 lemon, 2 crushed garlic cloves, 3 tbsp. finely chopped flat-leafed parsley, salt and pepper, then dipped in a batter made with one-third cup flour beaten with 1 egg and a little water – just enough to make it creamy – plus salt and pepper. Deep-fry in medium-hot oil and serve with lemon quarters.

PASCHKA (Cream cheese mold)

1¼ lb. curd or cream cheese
3½ oz. unsalted butter, softened
4 tbsp. sour cream
2 egg yolks
½ cup superfine (icing) sugar or to taste
zest of 1 to 1½ lemons
few drops vanilla extract
¼ cup coarsely chopped almonds
¼ cup mixed raisins and/or chopped crystallized fruit and citrus peel.

Put all the ingredients except the almonds, raisins and crystallized fruit in the food processor and blend to a smooth cream. Taste to adjust the amount of sugar and flavorings. Add the almonds, raisins and fruit and blend briefly so that they are well mixed.

Pour into a small bowl lined with plastic wrap and cover with another piece of wrap (this makes it easier to unmold). Leave in refrigerater overnight. Unmold and serve in thin slices.

Variations:

You can freeze the paschka and turn it into an ice cream. Take it out of the freezer one-half hour before serving.

You can make it plain, without fruit or almonds. Serves 8.

Reflections

Through the flicker of life-light
I see.
Surrounded by the warm glow of Chanukah candles,
Shining so a million eyes can lift up,
To see,
A reflection –

Faces like yours
Maybe rounder or bigger,
Images blurred by steady streams of smoke,
As matches are extinguished and flames burn,
Dripping wax in intricate patterns.

We learn –
Even through the "grated potatoes and one large egg,"
and cut knuckles,
we learn about strength.
See it over there –

Reflections.

See yourself too,
Understand the path, the way,
Which lights the road for us –
Year after year after year,
and say Thank You.

by Shelley Debra Lippman

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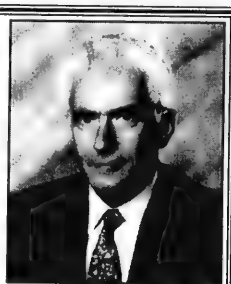

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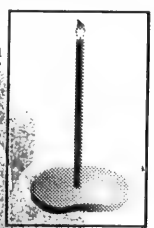
The Potato Menorah
Many years ago, a very simple, inexpensive way to celebrate the candle lighting was to cut thick slices of potatoes, put a small opening in the centre and place the Chanukah candles. Naturally, one piece of potato would be higher than the rest to act as a Shamus. The potato, because it is moist, also extinguishes the candle as it burns down, acting as a safety device.



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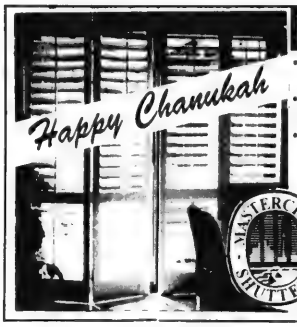

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RESIDENTIAL-COMMERCIAL

Heart smart foods a delight

By LEILA SPEISMAN
Staff Reporter

Everyone loves the thought of gourmet food. The problem, of course, is finding the recipes to whip up these concoctions at home.

Heart and Soul Cuisine from the Estates of Sunnybrook, by David Adjay and Janice Holley, with photographs by Curtis Trent (Estates of Sunnybrook, and the Sunnybrook Health Science Centre Heart and Circulation Program, 1997) is one great way to get started.

There is even an added bonus — the recipes are all designed to be good for your heart. Vegetables are grilled and served with an assortment of incredible sounding vinaigrette dressings; instead of whipping cream, you find evaporated skim milk; and herbs and spices are used liberally.

We tend to think that "healthy" does not go along with such adjectives as "yummy" or "delectable". But what could be bad about lemon-scented potato hash; steamed Florida red snapper with saffron, tomatoes, basil and thyme; or sun-dried cherry biscotti?

A great many of the recipes are not kosher, but most can be adapted for the kosher kitchen. Here are a few that not only sound great, but can be used to liven up your Chanukah table.

SWEET PEA PANCAKES

1 cup all-purpose flour
1 tbsp. baking powder
½ tsp. salt
1 cup egg substitute
1 cup evaporated skim milk
½ cup sweet pea puree
¼ cup chopped fresh parsley
pinch of nutmeg
⅛ tsp. black pepper

Sift together flour, baking powder and salt. In a large bowl, whisk together remaining ingredients. Fold in flour mixture. Spray a large non-stick pan lightly with non-stick cooking spray. For each pancake, spoon about 2 tbsp. batter into the pan. When bubbles form and edges are light brown, flip pancake and leave until fully cooked, 2 minutes. Keep warm, and serve as soon as possible.

For the sweet pea puree: In a blender or food processor, puree 1 cup sweet peas with 1 tbsp. hot water until smooth. Strain through a fine strainer. Reserve liquid and discard solids. Serves 6.

LEMON PUDDING CAKE

⅔ cup granulated sugar
1½ cups skim milk
½ cup all-purpose flour
⅛ tsp. salt
2 tbsp. margarine, melted
1 tbsp. grated lemon rind
⅓ cup lemon juice
1 tsp. vanilla extract
3 eggs, separated
1 tbsp. granulated sugar

Preheat oven to 350.

Lightly spray an 8-in. square baking pan with non-stick cooking spray. In a large mixing bowl, combine sugar, milk, flour, salt, margarine, lemon rind and juice, vanilla, and egg yolks. Beat until smooth. Set aside.

In a small mixing bowl, beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Add remaining sugar and beat until stiff.

Mix one-third of whites into lemon mixture. Fold in remaining whites. Pour batter into prepared pan. Bake in a water bath 45 to 50 minutes. Serve warm. Serves 10.

YOGURT AND HONEY-LEMON DRESSING

½ cup non-fat yogurt
3 tbsp. stoneground mustard
3 tbsp. honey
1 lemon, zest and juice
¼ tsp. chopped fresh mint
¼ tsp. kosher salt
⅛ tsp. black pepper

Combine yogurt, mustard and honey in a large bowl. Add lemon zest, juice and mint. Adjust seasoning with salt and pepper. Makes 1 cup.

For The One Who Thought To Set Aside The Oil

If the future
comprehends
the past,
then I will plant a seedling tree
and never live to taste the fruit.

Some waged war with spears and swords
Some prayed and some negotiated
Some rebelled and some assimilated.

But since
the future
comprehends
the past
I hid away a flask of oil.

This is the task of the righteous:
To prepare for the future
To plan for the future
To drag the past into the future
So that the future comprehends the past.

And from such planning:
Miracles
And joy.
Like a flame
a bright dancing flame
that never extinguishes.
Like a child's eyes.

by Ken Stollon

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Happy Chanukah

Herbs liven up veal brisket

By NAOMI ARBIT
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

VEAL BRISKET

2 ½ pound veal brisket, fat removed
1 envelope onion soup mix
½ cup kosher dry white wine
2 tablespoons tomato paste
2 cups water
2 teaspoons paprika
1 teaspoon dried rosemary
1-2 cloves garlic, minced
fresh ground pepper to taste
6 red new potatoes, peeled and quartered
6 carrots, cut into 2-inch diagonal slices
2 tablespoons flour or arrowroot
¼ cup water, white wine or flat beer

Place the veal in a roasting pan, top side up. Brown in the broiler on both sides until golden brown. Drain off any fat from the pan. Combine the onion soup mix and water and pour over the meat.

In a small bowl, mix the paprika, rosemary, garlic and pepper. Spread the tomato paste over the top of the brisket and sprinkle with the seasonings. Cover the meat and place in a 325-degree oven. Roast for one hour. Turn the roast over once during the next hour, basting with the juices. Add the potatoes and carrots, sprinkle with a little paprika; cover and cook 30 to 45 minutes longer or until meat and vegetables are tender.

Drain the juices from the roaster and remove the fat. Pour into a small saucepan. Blend the flour with ½-cup water, wine or beer and whisk over low heat until smooth. Stir constantly. Cook until mixture thickens and coats a spoon.

Carve cooled meat into 1/2-inch slices, cutting diagonally against the grain of the meat. (You may want to reheat the meat after carving.) Arrange sliced meat on a heated platter surrounded with potatoes and carrots. Spoon some gravy over the top and pass the remaining gravy separately. Serves 6-8.

SYMBOL COOKIES

1 cup butter or margarine
1 cup sugar
1 large egg
1 tsp. vanilla
3 tsp. baking powder
3 cups all-purpose flour
3 tbsp. milk or orange juice

Using an electric mixer, beat butter and sugar in a bowl until creamy. Beat in egg and vanilla. In a small bowl, combine flour and baking powder. On low speed, gradually beat flour mixture into butter mixture until combined. Add milk or orange juice; beat until dough masses around beaters, around 2 minutes. Divide dough into thirds; wrap in waxed paper and chill for 30 minutes.

Roll out each third of dough on a lightly floured surface to desired thickness. Cut into shapes. Place cookies on an ungreased baking sheet. Bake in a 400 degree oven for 10 miutes, or until cookies spring back when lightly touched. Let cool on baking sheet for a few minutes. Transfer to rack to cool completely. Decorate as desired.

The First Chanukah

A Chanukah of firsts –
first candles come with first smiles,
reminding us of all those before you,
who smiled for the first time, once.

A Chanukah of eyes opened wide,
flames reach as high as you can see,
a warm glow fills your tiny world,
smells never known, tastes to anticipate –
one day,
when you're older.

A Chanukah of light,
to remind you of the light that
greeted you,
and surrounded you,
when you were born.

You travelled far to see this light,
to dance in its warmth,
to make it brighter.

On this first Chanukah
of many,
it reflects in your smiling eyes,
and tells us we've come so far,
to be here together.

by Leonard Lewkowict

Reminiscence of Chanukah

The candles lit up my mother's face
Who knows what miracle she had in her mind
That night the wind did not blow out the flames
It was the beast's breath that reversed our fate
I inherited the task to light the candles anew
For my children and theirs to continue
The tradition of Chanukah, a vision of hope
If miracles exist, yearning must stop!
Imagination brings back the magic night
When for the last time my mother lit the Chanukah light
The colored candles I picture in my dream
Chanukah wonders I lost in life stream
Deprived for years the Simchah of light
I loomed out of the darkness guided by the stars
The candles weren't there to show me the way
The last Chanukah at home for ever to stay?
Oh, Hope! You are a treasure, miracles come true!
For my children and theirs, as in my youth,
We play with the dreidel, we sing childhood songs
The room is warm, a rainbow, the flames
Outside winter, the snow gleams bright
The magic of Chanukah rejoices my heart.

by Elsa Thon

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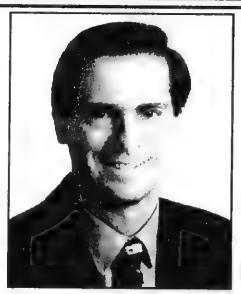
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136 Pages Wednesday, October 1, 1997 Elul 29, 5757 75¢

L'SHANA TOVA
לשנה טובה

Moments of the present

[Paul Pascal photo]

GENERATION TO GENERATION

Like the tides that surge and recede by dint of beckoning forces, our lives too are shaped by energies and currents that we mostly feel, but can neither see nor understand.

However, during the first 10 days of Tishrei, the days of introspection and of self-assessment, the passage of our years becomes somehow clearer to us. For religious and irreligious alike, Rosh Hashanah reminds us of time's constant melancholy tug upon the forward momentum of our lives.

Time – and the awareness of it – are ever present factors that shape human life. And how we relate to time is an ever present factor that shapes individual lives.

The late Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik wrote that consciousness of time, along with consciousness of place, were the two fundamental dimensions of kedushah, of holiness. But he pointed out there were two categories of time-consciousness: qualitative and quantitative. Only the former, qualitative time-consciousness, he emphasized, was the means to a life of higher meaning and purpose, of commitment and creativity.

Editorial

Qualitative time-consciousness, he wrote, was "the appreciation of the enormous implications inherent in the fleeting moments of the present. No fraction of time, however infinite, should slip through the fingers, left unexploited; for eternity may depend upon the brief moment."

The above photo by Paul Pascal, one of the winners of *The CJN* Rosh Hashanah photo contest, conveys a sense of qualitative time-consciousness in a poignant and almost poetic way.

The contrast between the timeless, innocent, endearing little boy and the timeless, ancient craggy stones of the Wall enables us to see and helps us to understand what we usually can only feel, what Rabbi Soloveitchik referred to as the "enormous implications in the fleeting moments of the present."

The page of the calendar turns to 5758 and we will pray that no longer will infinite fractions of time slip through our fingers.

Bibi speaks to *The CJN*

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gave a Rosh Hashanah interview in his Jerusalem office to Edgar Asher, The CJN's Israel correspondent. The conversation covered many of the present political, social and economic issues that affect the Jewish people in Israel and in the Diaspora.

CJN: *Mr Netanyahu, would you give your views concerning the crisis over the occupation of the house in Ras Al Amud, following the Sept. 18 agreement with U.S. millionaire Irving Moskowitz, which resulted in the three families leaving his east Jerusalem property.*

NETANYAHU: Israelis have the right to live anywhere within the sovereign territory of Israel. But in the case of Jerusalem we tend to build neighborhoods in particular places. There will be a new neighborhood in Har Choma, thousands of houses for both Jews and Arabs. Har Choma is empty and very large. It is government policy to permit private contractors to build at Har Choma — we haven't decided to build in Ras Al Amud.

The question of the law of eviction and protection of property is clear, but the law is not so clear about national security risks and this we have to consider also. We want to defuse the tension and preserve the unity and rights of the people. It is a complicated equation, but I think it is achievable.

Continued on page 48

This Week

Coast to Coast

Supreme Court clears the way for Nazi war crimes trials to resume *Page 3*

Greater Toronto Area

Jewish school system set to examine education changes *Page 5*

Rosh Hashanah Greetings

Zionism after 100 years is the theme of this year's supplement. *B Section*

Business

Minto Developments developing $100-million condominium. *Profile* *Page 56*

Sports

Soccer pro looks forward to promoting the sport in Canada *Page 66*

Index

Coast to Coast 3
GTA 4
Editorials and Letters 8
Perspectives 9
Opinions 10
The Kirshner File 11
Jewish Life 12
On Campus 26
Rosh Hashanah 5758 28
Just Between Us 31
What's New 32
International 39
The Year in Review 50
Travel, Arts & Business 52
Health 57
CJKids 58
Classified 61
Sports 66
Ask Lisa 67
Crossword 67

Shabbat Shuvah: Ha'azinu
Shabbat candles: 6:40
Tishrei 2, 5757
Havdalah: 7:45

INSIDE

Photo Contest Winners. Congratulations to *Mimi Fliess, Jonathan Myers* and *Paul Pascal*. Their entries were declared to be the "winners" of our Rosh Hashanah Photo Contest. Their photographs can be seen in this issue. We thank all those who submitted photos.

Don't miss an issue. Call 416-391-1836 today to have The Canadian Jewish News delivered to your door every week.

Shanah Tovah to all from the directors and staff of The CJN

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What's New

By Miriam Herman

Yad Vashem and Boys Town Jerusalem
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at 8:00 p.m.

DEADLINE REMINDER

What's New and About People deadlines: Monday, Jan. 5, is deadline for Jan. 15 issue; and Monday, Jan. 12, is deadline for Jan. 22 issue. I receive calls and sort my mail on deadline days only. Phone 391-1836, fax 391-0829. There is no issue on Jan. 1.

Thursday, Dec. 25

SINGLES COFFEEHOUSE

Beth Tzedek Young Members invites singles 25-40 to celebrate the Third Light of Chanukah at a coffeehouse 8 p.m. at the Comedywood Club, Bathurst and Steeles. Live entertainment. $10 in advance, $15 at door. To reserve, **Marlene** 781-3514, ext. 46.

Sunday, Dec. 28

CHANUKAH PARTY

At the Minsker, $7 includes admission, latkes and the sweet and sour sounds of **Ronnie Wiseman**, "The King of Jewish Reggae," 7 p.m., Anshei Minsk Synagogue, 10 St. Andrew St. 595-5723.

KABBALAH CENTRE

Chanukah party celebrating the holiday of miracles, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. 631-9395.

FAMILY CHANUKAH PARTY

Temple Har Zion family Chanukah party, 4-6 p.m. Bring chanukiah and candles to light. 905-889-2252.

Tuesday, Dec. 30

SUNNYBROOK CHANUKAH

Chanukah party for veterans, patients, staff and friends, 2-4 p.m. in the Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. Music, latkes and lots of fun.

Wednesday, Dec. 31

MINGLE FOR MAZON

Mingle Productions fundraiser for Mazon Canada, dance all night, champagne, sweet table, pool tables, at the Sports Cafe, 49 St. Clair Ave. W. $15 in advance, $18 at door. 905-709-6438.

Saturday, Jan. 3

SUNNYBROOK MINYAN

Ma'yan Or Liberal Minyan Shabbat service 10 a.m. to noon, kiddush following, Sunnybrook Jewish Chapel. **Hilda Harris**, shamus, 480-4421, ext. 3552.

Sunday, Jan. 4

JEWISH STORYTELLING

Jewish Storytelling at Beit Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave., 7:30 p.m., hosted by **Alec Gelcer**. All welcome to listen or tell. $3 donation. Presented by Jewish Storytelling Arts. 440-1330.

BOOK DISCUSSION

The Feminist Book Discussion Group of North York chapter, Older Women's Network, examines *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by **Maya Angelou**, 2 p.m., Barbara Frum Library. **Ruth Goldsmith** 782-6414.

Monday, Jan. 5

ABOUT DIABETES

Jewish Diabetes chapter of Canadian Diabetes Association meeting, 8 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue. **David Patrick Ryan,** consulting psychiatrist, Sunnybrook Health Centre, speaks on Finding Motivation for Good Self-Care, dealing with denial, depression, anger. **Esther Schwartz** 782-2176 or **Shirley Glatt** 225-1989.

Wednesday, Jan. 7

JEWISH SEXUALITY SERIES

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue Jewish Sexuality Series with **Rachel Turkienicz**, director of Judaic Studies, Heschel School, begins with Purity and Impurity. 8 p.m.

And What Else Is New

SUPPORT GROUP

Senior Care's Support group for adult children caring for a parent with Alzheimer disease or a related disorder begins Wednesday, Jan. 28. To register for this eight-session group, call Senior Care's Intake Department, 635-2860.

[Cont'd. on page 25]

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What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

YIDDISH CLASSES

Winter term Yiddish conversation courses at all levels start in January. Locations in Toronto and Thornhill. Yiddish Hotline at UJA Federation, 635-2883, ext. 700.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood duplicate bridge every Tuesday at 7:45 p.m. at the temple. For information, 789-3291.

JEWISH HEALING PROJECT

Toronto Jewish Healing Project offers a group where people confronting a physical illness can find spiritual resources for help and comfort within the Jewish tradition. The group, led by **Rabbi Daniel Gottlieb** and teacher **Michele Katz,** will run every Monday for seven weeks beginning Jan. 5, 1-2:30 p.m., Lipa Green Building. Registration/details, **Etta Ginsberg McEwan,** coordinator, 944-3359.

HEBREW CLASSES

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee St., winter courses for adults, teenagers and preteens in conversational Hebrew, all levels, Monday mornings (Intermediate I), Jan. 19-April 20; Tuesday mornings (Beginners), Jan. 20-April 21; Wednesday mornings (Intermediate II), Jan. 21-April 22; Tuesday evenings (All Levels) Jan. 20-April 21. Register now! Consultation/registration **Joseph Klinger** 787-0197.

BAYCREST SYNAGOGUE

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue weekday services, Shacharit 8:30 a.m. Minchah, Ma'ariv 4:45 p.m. Shabbat 9 a.m. preceded by Torah study with **Rabbi Gershon Samonovitz**. Call **David** 256-1600.

JVS VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer opportunities available at Jewish Vocational Service include clerical assistants to provide a variety of office-related tasks, and computer tutors to assist staff in teaching and evaluating performance. Volunteers are needed four or more hours per week, Monday through Friday during regular office hours. **Joy** at the Volunteer Office, 787-1151, ext. 244.

ART CLASSES

Drawing and Painting, all levels, Thursdays 1-3 p.m., Jan.8-Feb. 12 at Beth Sholom Synagogue. $9 individual session or $40 for all six sessions. Sign up at Beth Sholom office or call **Terri** 487-7244.

YIDDISH IN ENGLISH

Learn about Yiddish in English. Two new courses: Yiddish Literature in Translation, lecturer **Ellie Moidel,** and History of the Yiddish Language, lecturer **Richard Bassett**. Yiddish Hotline at UJA Federation 635-2883, ext. 700.

FOR SENIORS

Beth Tzedec Seniors Haverim features **Mary Mursell** of Senior Tours who presents Winter Sun, a visual presentation on travel for 1998, Monday, Jan. 5, 1:30 p.m. in the Hurwich Board Room. Nominal charge.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club: In the planning – vacations, cruises, theatre. **Lena** 785-5773. Golden Book donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. **Dorothy Bloomfield** 787-1526.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Thursdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). Thursday, Dec. 25, no program; Saturday, Dec. 27, Chanukah party 7:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 30, buffet lunch 1 p.m., Jerusalem Restaurant, Finch and Leslie. **Aaron Dahary** 661-4689 or **Malka** 630-5771.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club: Wednesday, Dec. 31, 7 p.m., New Year's dinner dance. Activities – table tennis, shuffleboard, woodwork shop, trips, bingo. Membership $12. 395-7881.

Young at Heart Seniors Florida trip to kosher Saxony Hotel on the ocean, one month $2, 710 (Canadian) – hotel, efficiency, plane, shuttle, shopping, nightly entertainment, Olympic pool and lots more. Meals extra including tips. **Helen** 635-6343.

BERNARD BETEL CENTRE

Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living, 1003 Steeles Ave. W. 225-2112.

Prospects for Children and Youth – A Look at Social Policy in Canada with **Marvin Novick**, social work, Ryerson University, Tuesday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m. Members $1.50, nonmembers $3.

Movie, *Showboat*, Sunday, Dec. 28, 2:15 p.m.

BATHURST JC

Bathurst Jewish Centre, 4588 Bathurst St. 636-1880.

Senior Adult Services Department winter session starts the week of Jan. 5 – Bridge, Beginners level, Tuesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Intermediate Bridge, Wednesdays 1-3 p.m.; Tai Chi, Beginners level, Thursdays 2-3:30 p.m.; Yoga, Thursdays noon to 12:30 p.m.; Tai Chi Intermediate level, Friday, 9:30-11 a.m. Register at first class. These courses are co-sponsored by North York Board of Education and the BJC. **Yvonne** ext. 259.

Registration begins for Winter Athletic and Aquatic programs which start Sunday, Jan. 4. Ext. 373.

ABOUT PEOPLE

TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

Dr. Allen Gardner of Holy Blossom Temple was elected assistant treasurer and **Stanley Till** of Temple Sinai was re-elected assistant secretary of the North American Federation of Temple Brotherhoods (NFTB) and the Jewish Chautauqua Society (JCS) at the recent national board meeting.

Gardner has served as a trustee of Holy Blossom Temple and is a past president and officer of the temple's brotherhood.

Till is a past president of the Ontario Brotherhood of Reform Judaism as well as the Canadian Council of Reform Judaism and Temple Sinai's board of directors.

DENTIST HONORED

Scarborough dentist **Dr. Stephen Abrams** has received the Ontario Dental Association's (ODA) Service Award for his many contributions to Ontario dentistry. He has served on numerous ODA committees as well as the association's board of governors.

In addition, Abrams has also been instrumental in fighting for the maintenance of dental benefits for Metro Toronto's social assistance recipients. And young baseball fans are also familiar with his work. Since 1995, he has provided a children's dental health column to the Toronto Blue Jays' *Junior Jays Magazine*. In 1992 he was awarded a Canada 125 Commemorative Medal for his community service.

FOR SOLDIERS OF ISRAEL

Beth Jacob V'Anshe Drildz Congregation held a successful Yizkor appeal for the benefit of young men and women of the Israel Defence Forces. Pictured above (from left) Joseph Joseph, president; Rabbi Jay Kelman; Irving Matlow of Association for Soldiers of Israel; Sam Faivish, special campaigns chair; Joseph Rosenthal, treasurer. Absent, Rabbi Moses Burak.

CHECK RECEIVED

Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS) receives the support of Forest Hill Lions Club. David Guttman (left) presents check to Florence Weinberger at JF&CS together with Saul Mednick (Forest Hill Lions Club).

BAYCREST WA OFFICERS

Women's Auxiliary (WA) of Baycrest Centre recently installed 1997-1999 officers (from left) vice-presidents Heather Goose, Marla Wasser, Susan Fenwick; WA president Mimi Greenspoon; and vice-presidents Marlene Landa and Joy Gales.

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From coast to coast

Sharon Home renamed in honor of Kanee family

By MYRON LOVE
Prairie Correspondent

WINNIPEG – In 1994-95, the Sharon Home, Winnipeg's Jewish nursing home, suffered a double loss.

First, its president, Bill Goldberg, was killed in an auto accident in Australia. Then, just a few months later, Dr. Henry Faintuch, the home's longtime dedicated executive director, was felled in a freak accident while on vacation in Florida. He was left permanently disabled.

As he has in so many other situations, Sol Kanee took over the leadership of the home at that trying time and with the help of dedicated staff and other lay leaders, made sure it continued to function on an even keel.

The octogenarian Kanee had accepted the position of chairman of the board of the home in 1992, continuing a family involvement with the Sharon Home that goes back 60 years. Since 1937, the Kanee family has played a dominant role in the fortunes of the home.

Recently, the board of directors of the home recognized those contributions by officially changing the name of the institution to the Kanee Centre of the Sharon Home. The new name and plaque were unveiled by Kanee; his brother, Dr. Ben Kanee, who lives in Vancouver; and their sister, Dr. Ricky Kanee Schachter from Toronto, at a ceremony attended by several other members of the Kanee family who flew in from Toronto, Vancouver and Minneapolis.

The Kanee association with the home began when Sam and Rose Kanee and their family moved to Winnipeg. Sam had come to Canada as a young man before World War I and established himself as a successful merchant in Melville, Sask. In Winnipeg, he and his sons, Sol and Abe, owned and operated the Soo Line Mills.

Sam was recruited to join the city's business district canvassing Jewish businesspeople for money to support the home. He also served on the board of directors.

Kanee's late brother, Abe, more than anyone else other than perhaps Faintuch, was identified with the home. For 26 years, Abe served as president, and working closely with Faintuch, built the institution into what it is today. Under their joint tenure, the home underwent the greatest changes in its physical appearance, culture and character.

"Abe admired and encouraged progress and growth," recalled Harold Buchwald. "Under his leadership, the home evolved from a charity board of the Jewish Old Folks Home – as it was then known – by his friend and business associate Essae Greenberg. He was an inspired recruit, said Buchwald in describing the role of the Kanee family in the life of the Sharon Home.

"Sam had a strong sense of social responsibility," said Buchwald. "He respected and encouraged new ideas. He served on the board for 14 years culminating in the presidency in 1951-52. He was responsible for the appointment of Faintuch as the administrator of the home. The cornerstone of this building was dedicated to Sam."

Sam's wife, Rose, easily matched and possibly exceeded her husband's dedication to the home. She served for over 20 years as secretary-treasurer of the ladies auxiliary and proved herself to be a fundraiser par excellence. She held fundraising teas four time a year in her St. Cross home. She was a frequent visitor to the shelter into a personal care home."

While Abe was a prominent figure in his hometown, Sol Kanee has gone about his work quietly on the world stage. In the words of Rabbi Israel Singer, director general of the World Jewish Congress, Kanee is probably better known in Ottawa, New York and Israel than he is in Winnipeg.

Although the family members all received their share of praise, the afternoon truly belonged to Sol Kanee. The extent of his influence can be measured by some of the people who came in especially for the event. In addition to Singer, these included Gerald Bouey, the former governor of the Bank of Canada (of which Kanee was a long timeboard member), Mitchell Sharp and Doug Young (most recently Canada's defence minister before his defeat in the last election). Also in the audience were Senator and former Manitoba premier Duff Roblin, Ben Hewak, chief justice of the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench, and Winnipeg MPs Dr. Rey Pagtakhan and Reg Alcock.

Rabbi Singer described Kanee as one of the most important behind the scenes figures in modern Jewish history. From the creation of the State of Israel to the resettlement of Holocaust survivors to the exodus from the former Soviet Union, Kanee was there leading the efforts to pave the way.

"Sol has a calming influence on people, as do central bankers," said Rabbi Singer. "I like to think of Sol as the 'central banker' of the Jewish people over the past 50 years. He has continually brought a sense of order out of chaos. He was the only man who could convince Sam Bronfman of anything."

Rabbi Singer noted that Kanee has never been one to seek public acclaim for himself. He has never wanted to be number 1. He has always sought to cajole others, whom he felt were more capable, to play leadership roles.

Kanee Schachter spoke on behalf of the family, praising her parents' vision and dedication and the family's leadership in and sense of responsibility to the community.

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Jewish families gather from across southern Ontario

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont. — At the end of the recent Southern Ontario Family Weekend in Niagara Falls, participants agreed that they enjoyed meeting Jewish families from other small communities.

Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario region (CJC), organizes retreats across the province so that families living in small communities can come together to discuss issues of communal concern, and celebrate Shabbat.

"My family had a fabulous time," said Rosalie Samosh of St. Catharines. "There were top-quality speakers and programs."

Families from Guelph, Barrie, Midhurst and St. Catharines braved the first major snowfall of the season to travel to B'nai Jacob Synagogue in Niagara Falls. Program participants included: Rabbi Nathan Liberman of B'nai Jacob; Dr. Michael Sobol, co-chair of the Ontario region's small communities committee; Rachel Turkienicz, an educator; Jennifer Turack, the former CJC Ontario region director of Community Services and Youth Activities; CJC Family Outreach coordinator Leanne Rosen; Ryan Hass, national shaliach of Canadian Young Judaea; and university students Aaron Weinroth and Sara Price.

Somi Feiner of Midhurst (a community north of Barrie) said that she and her family could not wait to get there. "We were very impressed with the weekend, and especially enjoyed participating in discussions about the Bible and its relevance to today, and the Israel at 50 program."

Weinroth came away from the weekend "with an appreciation of how people living in small communities have to try so much harder to create a Jewish environment for their families."

For those living in Ontario small communities who wish to participate in the program, contact Rosen at 635-2883, ext. 139.

From coast to coast

Fort St. John's Harris vows to complete religious trek

By BARRY SHAINBAUM
Special to The CJN

PINK MOUNTAIN, B.C. — Before packing my camera for a magazine assignment in northern British Columbia, I decided that I also wanted to interview some isolated Jews in the region for a photographic essay in *The CJN*. Armed with a list of *farblonjet* — lost in the wilderness — *CJN* subscribers, I phoned Greg Harris, whose home in Fort St. John was a "mere" 200 miles from my destination, Fort Nelson.

The call elicited an unexpected response when Harris revealed that he wasn't "quite Jewish" yet. He had been adopted at six months by a Halifax Catholic family but when he was just seven, and a nun declared in class that only Catholic children could go to heaven, he was indignant. Why wouldn't his Anglican friends be welcomed into heaven? he wondered.

As he matured, the questions became more insistent until eventually he gave up Catholicism and began to embrace Judaism. Now in his 40s, and transferred by his employer for a three-year stint in Fort St. John, he struggles to maintain a Jewish lifestyle and plans to undergo conversion after returning to Halifax next year.

Intrigued, and with my interest further piqued when Harris mentioned that he keeps a pet wolf, I suggested an interview. We agreed to get together several days later in Pink Mountain, a hamlet midway between Fort Nelson and Fort St. John.

I borrowed a friend's car for the drive from Fort Nelson to Pink Mountain. Harris arrived in a pick-up truck accompanied by his 18-year-old son and the wolf, whom I regarded with appropriate respect.

Harris' first words were, "I've been wishing I had another Jew to talk to."

The wolf, fluffy and domesticated, appeared as friendly as a dog, but his tolerance level was lower than "man's best friend" . Harris said. A warning growl would signify displeasure if he were thwarted.

Pet wolves are not unusual in the area he noted, adding, "People up here have all kinds of strange pets."

Preferring privacy for our first meeting, we agreed, rather than go into the local diner, to talk together inside the truck under the watchful eye of the wolf.

Harris, very articulate, explained the circumstances leading to his acceptance of Judaism.

When he was only nine, he challenged the Catechism, and at 16, rejected the Trinity — union of Father, Son and Holy Spirit — trying his teachers past endurance. He was thrown out of class he says, and remembers standing outside the church shouting, "From now on it's you and me, G-d, nobody else!"

At 17, he went to sea for 13 years, and on board ship would often seek out secluded spots where he could have "conversations" with G-d.

When he was 30, he joined an oil company as a process operator.

About five years ago, intensifying his spiritual search, he contacted Rabbi Laibe Hoffman at Shaar Shalom Congregation in Halifax. When he described his gut feeling, the firm belief in communicating directly with G-d, not through an intermediary, she agreed that he leaned toward the Jewish concept.

He was invited to a shmooze group at the synagogue, was welcomed and felt right at home. He started to teach himself Hebrew, "grooming myself to become Jewish." His adoptive mother accepted his decision, saying that if he were happy and led a good life, it was no problem.

On the eve of Yom Kippur he had an extraordinary experience.

He had finally located his birth mother in Dartmouth, and she came with her sister to meet him for the first time just when he was on his way to shul for Kol Nidre. When he told her that he was committed to Judaism his aunt said, "You're not the only one in the family. Your great grandmother was Jewish."

He remembered something he had read, a concept called Gilgul. "A Jewish soul born into any other religion will eventually find its way back to Judaism."

Before he could make it to the mikvah, he was transferred.

In Fort St. John where he has been living with his family, he has koshered the kitchen, put up a mezuzah, reads Torah, prays three times a day and observes Shabbat. He eats matzah at Pesach.

Considerable support comes from friends in Halifax, including shul members Alice Frost and Paul Mandel who send him literature and transcripts from visiting rabbis. "That's how I survive," he says.

"I know what I am, who I am. I never think of giving up Judaism. When I return to Halifax, "I'll get my trip to the mikvah!"

Written with assistance from Miriam Chinsky.

Greg Harris [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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From coast to coast

Dead Sea Scrolls can be viewed on CD-ROM

By JANICE ARNOLD
Staff Reporter

MONTREAL — For much of the 50 years since their discovery, access to the Dead Sea Scrolls was jealously guarded by often competing scholars convinced they held revelatory information on Judaism and early Christianity.

Six years ago, the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) released all the remaining unpublished scrolls to the world at large.

Today, any member of the Jewish Public Library (JPL) can drop in to its new multimedia centre and view a set of three compact discs on which are high-resolution images of all of the thousands of fragments of the 800 or so scrolls – at no cost. The set comprises over 6,000 annotated black and white images, cross-referenced in several ways, plus informative text and related publications.

So if one wanted to, say, find the relevant fragments containing a certain biblical passage or key words, they can be called up in seconds. More learned researchers can summon up those found in a particular cave or by date.

Features include the ability to enhance legibility by enlarging or removing background fuzziness. Pages can be downloaded onto a diskette or printed out.

The technology not only makes reading the pieces easier, but also permits a new means of physically fitting this massive jigsaw puzzle together because of the manipulability of the images.

The images were digitized from original photos taken of the fragments in the 1950s and '60s when they were in better condition than now.

The JPL believes it is, if not the only institution in Montreal owning a copy of the new CD-ROM set, the only one making it available to the public.

One reason even the universities don't have it, is the price: about $2,490 (US). However, as a library that prides itself on holding the largest public collection of Judaica in North America, including a growing software collection, the JPL felt it had an "obligation" to acquire it, said marketing head Ira Lax.

The Dead Sea Scrolls: Electronic Reference Library Vol. 1 is published by Oxford University Press and Dutch-based E.J. Brill, which were granted exclusive rights by the IAA to produce the CD series, edited by Vancouver native Timothy Lim.

Lim, a lecturer in the scrolls and Christian origins in the University of Edinburgh's (Uof E) department of Hebrew and Old Testament studies, was the keynote speaker of the JPL's Jewish Book Month.

At 37, the Oxford-educated Lim is considered on of the world's authorities of the scrolls and is one of the organizers of an international conference on the scrolls next May at UofE.

The primary aim of the conference is to gain a clear idea of the scrolls' place in the Judaism of the Second Temple period, particularly around the turn of the common era. Scholars will be asking themselves if, perhaps, their understanding of early Judaism has been distorted by the scrolls' chance discovery and the intense academic interest in them.

There is some question now about how representative the Qumran community that owned the scrolls was of the Judaism of that time. Some suspect the community and its writings were peripheral to the mainstream community.

"Is the Qumran community simply one of several fringe sectarian groups, about whom we now happen to know more than we do about others?" Lim asks.

Lim believes the scrolls have contributed a great deal to the study of the Hebrew Bible including passages not previously known, but he deplores the hype surrounding the scrolls.

'The Dead Sea Scrolls have not yielded the revolutionary results claimed by their popular propagandists," he said. "They are, nevertheless, sensational in the more limited sense of having already contributed to so many areas of biblical and religious studies, and it is in this context that they should be celebrated in this 50th anniversary," he said.

Flood of new texts

With the flood of new texts and data, Lim thinks no one should be "too dogmatic about the provenance, content and interpretation" of the scrolls.

The scrolls have shed light on the diversity of Judaism before the destruction of the Temple in 70 BCE. "But Orthodox Jews have hitherto ignored this subject, since the defining moment for them is Rabbinic Judaism which postdates this period."

The CD-ROM database is but one example of the increasing use of the latest scientific and technological tools to scrolls research, that includes DNA testing.

"The latest digital computer technology is making such tasks as cross-referencing, interpretation and comparisons much easier and faster than ever before," said Lim, who, incidentally, receives no royalty on the CD-ROM's sales.

It also democratizes the controversy over the scrolls, allowing anyone to decide what they mean, provided they are proficient in reading ancient Hebrew and Aramaic.

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Iran displays mixed signals on moderation

By GIL SEDAN
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Iran appears eager to mend fences with other countries —but Israel, for the time being, is not among them.

Analysis

Hosting a recent conference of Islamic nations, Tehran signalled that it wanted to improve relations with several Arab countries in an effort to overcome years of hostility that date back in some cases to Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution.

Iranian President Mohammed Khatami announced at a news conference that he hoped to re-establish dialogue with the American people.

Since his election in May, Khatami has been viewed as more of a moderate than his predecessor, Hashemi Rafsanjani, particularly in the domestic arena.

But Iran-watchers have wondered whether his moderation would extend to foreign affairs.

Also subject to doubt was whether he would emerge victorious in the internal debates raging among Iranian leaders — a debate that pits Khatami against Rafsanjani and the country's supreme spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

At his news conference, Khatami expressed "great respect" for the "great people of the United States," and abandoned the hot rhetoric previous leaders directed at the American government.

By contrast, at the Islamic summit, Khamenei lambasted the United States, Israel and western civilization in general, where, he said, "Money, glutton and carnal desires are made the greatest aspiration."

It comes as no surprise, therefore, that the West is hesitant to draw conclusions too quickly about where Tehran is headed.

The U.S. State Department reacted cautiously to Khatami's news conference, saying that Washington remains "open to a dialogue" with Tehran.

But it categorically denied reports that the United States was engaged in any clandestine talks with Iran.

In Israel, as in Washington, Khatami's statements drew reserved applause.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel would always welcome any signs of moderation in Iran, but it was too early to tell whether there was indeed such a change.

Netanyahu said that Iran must still be regarded with caution because it continued to arm itself with weapons of mass destruction, and to support Middle East terrorism.

But some Iranian experts are more sanguine.

"This is a genuine attempt by the Iranian president to create a new, more positive image of Islam," Menashe Amir, head of Persian-language broadcasts on Voice of Israel Radio, said in an interview.

According to Amir, Khatami believes in an intercultural dialogue with the West that would allow Iran to break out of its international solitude.

But Amir cautioned that it was premature to believe that Iran's revolution was dying.

It may undergo a process of moderation, some of the leadership may change, but one should not underestimate the power of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard, he said.

In fact, Amir warned, Iran may use improved relations with the West to strengthen itself militarily — a process that should be viewed by Israel with great concern.

Uzi Landau, the hawkish chair of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, shares that view.

"We have no indication whatsoever that the Iranians even think" of improving relations with Israel, Landau said.

While he believes that Israel should maintain an official policy of encouraging moderates in Iran, he nonetheless believes that Israel should constantly be on the lookout, since Tehran has not yet adopted any concrete moderate policies.

If there is a change in Tehran, Landau added, it has not yet reached Israel.

Indeed, at the summit, the traditional anti-Israel stance prevailed. Moreover, Iran, which served as the summit's host, sought a strongly worded resolution against Israel and the peace process.

As it turned out, the communique issued at the end of the triennial meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference was moderated by some of the attendees, some of whom were unhappy with the harsh text prepared by Iran.

Just the same, the final declaration condemned Israel for practicing "state terrorism" and called for the creation of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

It also condemned terrorism, but supported the "struggles of people" against "alien domination" — which mirrored Iran's support of Hezbollah and Hamas in their fight against the Jewish state.

Summit members were also critical of Turkey, calling for a suspension of its expanding security ties with Israel — illustrated by the visit of Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to Turkey.

In a sign of a growing breach with other Muslim countries, Turkish President Suleyman Demirel walked out of the conference to protest what a Turkish official called "attempts to force Turkey to end its political and military cooperation with Israel."

Tehran used the summit to boast that it was winning broad acceptance from the Islamic world.

And indeed, every member of the 55-nation organization came to Tehran.

But the level of attendance was another story: Only six of the 22 Arab states belonging to the conference were represented by heads of state.

Among those countries sending lower-level delegates were Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, all of which are key Arab allies of the United States.

Despite Tehran's pronouncements, the time had not yet come for its total rehabilitation among its Arab neighbors.

Just the same, there are those who believe that a sea change is taking place in Iran.

At a recent international congress held in Florence, Italy, a panel of Middle East experts suggested that Iran has already taken steps to put portions of the Islamic Revolution behind it.

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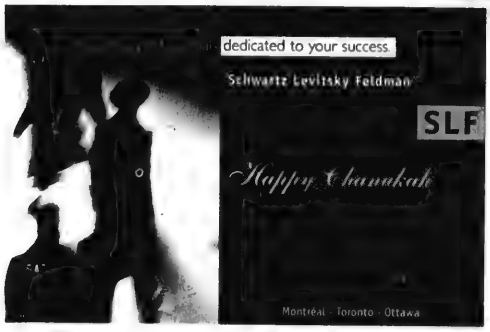

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Canadian companies get boost from exhibition in Israel

By EDGAR ASHER
Israel Correspondent

TEL AVIV — A Royal Canadian Mounted Policewoman, complete with ceremonial scarlet uniform and mounted on a horse on loan from the Israel Police, set the scene and greeted visitors arriving at the recent Canadian Tourism Commission promotion at Tel Aviv's Sheraton Hotel. It was the first time the commission launched such a wide-ranging promotion in Israel.

The aims were to encourage tourism to Canada and make Israelis aware of the many Canadian companies, from consumer products to hi-tech, doing business in Israel.

Canada's ambassador to Israel, David Berger, and Tel Aviv Mayor Roni Milo cut a ceremonial ribbon leading into the hotel's exhibition suite, to reveal displays from each of Canada's provinces.

In the centre of the hall was a huge circular table with an array of Canadian food products and wines specially prepared by the Canadian Olympic winning chef, Theodore Reader.

The event was jointly sponsored by the Canadian Embassy and the Canadian Tourism Commission in cooperation with Air Canada, the Greenberg Food Chain (an Israeli supermarket chain) and the Tel Aviv Sheraton Hotel.

"Since we inaugurated our direct flights from Israel to Canada in June 1995, this has become one of our fastest growing and most popular routes," said Ruth Ben Tsur, Air Canada's director of operations in Israel.

"At first we only had two flights per week, but such was the demand and popularity of our service that we soon increased this to the present level of six direct flights per week. From next May, we will be increasing yet again, this time to seven flights per week. Israeli businesspeople like to fly our airline, because apart from enjoying the quality of our service and more space on our aircraft, they find that Toronto is an ideal destination for all connections in the United States," she said.

One of the Canadian consumer success stories is the market penetration of the Canadian food company Loblaw's, whose brand names President's Choice and No Name are now familiar to customers of Greenberg, one of Israel's fastest growing supermarket chains.

"About 18 months ago, our company launched its products in Israel by introducing about 100 different lines. Today, Greenberg offers over 500 President's Choice products. Next year we are looking to double this figure," said Loblaw's David Olins.

"About 30 percent of our sales of President's Choice is from the sale of ketchup and ice cream," said Orit Greenberg, Greenberg's President's Choice product manager.

"Today we are selling more than $4 million of President's Choice products each year. Most of the Canadian products also carry a very strong kashrut certificate that is acceptable to nearly all our potential customers. We are sure that because of the quality and good prices of President's Choice it will become a brand leader in Israel," she said.

"In 1995, 48,000 Israelis visited Canada. Within a year of the Air Canada service starting, the figure jumped almost 50 percent, following an intensive advertising campaign in Israel," said Ellen Ruth Zeisler, a commercial counselor with the Canadian Embassy whose idea it was to hold the promotion.

"Today's promotion is to focus in on all the aspects of Canadian tourism and business. This year will see almost 90,000 Israelis visiting Canada as a result of our promotional efforts. We can see an increase of about 25 percent every year in the foreseeable future."

Woman gets Orthodox rabbi's tasks

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
Jewish Telegrapic Agency

NEW YORK — An Orthodox synagogue, for the first time, has hired a woman to work as a rabbi — almost.

Manhattan's Lincoln Square Synagogue has hired Julie Stern Joseph to teach adult education classes, provide pastoral counseling and visit women in the hospital — roles often performed by a rabbi.

Both Stern Joseph and Lincoln Square's rabbi, Adam Mintz, in separate interviews, took pains to make it clear that hers is not a clerical position.

But this is the first time that an Orthodox synagogue has been known to create a staff position for a woman in which she takes on these tasks, which are permitted to women according to an Orthodox interpretation of Jewish law.

The congregation is carefully calling her post that of a "congregational intern," and not using the term "para-rabbi," which is employed in some non-Orthodox synagogues to describe people who fill much the same role.

In the Orthodox view of Jewish law, women may not be ordained.

The topic has been highly sensitive within centrist Orthodoxy recently, as women with sophisticated secular educations have been recognized to have the capacity and desire for opportunities to study Judaism's primary texts.

In the Orthodox world, the full-time adult study of Torah and Talmud has traditionally been available only to men.

Drisha, the institute for women's advanced Torah study, started more than 15 years ago in New York City, becoming one of the first to offer the same opportunity to women.

The slow proliferation of programs offering such study to women has created conflict between those that focus on women as mothers and wives, and those who see the possibility of talented woman working as religious leaders.

An independent program started this year by two rabbis who teach at the Yeshiva University-affiliated Stern College for Women, has come under fire in the centrist Orthodox community.

The Riverdale, N.Y.-based Torat Miriam educates women on a part-time basis to prepare them for non-rabbinic leadership roles within Orthodox institutions. But it has been rejected by some rabbis as beyond the bounds of what is permitted for women.

Such a climate has Stern Joseph very concerned about the way her part-time job at Lincoln Square will be perceived.

"There's no thought that this role will evolve into a rabbinic position for women, because if there was, then I wouldn't be involved with it," she said in an interview between classes at Drisha.

She is in her first year of full-time study in the institute's Scholar's Circle, which permits gifted women to study Talmud in the morning and Halachah, or Jewish law, in the afternoon.

The 24-year-old also studied for more than two years at Midreshet Lindenbaum, a Jerusalem yeshivah for women.

"I want to provide a role for women in the community," she said. "If these roles are halachically permissible, and I can maximize that, then great.

"Women often feel disenfranchised in a synagogue, and if I can bridge a gap between women and the rabbi, and at the same time help the rabbi, then that's very helpful."

Her new boss, Rabbi Mintz, said that despite worries that the new position would be controversial even at the flagship congregation of modern Orthodoxy, "the reaction from the community so far has been only positive."

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Israel & the Jewish World

The Lebanese quagmire

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Israelis are quite a contentious lot, but they unanimously agree that this has been a disastrous year for Israel in Lebanon.

Israel lost 39 soldiers in combat in Lebanon in 1997, the highest toll since 1985. The figure excludes 73 people killed aboard two helicopters that collided in midair last February en route to Lebanon.

Mideast Analysis

The arithmetic in Lebanon – Israel's last active war front – is simply appalling. According to official figures, 217 Israeli soldiers have fallen since the security zone was established almost 13 years ago. Add to this the more than 600 fatalities Israel sustained during the 1982 Lebanon War, and the scores who died between the ceasefire and Israel's withdrawal in 1985, and the scale of the debacle becomes readily and painfully apparent.

If there was a single incident that symbolized Israel's travails in Lebanon in 1997, it was the catastrophic raid launched by Israeli naval commandos against an enemy base south of Sidon last September.

Caught in a deadly ambush shortly after landing, 12 Israelis, including a doctor, were annihilated in a firestorm of bullets. The humiliation was compounded when newspapers published a gory photograph of a vainglorious Lebanese militiaman holding aloft the severed head of an Israeli commando who had been blown to bits.

This fiasco, probably the worst in the annals of the Israeli armed forces, reignited a nationwide debate over the wisdom of Israel's military presence in Lebanon.

Despite their superior fire power, Israel and its ally, the South Lebanon Army, are struggling in southern Lebanon, fighting a tough, resourceful and increasingly confident foe – Hezbollah – armed by Iran and supported by Syria.

Cognizant of the grim realities on the ground, Israel has offered to withdraw on condition that Hezbollah is disarmed and the border can be kept quiet. But neither Syria nor its protectorate, Lebanon, is interested in Israel's terms. What they demand is a unilateral and unconditional Israeli pullout. In the absence of a viable settlement, Syria conducts a war of proxy against Israel through its surrogate, Hezbollah, whose newly acquired long-range Katyushas can hit virtually any target in Israel.

As might be expected in a cabinet full of individualists, the issue has sharply divided the Israeli government. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai contend that Israel cannot vacate the security zone until an agreement is reached with Lebanon and Syria.

However, Foreign Minister David Levy has called for "a fundamental assessment," while Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon has declared that Israel should revise its strategy or set up a timetable for leaving Lebanon.

By contrast, Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan believes Israel should expand the security zone. His idea has been dismissed as a non-starter likely to embroil Israel even deeper in the Lebanese quagmire.

Last July, Mordechai urged France to lead a multinational force which would gradually replace Israeli troops in Lebanon. France rebuffed Israel, saying the proposal could only be feasible if the Golan Heights – which Syria wants to regain from Israel – was included in the package. Since the present Israeli government does not want to cede the Golan, Mordechai's plan was a dead letter.

Lebanon is also a divisive issue in the Israeli army. Chief of Staff Gen. Amnon Shahak clearly opposes a unilateral withdrawal, arguing that it would bring the war closer to Israel's northern border. Yet the commander of Israeli forces in Lebanon, Gen. Amiram Levine, has reportedly recommended a gradual pullout, with or without an accord with Lebanon and Syria.

Ehud Barak, leader of the Labor party, takes a cautious approach, his view being identical with Netanyahu's. Yossi Beilin, Barak's rival, has advocated a unilateral withdrawal over a six month period and the strengthening of border defences to prevent infiltration across the frontier.

So the debate rages on, bereft of hard and fast conclusions.

Unemployed launch protest

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Rising unemployment in Israel has brought warnings that a "social explosion" is imminent.

The predictions were borne out when laid-off workers recently took part in violent protests in the southern development town of Ofakim.

The protests took place one day after official figures showed a 1.2 percent rise in unemployment in November.

The statistics, which indicated that 151,600 Israelis were out of work, put unemployment at its highest levels in five years.

The unemployment figures indicated that 15 towns and settlements have more than ten percent unemployment rates, and that development towns in the Negev have been particularly hard-hit.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu appointed an emergency team to look into the matter of rising unemployment.

In the Knesset, the opposition Meretz faction introduced a motion of no-confidence in the prime minister over the economic picture.

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(Proposed By-law may be examined at the Head Office during business hours)
Harvey Wolfe, President

Israeli chief rabbi calls for religious dialogue

By NAOMI SEGAL
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

JERUSALEM — Israel's chief rabbis are conducting a foreign policy of their own.

Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron sent a letter to Muslim leaders in Iran requesting that they meet with rabbis in order to create a dialogue between religious leaders throughout the Middle East.

In his letter, he called for an end to all hostile activity between Jews and Muslims, the Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot* reported.

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat brought the letter to Tehran when he attended an Islamic summit there last week, *Yediot* reported.

According to other reports, the Iranian clerics responded positively to the letter, and an interfaith meeting involving rabbis and Iranian clerics may be held in a North African country in a matter of weeks.

Meanwhile, Israel's chief Ashkenazi rabbi has gone on a peace mission to Egypt.

Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau held talks this week with Egyptian religious leaders during which they condemned terrorism and pledged to use their spiritual authority to promote moderation.

Met with Mubarak

The Grand Sheik of Al-Azhar, Mohamed Sayyed Tantawi, also said in published remarks that he asked Lau to advise Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "to fulfil international and bilateral agreements" so that "the whole region does not face a catastrophe."

Lau, who also met with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, was the first Israeli chief rabbi to visit Cairo while still in office.

An Israeli spokesperson said Lau told Mubarak and Tantawi that he hoped they visit Israel soon.

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On Campus

Observant Jew on the air at York U's CHRY

Ayal Senior

By FRANCES KRAFT
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — It's no surprise that Ayal Senior talks like a philosophy student – he's already in his third year of studying the subject at York University. But somehow one wouldn't expect his observant Jewish lifestyle and involvement in experimental music to jibe.

"You really have to be on top of your game and be really comfortable with your Jewish identity" said the 20-year-old music director of York's CHRY Community Radio (105.5 FM) in an interview at the on-campus station. "It's unique to our generation that people are open to understanding that. At CHRY, differences are encouraged."

An alumnus of United Synagogue Day School, raised in an observant Conservative home, Senior decided a few years ago to deepen his personal observance.

To the best of his knowledge, he's the first visibly observant – that is, kippah-wearing – Jew to work at the station. (He's not the only Jewish on-air personality; Shimon Zer-Aviv hosts *Israel Today* on Sundays.)

In addition to Senior's responsibilities as music director, he hosts a music show Wednesday nights from midnight to 2 a.m.

"My interests for the most part are within the realm of changing the way people think about art in general – visual arts, audio arts, it's all connected," said Senior. "This hasn't been attempted by a visibly Jewish, observant Jew."

But at the same time, he acknowledged, his music-related activities may also be changing people's notions of what's acceptable for an observant Jew.

"There are all these ideas of what a Jew should be. There isn't really much encouragement for seeking out a different way of thinking."

Although he hasn't been discouraged in his musical ventures, he has met with much curiosity about who he is as a Jew and as a person. "Ultimately they're the same questions I have to ask myself, completely existential questions."

According to his "somewhat truthful, indeterminate non-essentialist biography," Senior has been volunteering at CHRY since he was 16 and was hired as music director two years ago.

His only formal musical training was in the form of guitar lessons, which he dropped after a few weeks, preferring to jam with friends. As a young teen, he played guitar in a band with a group of friends.

Senior broadened his creative horizons earlier this year when he released a CD by New York-based "underground icon," musician Arthur Doyle. The CD launched Senior's label, Ain Soph (Hebrew for "there is no end"). Doyle shares his philosophy that music connects all people, Senior explained.

His CD label, he said, "tries to deal with all music from a Jewish theological philosophical understanding."

He also has a mail-order cassette label, Radio 3 Witness, specializing in experimental music cassettes.

Musically, Senior has been influenced by artists like the late John Lennon, "who believed sounds are all around us and within us. Sound is Ain Soph. It's everywhere."

He likes to buy limited edition recordings in specialty stores – music created by "real artists for people to talk about rather than something created strictly to entertain."

Senior is also interested in traditional Jewish liturgical music and klezmer, and has played the latter on his show.

"The music isn't the important thing. It's the idea, the concepts, the human experience. It helps you – like all art – find out about yourself, and it helps you find out who you aren't."

Images prints special edition

TORONTO — To celebrate both the 50th anniversary of the Jewish student press in Toronto and *Images*' chai anniversary, *Images* has printed a special edition that includes current contributions and reprints of articles from the past.

The first Jewish student publication in Toronto, the *Hillel Scribe*, appeared 50 years ago in October 1947.

Its successor, the *Hillel-Lite* was more of a "news" paper and it was often accompanied by the *Hillel Social News*. It in turn was followed by a publication called *Masada*, which changed its name to *Migdal*, to *JUST News*, and then to *Rolling Scroll*. *Rolling Scroll* finally evolved into *Images*, which was first released in October 1979 – 18 years ago.

Some of the older articles are still poignant today, some seem ironic. Some remind us of our struggles as Jews in the past 50 years.

Looking through the Jewish student press archives, I noticed that the 'old' news was often about Russian Jewry, Syrian Jewry, Ethiopian Jewry and Anatoly Sharansky. I also saw 'old' news that is still current news: about neo-Nazis, missionaries, Middle East terrorism. Will our 'news' items of today be relevant in the future? Will we still be talking about intermarriage, hate on the Internet, Jewish in-fighting and assimilation?

If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved with the Jewish student press in Toronto, please contact editor-in-chief Dave Gordon at 631-8053, or Jewish Campus Services at 785-1465.

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גידי קורן וחברים

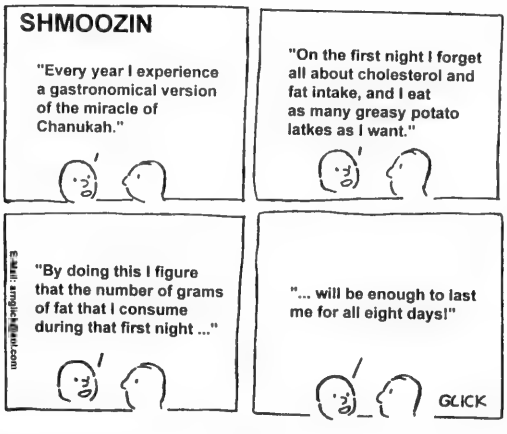
פול אוסטר:

כשאדם מהגר ועוזב מתרבות אחת לאחרת, הוא מאבד חלקים רחבים מהאישיות שלו. יד על הלב: כמה פעמים בשבוע אתם לא מבינים ממה אנשים צוחקים בטלביזיה? וכמה סופרים קנדיים קראתם בחייכם? קחו אותי למשל: ברפואה השפה שלי עשירה כמו של עמיתי המקומיים ואף כתבתי ספרים והרבה מאמרים רפואיים. אבל תראו לי עשרה צמחי בר ואני בספק אם אדע את שמם של שניים מהם, ועשר ציפורים ואולי אדע אחת. ובארץ ידעתי להגדיר מאות פרחים ועשרות ציפורים... יד על הלב: כמה מאיתנו קוראים ספרות אמריקניתקנדית במקור? ואם קוראים- כמה מילים בכל שורה אנחנו לא מבינים? אז מה נשאר לעשות? פשוט לקרוא אותם מתורגמים לעברית. למזלנו מאות ספרים כאלה יוצאים בכל שנה. ועכשיו סוף סוף אני מגיע לעיקר. לפני דקות ספורות, בגובה שלושים אלף רגל סיימתי לקרוא את אחד הספרים הכי מדהימים שקראתי מימי - "מר ורטיגו" של פול אוסטר. פול אוסטר, יליד 1947, הוא אחד הסופרים הכי חשובים והיותר מצליחים כיום בכל העולם, ומספר ספרים שלו תורגמו לעברית ("מוסיקת המקרה", "טרילוגיה ניו- יורקית", "לוויתן"). אני נדלקתי עליו בסרט Smoke שהיה בנוי על פי מספר סיפורים שלו ועסק בחנות טבק קטנה בניו-יורק והסיפורים של הקליינטים שלה. מה שאהבתי שם זה היכולת הנהדרת שלו לספר סיפור, אך בעיקר את אהבת האדם שלו. בכל הניכור והאכזריות של ניו יורק הוא מוצא אנשים טובים שעושים מעשים טובים. אין דבר יותר מדליק מאנושיות במקום שלא מצפים לה. מר ורטיגו- אותו דבר. ספר מדהים על ילד עזוב (נוצרי) שנאסף על ידי יהודי מסתורי שמלמד אותו לעוף, וכל עליותיו ומורדותיו. הספר נקרא בנשימה עצורה, עם המון אנשים רעים אבל כמה טובים שלא תשכחו הרבה זמן. הספר כתוב על ידי אוסטר באנגלית מדוברת של היום, והמתרגמים עשו עבודה נפלאה כשמצאו סלנג עברי שמתאים לאנגלית העכשווית של אוסטר. כשאתם נוסעים בפעם הבאה לארץ, או שמישהו בא לבקר, או סתם רוצה לפנק אתכם: השם הוא פול אוסטר. תתחילו עם "מר ורטיגו", אחר כך "מוסיקת המקרה", ואחר-כך! ממילא תהיו מכורים ולא יהיה לסדר הספרים שום חשיבות.

אבל שיישאר בינינו.

הילד שבפנים:

לפני מספר חודשים מצא צוות של מחפשים עקשניים שרידים של מטוס ישן ובו זוהו גופותיהם של שלושה אנשי צוות אויר קנדיים שנחשבו נעדרים מזה חמישים שנה. עכשיו, בטקס הקבורה, עומד גבר בן חמישים וארבע שאביו נעדר מאז היותו בן שנה והוא אומר: "תמיד חשבתי, קיוויתי, חלמתי, שאולי יום אחד תיפתח הדלת ואבא יאמר: חזרתי" . ללמדך שהילד שבתוכנו ממשיך לחיות כל החיים ומי שמתעלם ממנו אינו מכיר את עצמו. וללמדך עד כמה השתנה העולם שאנו חיים בו, הוזמן לטקס האשכבה טייס הוורמרט שהפיל את המטוס הקנדי. עומד שם איש בן שמונים שהיה אז צעיר בעצמו וניסה למלט את חייו. הוא לחץ ראשון על החדק, ואילולא היה עושה זאת, היה אולי הטייס הקנדי נוכח בהלוויה שלו עכשיו.



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Orna Gang:

Art expresses relationship with Israel

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — Israeli-born Orna Gang's intricate weaving and mosaics express an intimate relationship with her homeland.

She questions the "obsessive" feeling that we have for the land. "What binds us to it and why do we fight over it? Why is it so hard to share the land?" she wants to know.

Through her pieces she is "letting go" of those special places that she says, used to be "solely mine." As well she is trying to examine the current situation in Jerusalem, where she lived for several years.

The beauty and uniqueness of Jerusalem, she affirms, comes from the combination of the three religions and their strong, if often inharmonious presence in the life of the city.

Gang, who now lives here with her husband and children, is from an Iraqi/Turkish Jewish background. From childhood, she was fascinated by her Turkish grandmother's traditional embroidery and later, as a guide for immigrant Jewish youth in a Judean desert program to help bond them to the land, she was influenced by the culture and handiwork of Bedouin women in the area.

In Toronto, she majored in textiles at the Ontario College of Art and Design and received the 1997 George A. Reid Scholarship Award, G&S Dye and Accessories Award, earned Honorable Mention, Amoco Textile Contract Fabric Competition and was Prize Winner in the Environmental Textile Competition.

Gang dyes all of her materials painstakingly by hand and using geometry in her patterns, can create order and "layers" – a process of building that relates to her version of mosaics – a decorative form very common in the history of the Holy Land, she observes.

In her weaving she always uses cotton, reminiscent of Israel's field crops.

To Touch Light, a double weaving in multicolored complex shadings, celebrates the humanity of people. The theme arises from a car accident in which her family was involved, when complete strangers sprang to their assistance.

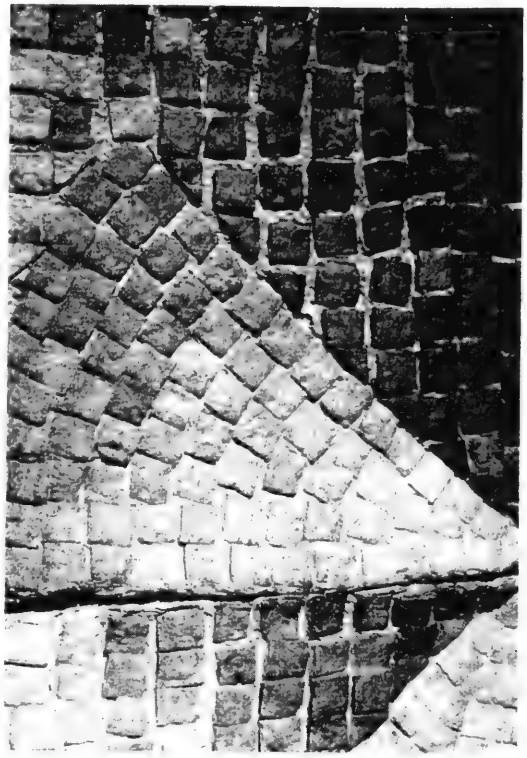
Another weaving, optimistically entitled *Faith in Unity*, is composed of three panels signifying the proximity of the three major religions, Judaism, Islam and Christianity, which somehow coexist and maintain faith even amid the troubles in Jerusalem.

Gang's mosaics are particularly innovative. The individual "tiles" are actually fashioned from compressed, chemically treated junk mail affixed to similarly prepared newsprint – symbols of communication. Carefully hand dyed, they generally have the appearance of ancient remains uncovered by archeologists.

Two contrasting companion pieces, one simulating wanton wear, the other in its original clarity, show what disrespect and destruction will do when there is no coexistence.

Gang has exhibited at the Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts and the Ontario Crafts Biennial Juried Exhibition. From Jan. 15 to Jan. 31, 1998, she will participate in a Three People Show at the Ontario College of Art and Design Gallery,291 Dundas St. W south-east corner of Dundas and McCaul.

For more information, call 782-3744.



Tiles are fashioned from treated junk mail.

Ofra Harnoy supports Temple

By BEN ROSE
Staff Reporter

TORONTO — Temple Sinai scored a success at the recent Ofra Harnoy concert, a new way of raising money for youth education.

After 32 years of holding dinner draws to raise funds, Temple Sinai Brotherhood sponsored the concert, at which 400 people applauded the renowned cello artist.

Its success means that the Brotherhood will continue to subsidize scholarships, support trips for youth to Israel, and support summer programs at Reform camps, said brotherhood president Leonard A. Banks.

He thanked Frank Berns and Alvin Deskin, co-chairs of An Evening with Ofra.

For her part, Harnoy entered into the spirit of the night, attacking her instrument in the inimitable style that has become associated with her concerts.

The audience, by its response, showed its preference for her popular numbers, *Liebeslied, Porgy and Bess*, and *Flight of the Bumble Bee*, the latter her encore.

Her artistry was most apparent in *Sonata in C Major, Opus 119*, by Sergei Prokofieff, requiring difficult bowing and plucking. There was a sheer liquid and lyrical quality to some of its three movements, and at one point her touch was so light the music was almost below the hearing threshold.

She opened with a short piece, *Song Without Words*, by Paul Ben Haim, a slow, plaintive, evocative piece which was dependent on a skilful piano accompaniment by Derek Brampton.

In *Prayer*, by Ernest Bloch, a sombre composition, she showed her control of the instrument, allowing the music to rise to full-bodied pitch.

Surprisingly, Kol Nidre, by Max Bruch, turned out not to be the solemn, traditional piece expected, thanks to the pervasive light-fingered accompaniment.

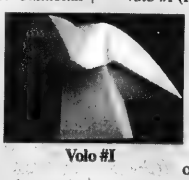
Harnoy acceded to the composer's urging in *Fourth Movement From the Sonata for Cello* by Srul Irving Glick and played her instrument passionately.

Artist's works exude energy

By MIRIAM CHINSKY
Special to The CJN

TORONTO — For over 23 years expatriate Pennsylvanian Shelley Robzen has been living and working in Pietrasanta, Italy, drawing inspiration from the international sculpture colony around her.

Robzen makes her Canadian debut at Gallery Louise Smith on Prince Arthur Avenue with a representation of elegant contemporary pieces in pristine Carrara marble. She also sculpts in bronze.



Volo #I

Serene, judiciously sensual, Robzen's works exude quiet energy. A carver, she releases form and life from within the marble mass.

Each of her sculptures currently featured at Gallery Louise Smith derives from a specific focus; each has its own appeal.

Wave #12 from her recent Wave/Landscape series, gently undulating, poses a fascination that grows with contemplation. Where does the water flow? How far will it travel? What will it carry?

Torso II's exquisitely balanced vertical and horizontal components reflect both the endurance and fragility of the human spirit and body.

Volo #I (Flight) is from a series conceived during a visit with friends on their farm just outside Chestertown, Md. Rising early each day, Robzen watched the birds soaring, wheeling and gliding in the open sky over land and water, and with unerring instinct, transformed static stone into a sense of freedom.

Her work has been exhibited in Italy, Hong Kong and the United States and is in museum collections at the Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, and Museo dei Bozzetti, Pietrasanta. She is also represented in private collections.

Eye on Arts

by Bill Gladstone

CHAVA ROSENFARB TO BE HONORED

Montreal Yiddish writer **Chava Rosenfarb**, who is perhaps best known for *Der Bojm Fun Lebn* (The Tree of Life), her three-volume fictional epic on the Lodz ghetto, is due to be honored Dec. 28, 7 p.m. at the Bloor JCC, as part of a program connected to the annual conference of the Modern Language Association (MLA).

Born in Lodz in 1923, Rosenfarb is known to Yiddish readers around the world, but only with the recent translation of some of her works into English is she finding an English readership.

Dr. Goldie Morgentaler, Rosenfarb's daughter by her first marriage to Dr. Henry Morgentaler, is a literary scholar who has translated *The Tree of Life* and other of her mother's works into English.

The dinner honoring Rosenfarb is being sponsored by the American Association of Professors of Yiddish (a constituent group of the MLA) and by the literary journal *Parchment* and other Yiddish organizations.

The evening includes dinner (kosher under COR, with a fish or vegetarian option) and a program featuring a reading by Rosenfarb, an overview of her fiction by Goldie Morgentaler, a poetic tribute to Canada's Yiddish writers by Toronto's **Simcha Simchovitch**, and a performance by the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir.

The cost is $25 and all are welcome. For reservations, call Bess Shockett at 416-630-7222 or Adam Fuerstenberg at 416-979-5000, ext. 6137.

* * *

Film Fest News: The sixth annual Toronto Jewish Film Festival is still nearly six months away, but festival organizers have already announced that the theme of the popular cinematic shindig this year will be Israel At 50.

Numerous Israeli films and videos, features, shorts and documentaries will be prominent at the festival, which runs from May 7 through 14, 1998.

The festival is scheduled to open with Mark Harris' documentary *The Long Way Home*, a stirring story of the displaced Jews who, after World War II, began the long trek that eventually resulted in the establishment of the state of Israel.

* * *

Gilbert's History of Israel: Martin Gilbert, the distinguished British historian who was the official biographer of **Winston Churchill**, has written *Israel: A History*, an account of the first 50 years of the Jewish state. To be published by Turnerbooks, the book is due out in March.

To order the book, or for organizations interested in using it as a fundraiser, phone Turnerbooks, 416-489-2188.

* * *

Yiddish Milestone: According to *Dos Bletl*, the quarterly newsletter of the Friends of Yiddish of Toronto, a Toronto student recently was the first to graduate from the University of Toronto with a major in Yiddish.

Marc Kates, a 21-year-old fifth generation Canadian, did not speak Yiddish at home, but took numerous courses prior to university. He said his love of Yiddish was sparked by Ana Berman and Henia Reinhartz, his two Yiddish teachers at Bialik Hebrew Day School.

Kates majored in Yiddish while earning an honors BA in political science.

* * *

First Night Toronto: First Night Toronto is an annual New Year's Eve arts celebration that this year takes place at 16 different sites at Harbourfront and simultaneously at the Royal Ontario Museum, the Toronto Eaton Centre and the Ontario Science Centre, from 6 p.m. to midnight, Dec. 31.

Dozens of musicians, actors, dancers and singers are participating.

All-access buttons are $7.50, including tax. Children three and under are free. 416-973-3000.

* * *

Casting Call: Encore Entertainment and the Playhouse Project are seeking actors for a production of *Guys and Dolls*, to be performed at City Playhouse, Thornhill, from March 25 to April 5, 1998. Actors, singers and dancers ages 18 to 80 are required. Auditions are scheduled for Jan. 5, 7, 10 and 11. 416-733-0558.

LEGENDS OF KING SOLOMON

Legends of King Solomon by Aviva Ravel has been touring schools for two years and recently presented 17 performances at Toronto day and afternoon schools. They are performed by Bob Burns, Terry Simpson, Florence Schreiber and Alison Muir. The stories are imaginative, colorful, often humorous and teach the children about human behavior, human foibles, ecology and kindness to humans and animals. Pictured here is one of the scenes performed at the Holy Blossom Temple School in Toronto. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

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TRAVEL TALK

BY BILL GLADSTONE

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Israeli Biking Tour: Biking Through The Bible is a two-week bicycling adventure in Israel planned for Feb. 25 to March 10, 1998. Highlights include three days in Jerusalem with guided tours of the Old City and the Jewish Quarter, an optional side trip to Bethlehem, and eight days of cycling to such spots as Qumran, Ein Gedi, Masada, the Dead Sea, Makhteshim, Sde Boker, Avdat and Timna.

The tour also includes a one-day kibbutz experience and two days in Eilat, with side trips to Petra or Santa Katarina. Total cycling distance is 386 kilometres, which averages about 65 km per day. A support van is available at all times. The cost is $1,900 (US), exclusive of airfare.

This non-profit tour is sponsored by the Bicycle Adventure Club of America, with promotional assistance from the American Zionist Movement. Contact Melvin Goldberg, 203-977-8687. E-mail, [MGold4466@aol.com].

* * *

Jewish Museum, N.Y.: Assignment: Rescue, an exhibit at the Jewish Museum in New York, explores the extraordinary story of Varian Fry, an American relief worker responsible for rescuing nearly 2,000 Jews and opponents of the Nazis from Vichy France during Worl War II.

Although Fry's rescue efforts are not as well known as those of Raoul Wallenberg and Oskar Schindler, his accomplishments constitute one of the most riveting chapters of the Holocaust period. Among the refugees he helped were Marc Chagall, Andre Breton, Max Ernst, Hannah Arendt, Jacques Lipchitz Andre Masson, Lion Feuchtwanger and Franz Werfel. Until March 29.

The Jewish Museum, 2209 Fifth Ave., New York, also offers a continuing exhibition on the painter Camille Pissarro's years in the Caribbean (1850-55) and its core exhibition, Culture and Continuity: The Jewish Journey, on 4,000 years of Jewish culture. 212-423-3230.

* * *

Cruise on Healthy Aging: A proposed cruise to Alaska, sponsored by the University of British Columbia's division of geriatric medicine, will offer participants good medical advice about preparing for and coping with healthy aging.

Hosts include Dr. B. Lynn Beattie, Dr. Reva Adler and Janice Stanbury, RN, all of British Columbia. These experts will share their knowledge about strategies for healthy aging, including advice on taking medications, memory and aging, and exercise and nutrition.

The ship, the *MS Maasdam*, explores 1,000 miles of magnificent scenery along the Inside Passage from Vancouver to Alaska, including visits to Ketchikan, Juneau and Skagway, and a day in Glacier Bay. Departs Vancouver, Sept 7; returns Sept. 14, 1998. Travelcuts, 604-822-3334.

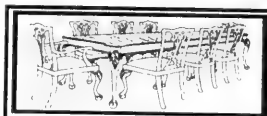
* * *

Passover Getaways: Even though we're in the midst of lighting Chanukah candles, it's not too early to start thinking about Passover. Ritz-Carlton Resorts is hosting a Passover program at its five-star Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach Resort and Spa in south Florida, which has been ranked the fifth best vacation spot in America. The Ritz-Carlton Rancho Mirage Resort and Spa in Palm Spring, Calif., also offers a Passover program. Phone 213-933-4044. E-mail [passover@earthlink.net].

The New Desert Inn and Spa in Las Vegas and the San Diego Princess also offer Passover programs. For more information, use the phone or e-mail connections above.

* * *

A Happy Chanukah to all *CJN* readers. May your journeys always be pleasant ones.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Carlebach's CD includes songs by her father

By CYNTHIA GASNER
Special to the CJN

TORONTO — Following in her father's footsteps as a soul singer, Neshama Carlebach recently captivated more than a thousand people at her solo concert held at the West Side Institutional Synagogue in New York City.

The concert coincided with the launching of her only recording with her late father, Reb Shlomo Carlebach, known to many as the Singing Rabbi.

The recording titled *HaNeshama Shel Shlomo* was finished two weeks before her father died in 1994 at age 69.

The 23-year-old York University student says she and a group of technicians restructured and re-recorded parts of the tape and CD which include three solos by Reb Shlomo (as he is known worldwide), two of which have never before been recorded; three solos by Neshama; and seven songs that they harmonize together.

The record includes such favorites as, *Ein K'Elokeinu, Haneshama Lach, YHi Shalom, David Melech Yisrael, Asher Bara*, and *Eliyahu Hanavi*.

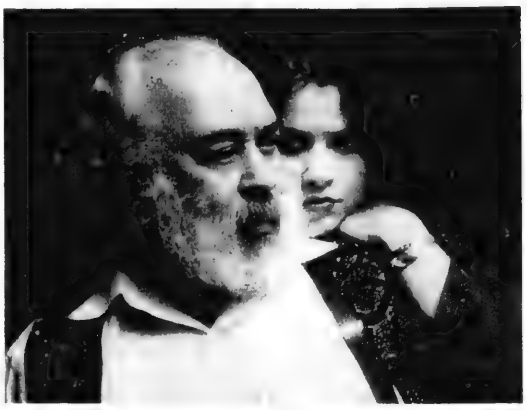
Dedicating the record to his daughter, Shlomo Carlebach said, "Neshamale, I bless you with all your songs, you make the world more beautiful."

Neshama says, "This album is a culmination of our love and our five years of singing together. Releasing this recording has been the most intense experience of my life, and definitely the greatest accomplishment of my life so far.

"I feel that I am in the world for a reason — to continue to keep him alive, and singing his music is the greatest privilege. I thank G-d every day for the honor of having known him, and for being a part of his holy work."

The charismatic Reb Shlomo, who wrote more than 5,000 songs, first invited his daughter to sing with him at a concert in Phoenix, Ariz.when she was 15. She appeared with her father on numerous concert tours to both Jewish and non-Jewish audiences, in many cities in the United States, Israel, Morocco, Austria and Slovakia.

After her father's death, she traveled extensively on her Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach Memorial Tour, singing her father's music and telling his stories. "People throughout the world know his songs but they don't know they are Shlomo's melodies."



Reb Shlomo and his daughter Neshama Carlebach.

She explained that her father used the words from prayers and psalms for his chassidic melodies. "His music is sung and played in synagogue services, at simchahs and on the concert stage."

She says that when the Pope visited New York recently, at a benediction for 100,000 people, the opening song was Shlomo Carlebach's *L'maan Achai V'erayai* (Because of My Brothers and Friends). "One of the Pope's assistant's told me that my father's music was well loved at the Vatican, and they mourned his passing."

In 1996, Neshama made her first solo recording of her father's music titled *Neshama* (Soul). This was followed by a recording of her father's stories and songs that she made with her mother.

Neshama has been recognized internationally as a singer whose performance, like her father's, is a vehicle for transmitting love and a spiritual message.

An Orthodox rabbi, Shlomo Carlebach felt that a man hearing a woman singing could be viewed more leniently in today's society.

At a concert, her father would announce when Nashama would be singing, and anyone could be excused from the hall and be told when to return.

She says that her father felt that Judaism was in crisis. She recalls that her father would say, "My daughter is bringing a whole new generation of young people back to Yiddishkeit — to bring back one soul to Yiddishkeit is important.

"If all of the Yiddish kids were in a shul and observing Yiddishkeit, my daughter wouldn't have to sing. But she is influencing and opening the hearts of a whole new generation."

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Deconstructing Harry

Allen explores Jewish themes with gusto

By SHELDON KIRSHNER
Staff Reporter

Woody Allen's newest film, *Deconstructing Harry*, explores Jewish sub-themes with gusto and with a depth of intensity.

In this finely-wrought comedy, which he has written and directed, Allen touches on interrelated topics running the gamut from faith, tradition and assimilation to the Holocaust and Israel.

As usual, the main character is a neurotic, talkative and secular New York Jewish intellectual seething with inner turmoil. As portrayed by Allen himself, Harry Block is a moderately successful but angst-ridden and spiritually empty novelist who has gone through several wives and numerous psychiatrists.

In terms of personality and predicament, Block bears a sneaking resemblance to autobiographical figures we have seen and empathized with before. But in this case, Allen's tendency to fall back on familiar faces is hardly a disadvantage. Block is refreshingly alive and vital, while *Deconstructing Harry*, now at Cineplex Odeon theatres, plays out as one of Allen's finest movies in recent years.

The Jewish subtext unfolds in two amusing scenes and in one satirical cameo.

In the first scene, which takes the form of a flashback, Allen and his wife (Demi Moore) clash over two fundamental issues. Should they observe the Sabbath in a traditional manner, and should their son be called Hillel or Hilliard?

It's a hilarious segment, and Moore, who's usually associated with cheap and glittering screen molls, is surprisingly convincing as an American Jewish woman embracing Orthodoxy.

A harsher tone is struck when Block visits his observant sister and her husband, a sullen man who wears a kippah. As a couple, they come across as narrow, insular and self-satisfied. Allen, a liberal and a freethinker, uses them to suggest that organized religion is a divisive force and that Jewish caring should extend to non-Jews as well.

Block's sister's husband emerges as the most unsympathetic person in the film. He is obsessed with the Holocaust and appears to support the right-wing political agenda in Israel. (Almost a decade ago, Allen wrote a piece in *The New York Times* criticizing Israel for its response to the intifadah, or Palestinian uprising, in the territories).

Like Mordecai Richler, Allen can't resist poking fun at Jewish conventions and, I might add, at himself. A bar mitzvah reception which looks like a *Star Wars* set becomes the butt of light-hearted humor. And in a self-deprecating moment, Block, denying he is a self-hating Jew, claims he is merely a self-hating individual.

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Making integration work

By ELAINE RUBINOFF
Special to The CJN

Until only recently, when a baby with special needs was born, the family's choices were limited.

Some babies were given up for adoption and many of the Jewish children went to non-Jewish families. Some were placed in institutions. Some were kept at home, but lived very sheltered lives. Some were brought into society but kept in segregated environments.

Today, the attitude towards people with special needs is changing. Laws have been enacted to promote the inclusion of people with physical, emotional and intellectual disabilities in employment, housing and education. People with special needs can be found in all walks of life. It is not uncommon for those with visible disabilities to be seen in the media and in advertisements. We are seeing not only a change in people's behavior towards those who are different, but a change in their attitudes as well.

Acceptance and tolerance of people who are different from ourselves are attitudes that cannot be passively taught. They need to be learned through the experience of working, learning and playing with others who are different from ourselves.

"We are often fearful of people with special needs because of the lack of opportunities and experiences we have interacting with them. We are more comfortable with what we know, and therefore something that may be different challenges us," says Selma Elzas, of Jewish Family & Child Services.

In order to develop a more positive attitude, Elzas says, it is important to keep in mind that we are all born *b'tzelem Elokim*, in the image of HaShem. As well, Ethics of Our Fathers (4:27) teaches us, "Don't look at the container, but rather see what is inside."

The day school system in Toronto is beginning to take important steps to include children with special needs in mainstream classes. More and more, we are seeing children with disabilities working alongside their peers. It is no longer unusual to see a child in a wheelchair being pushed down the halls by a classmate, or a peer-helper reading to a child with Down syndrome. In order for this to continue to happen, it is imperative that parents and educators promote the inclusion of children with special needs into the mainstream of society.

In his writings, 19th-century philosopher, Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch, discusses the importance of educating children together, within the same school, regardless of their abilities: "We must always remember that the true accomplishments of a school and its teachers are measured before G-d's [eyes] and in the eyes of any thoughtful observer by what they have been able to do for the less gifted students."

This statement is as valid today as it was when it was written over 125 years ago.

An excellent means of introducing mainstream children to the idea of befriending children with special needs is through books. The following is a sampling of children's books that can be found in libraries: *The Diamond Bird*, (about a young frum boy with Down syndrome); *My Special Friend*, (a Jewish boy with Down syndrome); *He's My Brother*, by J. Lasker (a child with learning disabilities); *Russell is Extra Special: A Book About Autism for Children; Mom Can't See Me*, by S.H. Alexander.

Several books by Jewish authors have been written from an adult's point of view. They include *My Special Brother*, by R. Shiff; *A Child Like That*, by R. Walburg; and *The Journey With Joshua*, by Naomi Meyer.

As well, there are several store catalogues that use many different types of children as models. A collage can be made with the pictures of the children in the catalogues.

Parents can encourage their children to befriend a child with special needs. Children need to invite each other to play in each other's homes and share in their parties or outings. A mother of a child with Down syndrome recently expressed her delight when her daughter was invited to a birthday party.

A family can "adopt" another family who has a child with special needs. Beside sharing in every day types of activities, they can share Shabbat and yamim tovim together. Everyone benefits tremendously from the experience. The non-disabled children not only learn to share and help others, but more importantly, they learn not to fear what is different. They learn that helping is giving as well as receiving. The children with special needs learn that they are an integral part of our society with a great deal to offer their peers. We are helping to create a better world when we make it a place in which everyone is included.

The suggestions in this article are excerpted from The Art of Teaching: Practical Strategies for Chinuch *by Elaine Rubinoff, published by Feldheim Publishers.*

Israel trains Palestinian medics

By SUSAN JACOBS
Jewish Telegraphic Agency

NEW YORK — Israel's emergency rescue service is training Palestinian paramedics and ambulance drivers.

The training program by Magen David Adom comes at a time of high tension between Israel and the Palestinians because of the stalled peace process.

Despite the problems with the political negotiations, Magen David Adom president, Dr. Shlomi Antebbi, agreed to a request from the chair of the Palestinian Red Crescent, Dr. Fathi Arafat, to train the Palestinians.

"Cooperation between the MDA and the Palestinian Red Crescent will create increased understanding between the two peoples," said Natan Kodinsky, director of training for Magen David Adom.

About 25 Palestinians are participating in the course. They will join the staff of the Palestinian Red Crescent, which operates in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The course involves training in ambulance driving and equipment and medical treatment, including first aid in various emergency situations.

The three-week course began Nov. 30 and was held at the Holyland Hotel in Jerusalem. A senior Magen David Adom instructor is conducting the program in Arabic.

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INDEX

5 HOUSES FOR SALE
10 HOUSES FOR SALE PRIVATE
15 HOUSES FOR RENT
20 HOUSES FOR SALE/RENT
24 HOUSES WANTED TO BUY
25 HOUSES WANTED TO RENT
30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE
35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT
40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/RENT
45 CONDOMINIUM WANTED
50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
55 ACCOMMODATION WANTED
60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION
65 ACCOMMODATION/SWAP/EXCHANGE
70 UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION
75 APARTMENT FOR RENT
80 SHORT TERM RENTAL
81 APARTMENT TO SUBLET
82 ROOM FOR RENT
84 ROOM WANTED
85 APARTMENT WANTED
90 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE
95 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT
100 DUPLEX/TOWNHOUSE FOR SALE/RENT
105 COTTAGE FOR SALE
110 COTTAGE FOR RENT
115 COTTAGE FOR RENT/SALE
120 COTTAGE WANTED
122 TIME SHARE FOR SALE
123 TIME SHARE FOR RENT
125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE
130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT
135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED
143 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. AVAIL.
145 FLORIDA SHARED ACCOMM. WANTED
147 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION
150 FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION
155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE
160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT
165 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT
170 ISRAEL PROPERTIES WANTED
175 ISRAEL ACCOMMODATION WANTED
178 ISRAEL TRANSPORTATION
180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES
185 OUT-OF-COUNTRY PROPERTIES
190 VACATION PROPERTIES
195 PROPERTIES WANTED
196 VACATION PROPERTIES-EXCH./SHARE
198 SPACE FOR LEASE
200 OFFICE SPACE
201 OFFICE SPACE WANTED
202 STORAGE SPACE WANTED
205 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL SPACE
210 LAND/LOTS FOR SALE/LEASE
215 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
217 RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES
220 INVESTMENT PROPERTIES
225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
232 BUSINESS FOR SALE
235 FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES
240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
245 EMPLOYMENT WANTED
246 VOLUNTEERS
247 DAY CARE
248 CAMPS
250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE
255 DOMESTIC HELP WANTED
257 HEALTHCARE AVAILABLE
258 HEALTHCARE WANTED
259 SENIORS
260 BUSINESS PERSONALS
264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
265 PEOPLE SEARCH
270 PERSONALS
275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED
279 PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
280 ANNOUNCEMENTS
290 LOST & FOUND
295 PETS
300 ARTICLES FOR SALE
305 ARTICLES WANTED
310 ARTICLES/SWAP/EXCHANGE
313 BOATS
315 CARS FOR SALE
320 CONTENTS SALE
325 GARAGE/YARD SALE
330 OBITUARIES
331 IN MEMORIAM
332 MONUMENTS
335 UNVEILINGS
338 SHIVA CATERING

SERVICE DIRECTORY

345 ACCOUNTING
350 APPLIANCES
355 AUDIO-VISUAL REPAIRS/SALE
357 AUTOMOTIVE
358 BRIDAL
360 CABINETS
365 CARPENTRY
368 CARPETS
370 CATERING
371 CERAMICS
372 CHUPPAHS
375 CLEANING
377 CLEANING SUPPLIES
379 CLOCKS/WATCHES
380 CLOTHING
385 COMPUTER
386 DANCING
387 DECORATING
390 DRIVING
392 DRY CLEANING/LAUNDRY
394 EDUCATION
395 ELECTRICAL
396 ELECTRONICS
400 ENTERTAINMENT
405 FURNITURE
407 GIFT SERVICES
410 HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS
411 HEALTH THERAPIES
412 HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING
415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
420 INVITATIONS/PRINTING
425 JEWELLERY
427 JUDAICA
430 LANDSCAPING
432 LAWN CARE
433 LEASING
434 LIMOUSINE SERVICES
435 LIQUIDATION
438 LOCKSMITH
439 MAKE-UP
440 MISCELLANEOUS
442 MUSICAL SERVICES
445 MOVING
449 PEST CONTROL
450 PAINTING/WALLPAPERING
451 PROMOTIONS
452 PARTY SERVICES
455 PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEO
460 PLUMBING
465 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
470 RENOVATIONS
475 ROOFING
477 SECOND HAND STORES
478 SCHOOLS
479 SENIORS
480 SECURITY SYSTEMS
481 SEWING
482 SIGNS
483 SKIING
485 SNOW REMOVAL
490 TABLE COVERING
493 TAILORING/ALTERATIONS
495 TILING
498 TRAVEL & TOURISM
500 TUTORING/LESSONS
510 UPHOLSTERY
515 WATERPROOFING
517 WATER TREATMENTS
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING
548 WORD PROCESSING
550 WORKSHOPS

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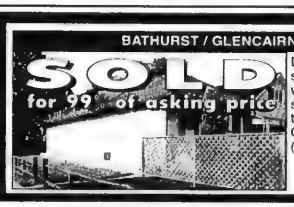

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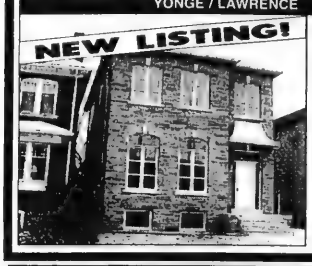

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264 SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

AIZIC - Proud parents Gill & Dunja & sister Alana are overjoyed to announce the arrival of their second daughter, **Natalie Sophie on Dec. 4, 1997** at 8:38am. Thrilled grandparents are David & Aliza Aizic, Rudolf & Maria Stoehr. Special thanks to Dr. Shlomo Grynspan & the staff at Branson Hospital.

Jerry & Andria Baker are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Dr. Tracey M. Baker to Richard B. Cooperstein, son of Florence & the late Benjamin Cooperstein of Boston, MA. Wedding plans are for late summer 1998.

We are thrilled & proud to announce the engagement of **Candice Harf**, daughter of Andrea & Russell Jacobs & Alan Harf, to **Doron Gahtan**, son of Suzette Gahtan & the late Joseph. Granddaughter of Edith Cohen & Gert Harf of South Africa.

Yus & Doreen Haimes & Shlomo & Rachel Kizel are proud to announce the engagement of their children **Sara Nancy & Nimrod M.**

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The CJN requires that advertisers check their advertisement upon publication, as *The CJN* will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement. Liability for errors in advertisements is limited to the amount paid for the space occupying the error. All copy is subject to the approval of the management of *The CJN*. *The CJN* reserves the right to classify all advertisements.

Service Directory & Classified Ad Deadlines are Wednesday, 8 days previous to the issue, by 4 pm.

Handsome SJM prof., articulate, 50's & sensitive, seeks Toronto woman, 40's, pretty, open, fit & giving. 481-4384.

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SHERMAN, Bertha - on Dec. 9, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
KATZ, Israel - on Dec. 10, 1997, late of 39 McMorran Cres.
APPLE, Eileen - on Dec. 4, 1997, late of 9 Hastings Sq.
SILVERBERG, Harry - on Dec. 5, 1997, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
STEINBERG, Hannah - on Dec. 5, 1997, late of 550 Cummer Ave.
TURK, Anne - on Dec. 5, 1997, late of 3705 Bathurst St.
FIEGENBLATT, Jack - on Dec. 6, 1997, late of 500 Kingston Rd.
GORD, David J.C. - on Dec. 7, 1997, late of 1319 Steeles Ave. W.
GRYFE, Benjamin - on Dec. 7, 1997, late of 3560 Bathurst St.
OBERLANT SEDLARZ, Sarah - on Dec. 7, 1997, late of 472 Grace St.
HOFFMAN, Larry - on Dec. 8, 1997, late of 1131 Steeles Ave. W.
SILVERMAN, Anne - on Dec. 10, 1997, late of 240 Heath St.

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JANUARY 8th
Deadline
Tuesday, Dec. 30th, noon

The office of The Canadian Jewish News will be closed on the following days:
Thursday, December 25th
Friday, December 26th
Thursday, January 1st
Friday, January 2nd

The office will close early on the following days:
Wednesday December 24, 1pm
Wednesday December 31, 3pm

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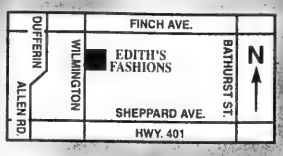

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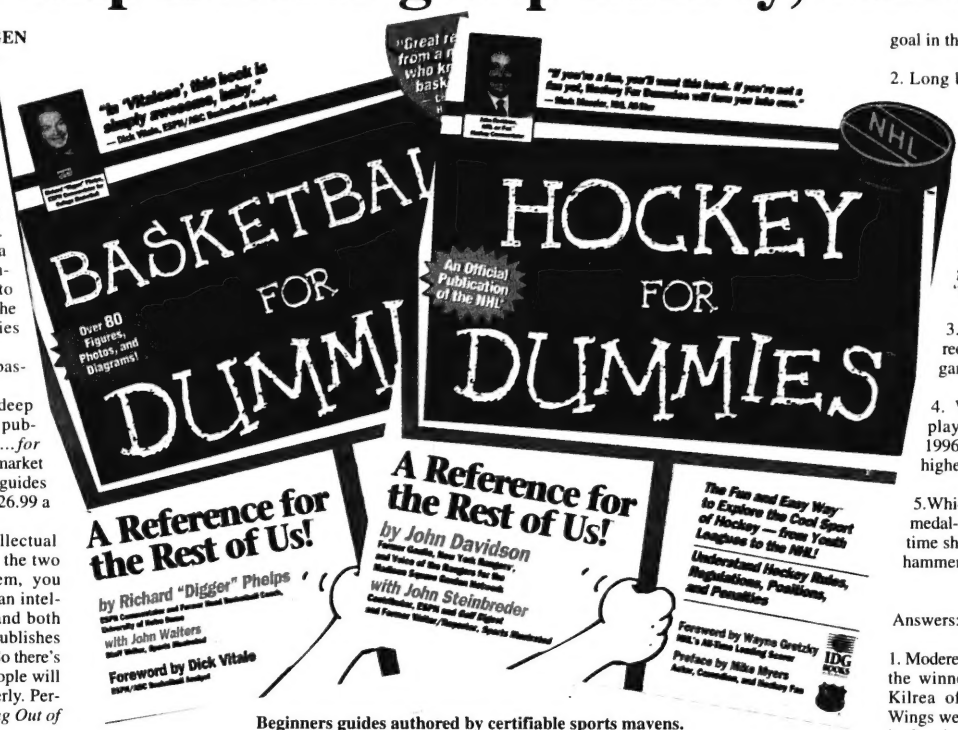
Books help novices grasp hockey, basketball

By PAUL LUNGEN
Staff Reporter


BASKETBALL FOR DUMMIES
Over 80 Figures, Photos, and Diagrams!
A Reference for the Rest of Us!
by Richard "Digger" Phelps
with John Walters
Foreword by Dick Vitale
HOCKEY FOR DUMMIES
An Official Publication of the NHL
A Reference for the Rest of Us!
by John Davidson
with John Steinbreder
The Fun and Easy Way to Explore the Cool Sport of Hockey — from Youth Leagues to the NHL!
Understand Hockey Rules, Regulations, Positions, and Penalties
Foreword by Wayne Gretzky
Preface by Mike Myers
IDG BOOKS
NHL

Beginners guides authored by certifiable sports mavens.

TORONTO — How "dum" do they think we are?

With their trademark yellow and black covers, the "Dummies" series of books are a familiar sight in any quality bookstore. If you're trying to get a handle on the latest computer system or trying to figure out what the heck the Internet is, the Dummies books may be for you.

But for hockey? For basketball?

Apparently the deep thinkers at IDG Books, publishers of all the *...for Dummies*, think there's a market out there for a beginners guides to hoops and hockey, at $26.99 a crack.

Considering the intellectual levels of those who play the two sports and excel at them, you clearly don't have to be an intellectual giant to understand both games. Mind you, IDG publishes a *Sex for Dummies* book. So there's clearly no end to what people will buy if it's packaged properly. Perhaps we can expect *Getting Out of Bed for Dummies* next.

Having said all that, the two books aren't half bad, although trying to sell *Hockey for Dummies* in the Great White North might be like selling ice to Eskimos. If you haven't picked up the basics of the game through osmosis by the time you hit 10, where have you been? On the other hand, if you have been stuck in front of the tube or spending your time in other pursuits, you can learn something from these books.

Written by two certifiable sports mavens, former New York Rangers goalie John Davidson, now color commentator with the Madison Square Gardens Network, and Richard "Digger" Phelps, ESPN commentator and former University of Notre Dame head basketball coach, the books are certainly learned expositions on the two sports in question.

The basketball book features informative chapters on basketball fundamentals, explaining the technical aspects of skills like shooting and rebounding. There is also pretty thorough examination of the team aspect of the sport, such as playing the zone defence, the rotation defence, the pick and roll and other tactical areas of the game.

Interestingly, basketball and hockey share terminology on one type of popular defence – the trap. Although they sound the same, the basketball trap more closely approximates the left-wing lock in hockey.

In hoops, the trap is a version of the press defence, getting on the other team's ball-handler and trying to create a turnover by forcing the ball-handler towards the sidelines and stripping him of possession.

In hockey, the trap is generally played in the neutral zone between the blue lines. On the other hand, the left-wing lock, the defensive flavor of the month (but which has been used by Detroit coach Scotty Bowman since Moses was a boy), is similar to the basketball trap. It too is a pressing (forechecking) style of defence in which the centre and right wing move into the defensive zone and attempt to angle the puck carrier towards the left boards. The left winger and the two defencemen occupy the area between the centre red line and the opponent's blue line and jump on loose pucks generated by the aggressive forechecking.

That's about as technical as it gets, although there are explanations and illustrations of power play formations, defending the power play and the like.

Davidson adds some spice to an otherwise controversy-free book when he rates the 10 best games of all time. A reader might be prompted to ask, what was he smoking?

Some of the games clearly belong in the list, starting with the longest game of all time, a six-overtime period marathon between Montreal Maroons and Detroit Red Wings on March 24, 1936, that ended at 2:25 in the morning. (Today, they'd still be playing a regular season snoozefest on March 24.)

> Hockey's left wing lock has been used by Scotty Bowman since Moses was a boy

Other great games included the Leafs' last Stanley Cup win in 1967, an exciting Montreal Boston matchup from the Bobby Orr, Jean Beliveau era and the Montreal/Red Army New Year's Eve game of 1975.

Davidson calls the Montreal/Red Army game – a 3-3 tie – perhaps the greatest game ever played. Although the action was fast and furious, the Habs dominated completely, outshooting the Russians 39-13. Only Tretiak's outstanding goaltending kept the Russians in the game. The bad guys scored three goals on 13 shots. Is it some Canadian trait that gives the other team so much credit when they were completely outclassed? What's so great about dominating another team and coming away with a tie?

Other games that Davidson rates as all-timers include a 1996 early round playoff game between Pittsburgh and Washington (neither of whom went on to win the Cup), and the Canada/Sweden 1996 World Cup playoff game.

Conspicuously missing from his list is any game from the 1972 Summit Series between Canada and the Soviets or Mario Lemieux's Canada Cup-winning goal in 1987. What was this guy thinking?

Here's a quiz, based on the *Dummies* books, to test your knowledge of basketball and hockey:

1. Who scored the game-winning goal in that 1936 NHL marathon?

2. Long before the Dream Team made its debut at the 1992 Olympics, the United States was a force in international basketball. It won the gold at the 1960 Olympics by scoring an average of 42.4 points per game. Who were the guards for that first "dream team"?

3. Who holds the NHL record for most goals in one game?

4. What was the average player salary in the NBA in 1996-97? Which team had the highest overall payroll?

5. Which skater scored the gold medal-winning goal in the overtime shootout at the 1994 Lillehammer Olympics?

Answers:

1. Modere "Mud" Bruneteau potted the winner on a pass from Hec Kilrea of the Red Wings. The Wings went on to defeat Montreal in the playoff series and then beat Toronto in the final to win the Stanley Cup.

2. The U.S. backcourt was led by Jerry West and Oscar Robertson, who went on to Hall of Fame careers in the NBA. The American string of 36 years of Olympic competitions without a loss came to an end in 1972 when the Soviets defeated them 52-51 in one of the most controversial games ever. The Soviets, trailing by one point with three seconds left and forced to inbound the ball under their own basket, got three chances to complete the play before scoring the winning points.

3. Joe Malone of the Quebec Bulldogs scored seven goals in one game in 1920.

4. The average NBA salary last year was $2.2 million, up from $249,000 in 1982-83. Chicago Bulls had the league's highest payroll, at $58.27 million. The Bulls paid superstar Michael Jordan $30 million for one season when he became a free agent in 1996-97. That sum (paid to a team's free agents) was exempted from the $24.3-million team salary cap set by the NBA.

5. Peter Forsberg got the winning goal, putting the puck past Canadian netminder Corey Hirsch.

The Inside Back

A special Chanukah quiz from the latke maven

By JORDAN MAX

Well, Chanukah is almost here, and if you're like me, you've been frying so many latkes that your moustache/beard/hair/toupee smells like a bonfire. It's time for a break, so put up your feet and see if you can correctly answer this special Chanukah Quiz.

Last Laugh

1. On Chanukah, we commemorate the victory of the Hashmonayim over the idolatrous Syrian-Greeks and the rejection of assimilation into the dominant culture by:
(a) Lighting a special menorah at night displayed in our front window, eating and gambling for nuts;
(b) Buying elaborate, expensive gifts for the entire family, friends and acquaintances because it's the "holiday season;"
(c) Donating a really lovely bronze plaque and hosting a community gala dinner in honor of the Hashmonayim family.

2. There was only a single vial of olive oil left for the menorah in the Beit Hamikdash because:
(a) Upon cleaning out the defiled Temple, they found only one vial of oil with the kohen gadol's stamp on it left fit for use;
(b) The price of olive oil on the Shemen Index in the Asian Futures spot market had recently climbed by 10 percent and the local oil broker was waiting for a price drop to buy;
(c) That re-engineering consultant *chacham* had convinced Temple management to switch over to a just-in-time delivery system just as the postal service went on strike.

3. The letters nun, gimel, hay, shin on the dreidel represent the phrase:
(a) Nes Gadol Haya Sham (a great miracle happened there), referring to the miracle mentioned in question 2 above;
(b) Never Give Harold a Shekel, referring to your third cousin's brother-in-law who still hasn't returned your cordless power drill since Sukkot two years ago;
(c) Newest government hair-brained scheme (pick one).

4. The real reason behind the consumption of vast quantities of latkes and deep-fried soufganiot on Chanukah is to:
(a) Remind us of the miracle of the oil lasting eight days, which is coincidentally the length of time it will take to burn off the excess calories through continuous running on the treadmill;
(b) Build up sufficient fat reserves to last us through the long Canadian winter hibernation, which usually ends sometime around Shavuot;
(c) Use up the 10 extra pounds of matzah meal you bought (just in case you ran out) last Pesach.

5. The song *Maoz Tsur (Rock of Ages)* traditionally sung after lighting candles, refers to:
(a) G-d;
(b) Aging rock and roll stars who will soon be drawing pensions;
(c) Aunt Sadie's (in)famous matzah balls.

6. Yehudah HaMacabee's brothers were:
(a) Yonatan, Yochanan, Eliezer and Shimon;
(b) Larry, Curly, Moe and Shepp;
(c) Jerry, George, Kramer and Newman.

7. The rebellion against King Antiochus by the Jews led by the Hashmonayim was about:
(a) The restrictions on the open practice of Judaism and the desecration of the Beit Hamikdash;
(b) Coercive and anti-democratic education reform;
(c) the ban on sales of uncolored margarine in containers labelled only in Hebrew.

8. The Al Hanissim prayer recited in daily t'fillot and Birkat Hamazon on Chanukah, which mentions the victory of the few over the many, refers to:
(a) The ability of a small group of untrained, ill-equipped Jewish soldiers to rout the Greek-Syrian armies from the Beit Hamikdash and Eretz Yisrael, with G-d's help; (b) The winning touchdown by "Big Al" Hanissim, quarterback of the Modi'in Hammers football team in the Matzah Bowl championship;
(c) The legendary Alan H. Nissim, chartered accountant to the sages, the first person to successfully challenge a tax authority ruling.

ALMOST FAT-FREE POTATO LATKES

THIS RECIPE BROUGHT TO YOU BY...

HERB CAPLAN

1111 Weston Road (S. of Eglinton) 767-1655

WE SELL KitchenAid FOR LESS

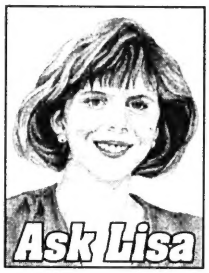
1 large white potato
1 large sweet potato
1/2 tsp pepper
1 tsp dried onion flakes
2 portions of Eggbeaters (or other egg substitute
1 can of vegetable coating spray

Shred potatoes in food processor. Rinse the potatoes. Toss potatoes in a bowl with the pepper, onion and egg. Mix.

Line a pan with aluminum foil and spray vegetable coating on it. Divide the potato mixture into 6 mounds in the pan. Spray them with vegetable coating spray. Bake at 350°F for 45 minutes (should be crispy) and flip them over and bake for another 15 minutes.

MARTIN & FRAN CAPLAN WISH YOU A JOYOUS CHANUKAH

About jobs



Dear Lisa,

My wife has decided to open her own business. I completely support her, but I am a bit worried how this will affect our family. I work normal business hours and have come to rely on her being able to run errands and care for the kids at lunch and after school. Do you have any suggestions on how we can cope?

Dear Reader,

Many other couples have been where you are now. Perhaps you could speak with some of these couples. Contact your local business association for some names.

Other people to talk to include social workers and business consultants. These people can offer useful and important advice, but make sure they are trained in working with couples or they may be unable to take into account the situation you share with your partner.

Another place to turn is the bookshelf. Many of us are more comfortable reading about people we never see than we are sharing stories in person. The best book I have come across is *Honey I Want to Start My Own Business* by Azriela Jaffe.

This book helps entrepreneurs and their spouses formulate important questions to consider when embarking upon a business venture.

It also offers some suggested solutions that will give you an idea of the complexities involved in maintaining a marriage while being self-employed.

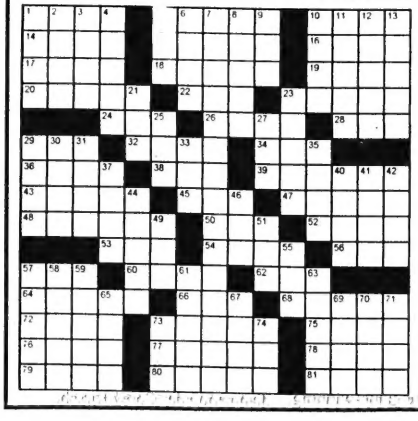
Honey I Want to Start My Own Business also offers a long and recent list of resources.

Finally, I believe the most important consideration is your wife. She is lucky to have a partner as concerned as you seem to be. Is she aware of your concerns? Make sure you talk with her and let her know how you feel. Have you two discussed how her becoming an entrepreneur will affect your family? Are you ready to help her and do you know what she will want from you?

Statistics show the number of people starting their own business is growing. So while you may feel as if you are alone today, wait a few years and you will see many more home-based businesses growing around you.

Job Search is a monthly column by career educator Lisa Galet Klug. Readers are invited to send any questions they have for Lisa to The CJN.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Maccabiah game?
5. Shofar sound
10. Sacrifices
14. Shushan
15. Genesis creation
16. Levaye notice
17. Nurse
18. Noodge (Eng.)
19. Solomon
20. Edward Teller project
22. Rickles
23. Jacob's boy
24. Red Buttons hope
26. Eden wear?
28. Vase
29. Genesis starter
32. Color of Jerusalem
34. Baby's cover
36. Israeli Valley
38. Herman Barron's score
39. Genesis activity
43. Needed chicken soup?
45. Reason for shiva
47. Said amen
48. Shofar note
50. Israel's VAT
52. Brenner or Brubeck
53. Deli bread
54. Plague
56. Sixth day creation
57. Sighs
60. Torah holders
62. Patriarchs
64. Yeshiva activity
66. In Addition
68. Sis to Lot and Milcah
72. Agadah
73. Herod the ____
75. Jacob after the angel
76. Shaw and Shamsky
77. Make Aliyah
78. E'er to Peretz
79. Head (Heb.)
80. Not mixed with wool
81. Transmit

Down

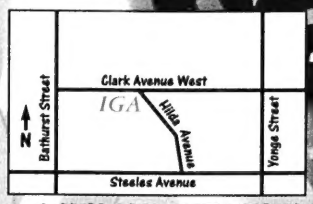
1. Like the Rothschilds
2. Israeli neighbor
3. Shulchan Aruch writer
4. Edomite
5. Golden girl
6. Polaroid's Edward
7. Alias "The Brain"
8. Orioles pitcher
9. Thou possessive
10. Pews
11. Son of Aaron
12. Tightwad
13. Violinist Isaac
21. Mossad activity?
23. Moses' bush
25. Head (Yid.)
27. Alphabet run
29. Buddy Rich specialty
30. Holocaust voice
31. "Can we ____?", Joan Rivers
33. Yeled (Eng.)
35. Geller trick
37. Progeny
40. Man (Heb.)
41. Shoe maker
42. Paradise
44. Author Yael
46. Travel club
49. That one
51. Number of tri es
55. 52
57. Bimah
58. Shema starter (2 wds.)
59. Dead Sea plenty
61. Olympiad Strug
63. Ellis and British
65. Hebrew Letter
67. Kunstler account
69. Machpelah
70. Ender
71. Shepherd's watch
73. Olympiad Friedman
74. Plagues

These puzzles are the work of Kathi Handler of Waterbury, Connecticut.

(Last week's answers are on page 36.)

IGA

Happy Chanukah!



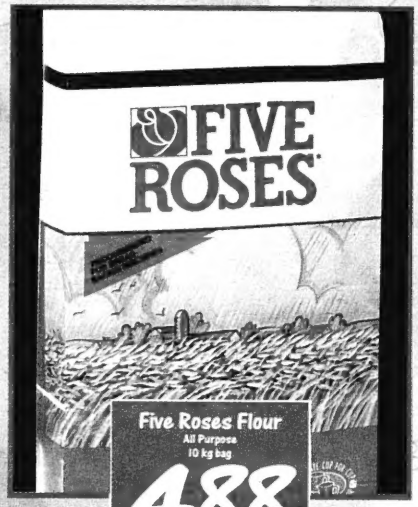
441 CLARK (AT HILDA)

Grand Re-Opening Continues

Clark & Hilda IGA

IGA brings down the cost of keeping kosher

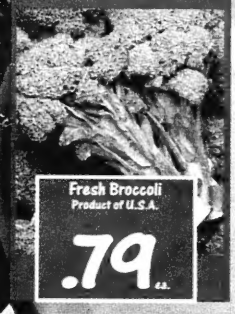
Old South Juice
Frozen, Concentrated, Assorted Varieties, 355 mL tin
.79



Five Roses Flour
All Purpose
10 kg bag
488

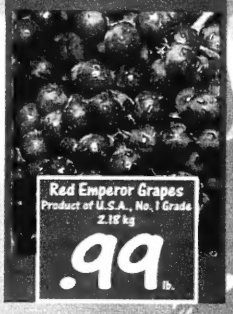
Coke or Pepsi
Assorted Varieties, Regular or Diet
750 mL plus deposit
.69 4.99

PRODUCE



Fresh Broccoli
Product of U.S.A.
.79 ea.

PRODUCE



Red Emperor Grapes
Product of U.S.A., No. 1 Grade
2.18 kg
.99 lb.

KOSHER GROCERY

Clover Leaf Sockeye Salmon
Red Pacific, 213 g tin
249

KOSHER GROCERY

La Biscotte Rice Cakes
Assorted Varieties, 150 g pkg.
.69

KOSHER DAIRY

Blue Bell Pressed Cottage Cheese
250 g pkg.
169

KOSHER MEAT

Lean Ground Beef
Glatt Kosher, Valu Club Pack
2.55 kg
388 lb.

KOSHER KITCHEN

Stir Fried Vegetables
.64/100 g
315 lb.

KOSHER DELI

Breaded Eggplant
.88 /100 g
399 lb.

KOSHER BAKERY

Pumpernickel or Sourdough Bread
425 g loaf
129

KOSHER FISH

Fresh Whole Rainbow Trout
Subject to Availability 4.90 kg
449 lb.

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES IN EFFECT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 UNTIL SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1997.

PLEASE
REWIND